A Festival of Lights: Hanukkah Fact-File

Learning objective: To understand the significance, traditions, and history of the Jewish festival of Hanukkah.

Use your research skills to complete this fact-file about Hanukkah. You may work with a partner or use your classroom library to find the information. Remember to write in full sentences and check your spellings.

Word bank: Menorah · Hanukkiah · Dreidel · Gelt · Miracle · Maccabees · Temple · Oil

1. The History: Briefly explain why Jewish people celebrate Hanukkah. What happened to the Temple? (3 marks)

2. The Menorah: Describe the Hanukkiah (candelabra). How many candles are there, and why is the 'Shamash' candle special? (3 marks)

3. Traditions: List two traditional games or foods associated with Hanukkah and explain how they are used or prepared. (2 marks)

4. The Miracle: Why is oil such an important symbol during this festival? What did the Maccabees discover? (2 marks)

5. Reflection: Max the monkey thinks maths is everywhere! If a family gives each child £2 worth of chocolate 'gelt' coins, and there are 4 children, how much do they spend in total? Show your working out. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are inviting a friend to a Hanukkah celebration. Write a short invitation explaining one tradition you would like to share with them.