

Assembly (5th and 6th Class)

Based on Term 3 Lesson 5 Fit for Life

The Jewish religion

Songs: Songs based on the psalms are perfect to include like Jubilate, The Lord's my shepherd or Praise him on the Trumpet.

You need: to have taught Lesson 5
Have a picture of a menorah and a mezuzah.

Pupil 1	Last week in R.E. we talked about a world religion - Judaism and in this assembly we are going to tell you a little about this religion. We will tell you about a special celebration and about a way Jewish people remind themselves about their faith every time they go in and out of their homes.
Pupil 2	This is a menorah
Pupil 3	It is a kind of candlestick which has seven branches and seven flames and a central main candle
Pupil 2	It is important to Jewish people because of a story from their history
Story 1	The story is a battle between the Jews and Greeks and it took place in Jerusalem a long time ago.
Story 2	King Antiochus had killed many Jewish people and had stopped them following God's commandments. He had made their sacred Temple in Jerusalem unclean and had built an altar there for the Greek god Zeus.
Story 1	A Jewish priest called Mattathias and his son Judah Maccabeus refused to obey the king's laws. They led a group of rebels who fought to take back the Temple and Jerusalem.
Story 2	They succeeded and the rebels entered the Temple. A new altar was built to worship God. There was not enough oil to keep the menorah light burning but God kept it burning for 8 days.
Pupil 3	Every year at Hanukkah the menorah candles are lit. Jewish people thank God for what he did for their people and for caring for them today.
Pupil 4	This is a mezuzah

Pupil 5	Many Jewish people have a mezuzah on their doorpost.
Pupil 4	It is a little box. Inside the box is a tiny scroll which has some very special verses from the Torah, which are the Jewish scriptures, in it.
Pupil 5	These verses are called the Shema which starts like this 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your might'.
Pupil 4	People put these by their doors because they are told to in the Torah. They are a reminder to keep God's commandments.
Pupil 5	Jewish people would touch the mezuzah as they pass through the door.
Pupil 1	These are two aspects of Judaism. We hope that you have enjoyed our assembly.
Prayer	Our prayer is from the Jewish book of songs. Read Psalm 117.