

Learning About Hanukkah with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To understand the meaning of Hanukkah and the traditions celebrated by Jewish families.

Read each question carefully. Use the word bank to help you write your answers. Follow the sentence starters to help you begin your sentences.

Ellie the Elephant is learning about Hanukkah, the Jewish festival of lights. It lasts for eight days. Families light a special nine-branched candlestick called a Menorah. They remember a miracle where a small amount of oil kept the temple lamp burning for eight days. Children often play with a spinning top called a dreidel.

Word bank: Hanukkah · Menorah · Miracle · Oil · Light · Eight · Dreidel

1. How many days does the festival of Hanukkah last for? (Sentence starter: Hanukkah lasts for...) (1 mark)

2. What is the name of the special candlestick used during Hanukkah? (Sentence starter: The special candlestick is called a...) (1 mark)

3. Why do Jewish families light the Menorah? (Sentence starter: They light it to remember the...) (2 marks)

4. What is the name of the spinning toy that children play with during the festival? (Sentence starter: The spinning toy is called a...) (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a picture of a Menorah with eight candles lit. You can colour the flames bright yellow and orange.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are celebrating Hanukkah with a friend. Write one sentence about what delicious food you might share together, such as latkes (potato pancakes).