Hanukkah: The Festival of Lights

Learning objective: To understand the significance and key symbols of the Jewish festival of Hanukkah.

Use the drawing prompt below to create your own scene depicting the traditions of Hanukkah. Refer to the word bank to label the important items in your artwork.

Draw: Draw a festive Hanukkah scene at home. In the centre, draw a Menorah with eight main branches and one slightly elevated branch for the Shamash. Surround the table with a dreidel, some gold-wrapped chocolate coins (gelt), and a window showing a night sky. Use bright, warm colours for the candle flames to show the light. Ensure your drawing is clear enough to add labels from the word bank.

Label words: Menorah · Shamash · Dreidel · Oil · Gelt · Festival of Lights

Steps:

1. Why is the Menorah a significant symbol during Hanukkah? Mention the importance of the eight days.
2. Identify the purpose of the 'Shamash' candle in the ritual.
3. What does the game of dreidel represent in the context of the festival celebrations?
4. Label your drawing to show where the 'Shamash' candle is placed on the Menorah.
5. Explain why oil is a key theme of Hanukkah, relating it to the historical story of the Temple.