

Year: 2

Subject: RE

Unit of Study: Judaism: Who are Jews? and Jewish Celebrations

Linked Literature: Torah

Who are Jews?

Jewish Celebrations

Special books in Judaism

Jewish places of worship

Special people in the Jewish faith

Jewish family life

**Vocabulary**

<b>Judaism</b>	One of the world's oldest religions
<b>Jewish</b>	A person whose religion is <b>Judaism</b>
<b>Shabbat</b>	Day of rest.
<b>Abraham</b>	A special person in the Jewish religion.
<b>Seder Plate</b>	An important part of the Seder meal, this plate has five sections to hold some special Seder foods.
<b>Torah</b>	Jewish Holy books.
<b>Hanukkah</b>	Festival of light.
<b>Commandment</b>	Biblical principles of Judaism.
<b>Synagogue</b>	Jewish place of worship.
<b>Menorah</b>	Lampstand made of pure gold.

**I need to know:**

Judaism was founded in a land called Canaan. The land that was in Canaan is now a country called Israel. Canaan also included lands from other countries near to modern Israel.

Judaism was founded 4000 years ago in Israel . Judaism was founded around 1812 BC with the covenant made between God and Abraham.

God made a covenant with Abraham. A covenant means an agreement or partnership. As part of this covenant, Abraham promised to do some things and God promised to do some things. God promised to give Abraham children and land. The land God gave to Abraham and his people was called Canaan. In return, Abraham and Sarah agreed to leave their home and travel as God instructed them. They also agreed to change their names.

**I need to know (continued):**

Shabbat is the fourth commandment: 'You shall remember to keep the Sabbath day Holy.' Saturday was the seventh day of the week and the day that God rested after creating the world. Ever since ancient times, Jewish people have kept the Sabbath day Holy by celebrating Shabbat. On Friday, families work hard to prepare food, clean their houses and lay their dining tables ready for Shabbat. There are lots of traditions that take place at a Shabbat meal.

Passover is one of the most important festivals in the Jewish year. Passover is celebrated in spring by Jewish people. Passover is celebrated by Jewish people, who remember how the Israelite people were freed from slavery by Moses over 3000 years ago. The story of Passover is in the Torah, the Jewish holy book. Passover is celebrated for seven or eight days. On the evening before Passover begins, there is a special service called a Seder. At the Seder meal there is a special Seder plate on the table.

Hanukkah or Chanukah is the Jewish festival of light. The word Hanukkah means rededication. It dates back to two hundred years before the start of Christianity. Hanukkah celebrates one of the greatest miracles in Jewish history. The festival reminds Jews of when, 2500 years ago, a Syrian king tried to make the Jewish people worship Greek gods and bow to statues.

This was forbidden by the Ten Commandments. A small group of Jews called the Maccabees rebelled. After a three year war, the Maccabees recaptured Jerusalem from the Syrians. The Jews repaired the temple which had been ruined and rededicated it to God by lighting a lamp. The Jews only had enough oil to light the lamp for one day but, miraculously, it stayed alight for eight days.

Rosh Hashanah is a festival that is celebrated by people who belong to the Jewish faith. It celebrates the Jewish New Year and beginnings. Rosh Hashanah lasts for two days. Jewish people don't go to work during Rosh Hashanah. They will visit the synagogue, which is the place where Jewish people go to pray and learn about God.

Bar Mitzvah means "Son of Commandment". A Bar Mitzvah celebrates a Jewish boy who has reached the age of 13. Once he has turned 13 years old, he has the same rights as an adult Jewish man. He is now responsible for his own decisions and actions.

A Bat Mitzvah is a Jewish girl who has turned 12 years old. She is now responsible for her own decisions and actions too.

**I need to do:**

- Develop understanding of the Jewish religion.
- Begin to learn vocabulary linked to Judaism.
- Ask and answer questions about Judaism.
- Use a range of sources to find out Jewish celebrations.
- Begin to develop understanding of similarities between Judaism and Christianity.



**Prior knowledge:**

In Year 1, Christianity was the religion studied.

Christians believe that Jesus Christ was the Son of God and God sent his Son to earth to save humanity from the consequences of its sins.

Jesus was fully human, and experienced this world in the same way as other human beings of his time

Jesus was tortured and gave his life on the Cross. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day after his Crucifixion. Christians believe that Jesus was the Messiah promised in the Old Testament. Christians believe that there is only one God, but that this one God consists of 3 "persons" God the Father, God the Son, The Holy Spirit

Christians believe that God made the world.



How was Judaism started?

Who was Abraham and why was he so important?

How is Shabbat celebrated?

What is the difference between Bar Mitzvah and Bat Mitzvah?

What have you learnt about Jewish celebrations?

What are the similarities between Christianity and Judaism?