Exploring Judaism: Key Concepts and Traditions

Learning objective: To understand the core beliefs, sacred texts, and practices of Judaism as part of the Grade 5 Religious Education curriculum.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of Judaism. Read the front of the card, try to remember the definition or explanation, then check your answer.

What is the Torah?

The Torah is the most important holy book in Judaism, containing the first five books of the Hebrew Bible and the laws given to Moses.

What is a Synagogue?

A Synagogue is the place of worship for the Jewish community, where they gather to pray, study the Torah, and celebrate festivals.

What is Shabbat?

Shabbat is the Jewish day of rest, starting at sunset on Friday and ending at nightfall on Saturday, dedicated to prayer and family time.

What does 'Kosher' mean?

Kosher refers to food that is prepared and eaten according to specific Jewish dietary laws, such as not mixing meat and dairy.

Who is a Rabbi?

A Rabbi is a teacher and spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation, trained in Jewish law and tradition.

What is a Mitzvah?

A Mitzvah (plural Mitzvot) is a commandment from God; it is often used to describe a good deed or a religious duty.

What is a Menorah?

A Menorah is a sacred candelabrum with seven or nine branches, used during Jewish rituals, most notably during the festival of Hanukkah.

What is celebrated at Passover?

Passover (Pesach) is a major festival that commemorates the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt.

What is Rosh Hashanah?

Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year, a time for reflection, prayer, and blowing the shofar (a ram's horn).

What is Yom Kippur?

Yom Kippur is the 'Day of Atonement', the holiest day of the year in Judaism, marked by fasting and sincere prayer to ask for forgiveness.

Who is the central figure who received the Ten Commandments?

Moses is the prophet who led the Israelites out of Egypt and received the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai.

What is the Shema?

The Shema is the most important prayer in Judaism, which declares the belief in one God and is recited daily by observant Jews.