

Theme: Hanukkah

Week: 9

Learning Outcomes

Students Will:

- Know what a *Chanukiah* is, including how many candles it has and what a *shamash* is
- Become familiar with the blessing over the candles
- Celebrate Hanukkah with friends and family!

Materials & Resources

- *Chanukiah*
- Clothes pins
- Pom poms
- Pieces of cardboard
- Markers, crayons, etc.
- Glue

Arrival/Warm Up (15 min)

Play Hanukkah music as students are arriving. Provide different dreidel coloring pages for students to choose from and have them begin coloring them in. Since students learned about dreidels and the letters on them the week prior, challenge students to try to write the letters on their dreidels if they are not already part of the design.

Specific Accommodations

- If possible, put student picture next to their name at the table so they know where to sit even if they cannot recognize their names in print.
- Provide a variety of dreidel coloring pages some with the letters and some without for students at different levels

Tefilah Time (15 min)

Ask students if there is anything they are excited about for their upcoming school break; have them think about something they are feeling thankful for. Then proceed with *tefilot*.

Specific Accommodations

- Use cube chairs, cushions, carpet dots, or hula hoops for students who need support sitting on the floor or for students who need help understanding how to stay in their spot
- Allow students to point to something they are thankful for if they do not want to say it out loud

Centers (45 min. 15 each)



Center Theme: Hebrew Letters

Center Activity: Hebrew Letters of Hanukkah and the “*chhhh*” sound

Provide the word “Hanukkah” written out for students and have them explore and copy the letters using their *Aleph Bet* boards. Point out to students that in Hebrew, there is a letter that makes a sound that the English language does not have. The “chh” sound. It kind of sounds like an animal growling or someone trying to scratch the back of their throats. Have students pretend to be animals growling and try to work on pronouncing the “*chhhh*” in *Chanukah*.

Specific Accommodations:

- Include as many different materials for students to play with the letters of the word.
- Have a recording of someone saying the word ***Chanukah*** so students can hear it even when a teacher is not right next to them.

Center Theme: Art

Center Activity: Make your own “Fireless” *Chanukiah*

Provide pieces of cardboard as the base of their *Chanukiah*. Students should decorate them however they would like. Then, have students color 9 clothespins and glue red, yellow, or orange cotton balls to the tip of them as the flame.

Specific Accommodations:

- Provide a real *Chanukiah* and a model of the kind they are making so that students see what they are creating
- Separate all needed materials into piles for each individual student so they know exactly what they will need to use

Center Theme: Building

Center Activity: *Chanukiah*

Provide blocks, magnetiles, etc. and have students work together to build a giant *Chanukiah*.

Specific Accommodations:

- Provide picture examples of *Chanukiot*
- Assign specific jobs ahead of time to students that may have a more difficult time collaborating with the group



Bracha Spotlight (and snack time, 20 min):

For the last hour of class, invite families to join for a Hanukkah celebration. Serve *sufganiyot*, *latkes*, etc. (if possible). Say the *Shehakol bracha*!

Whole Group Activity (30 min):

After students' families have spent some time eating and mingling, have students show their families what they have learned about *Hanukkah*. Start by having them show off their hand motions for "*Nes Gadol Haya Sham*" from the week before.

Next, have all students take their fireless *Chanukiah* that they made during centers. Together with their families and the whole class, "light" the *Chanukiah*. *Note: Do this based on what day of Hanukkah it is. If it is not yet Hanukkah, "light" the candle for the first day and explain that it is practice for when Hanukkah begins.

Finally, provide song sheets for students and parents to sing along to a few Hanukkah songs.

Specific Accommodations:

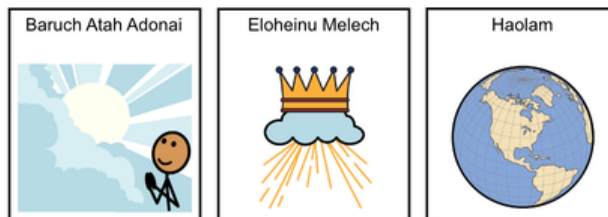
- Review the hand motions from the *Nes Gadol Haya Sham* game before having students present them to parents
- Model "lighting" the *Chanukiah* as the group lights them together

Closing/Lehitraot (10 min):

- Ask families or students to share a family *Hanukkah* tradition or memory
- Finally, sing *Shalom Chaverim* together

Pictures of *Chanukiot*

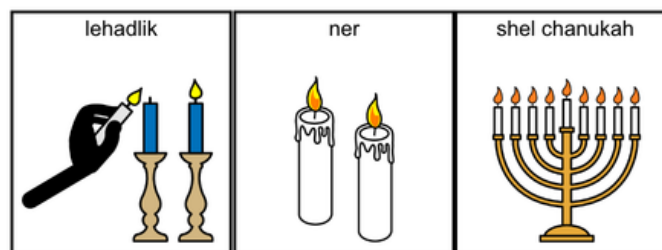




בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם



אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ



לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.