

Hanukkah



What is Hanukkah?

Hanukkah is the Jewish festival of light. The celebration reminds people of the miracle which took place in Israel over 2000 years ago.

twinkl

The story of Hanukkah

King Antiochus of Syria was not a Jew, and he was very cruel and unkind to the Jewish people. He wanted the Jews to worship the Greek god Zeus, and wouldn't let them worship their own god at their temple in Jerusalem.

The story of Hanukkah

This made the Jews very angry, and they decided to fight the Syrian King. Even though they were greatly outnumbered they won their battle. When they returned to their temple, they found that the army had made a terrible mess. So they had to clean it in order to make it holy once again.

The story of Hanukkah

They did this by re-lighting the temple's candle called a Menorah. This candle was really meant to burn all the time. They could only find one jar of oil to light the flame, and this they thought would only last for one day. But instead it kept the lamp burning for eight days and nights. And so Hanukkah celebrates this miracle.

How is Hanukkah celebrated?



A Hanukiah is lit by Jewish people. One candle is lit for each day of the festival.

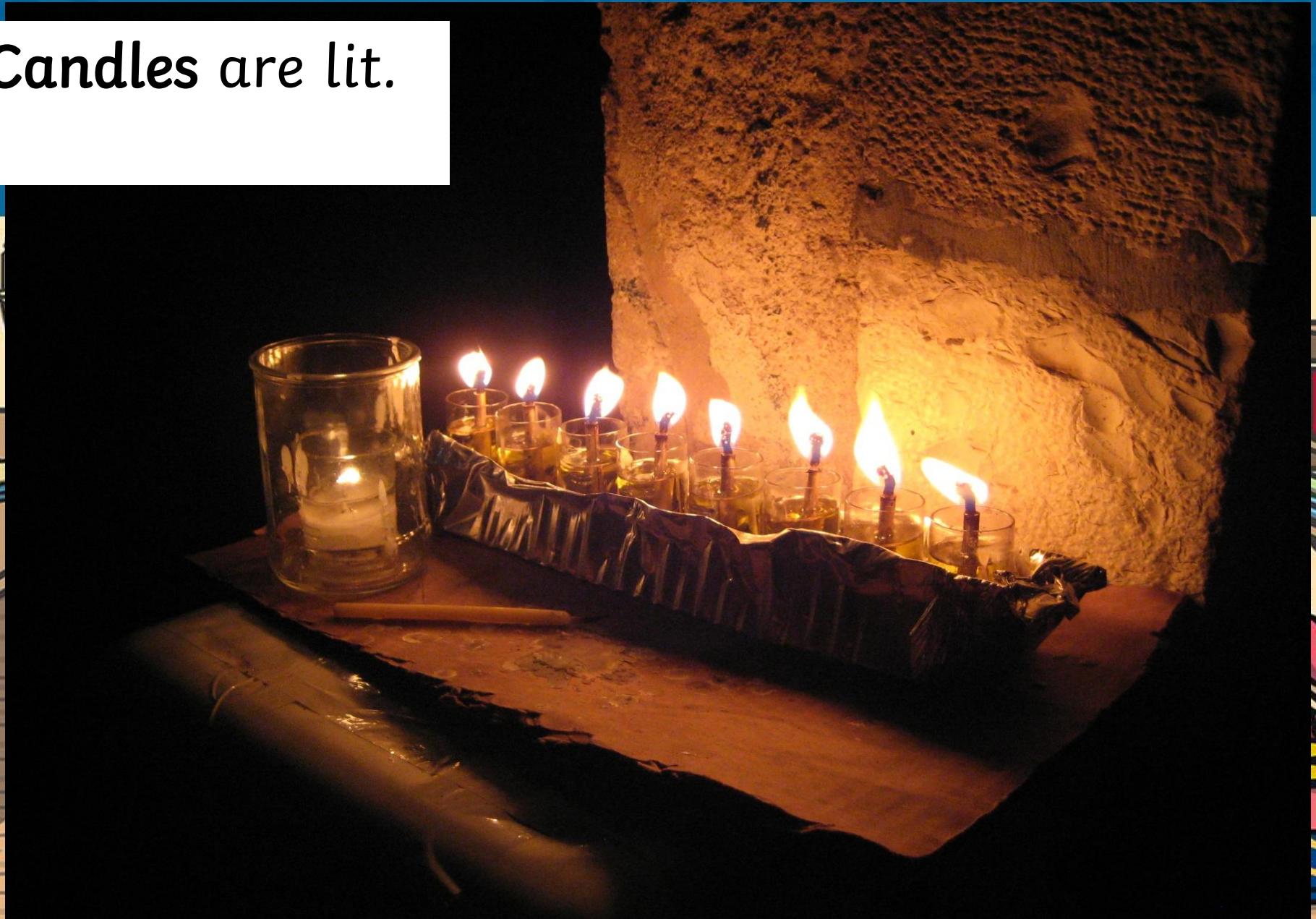
Dreidel is played.



Latkes are eaten.



Candles are lit.



In your home learning pack there are instructions on how to make and play the dreidel game. Play this game with your family.



