The Festival of Lights: A Hanukkah Fact-File

Learning objective: I can explain the significance, traditions, and history of Hanukkah.

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Encourage your child to look for connections between how different cultures celebrate light in the winter months.

Use this template to research and record your knowledge about Hanukkah. Read the prompts carefully and use the word bank to help you. Example: For 'Key Symbolism', you might write: 'The Menorah is used to remember the miracle of the oil that lasted for eight days.'

Word bank: Menorah · Maccabees · Dreidel · Gelt · Miracle · Temple · Eight · Candles · Latkes

1. Historical Origins: Explain why the Jewish people celebrate Hanukkah, focusing on the story of the Maccabees. (2 marks)

2. The Menorah: Describe the purpose of the Menorah and how the tradition of lighting it works over the eight days. (2 marks)

3. Traditional Foods: List two foods eaten during Hanukkah and explain why they are fried in oil. (2 marks)

4. Games and Customs: Describe how to play the game of Dreidel and what 'Gelt' represents. (2 marks)

5. Personal Reflection: Why is the theme of 'light in the darkness' important to people celebrating this festival? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a traditional Hanukkah Menorah with all eight candles lit, surrounded by patterns inspired by traditional Jewish art.

Extension challenge: Research why the Hebrew calendar dates for Hanukkah change every year in the Gregorian calendar. Write a two-sentence explanation.

I did it! **Name:** _____ **Date:** _____

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