

Exploring Judaism: A Fact-File with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To understand and describe key beliefs, practices, and symbols within the Jewish faith.

Use your classroom resources or library books to research Judaism. Ellie the Elephant loves learning about history and traditions, so make sure your facts are clear and respectful. Write neatly in the boxes provided to build your own information file.

Word bank: Synagogue · Torah · Menorah · Shabbat · Rabbi · Kippah · Covenant · Kosher · Hanukkah · Mitzvot

1. Places of Worship: Describe the role of a synagogue in the Jewish community. Why is it considered a central building? (3 marks)

2. Sacred Texts: Explain the importance of the Torah. Why must it be treated with great care and respect? (3 marks)

3. Religious Observance: Compare and contrast how Shabbat is celebrated compared to a typical day in the week. What changes? (4 marks)

4. Symbols and Objects: Select two Jewish symbols (e.g., Menorah, Kippah). Justify why these objects are significant to Jewish identity. (4 marks)

5. Core Beliefs: Explain why the concept of 'Mitzvot' (commandments or good deeds) is fundamental to how a Jewish person lives their life. (4 marks)

6. Reflection: What might happen if a community did not have a shared space or set of traditions to bring them together? Justify your answer. (5 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a Jewish festival, such as Hanukkah or Rosh Hashanah. Create an illustrated guide explaining the history behind the festival and the specific traditions used to celebrate it today. Present your findings to the class.