Name _____ Date _____



Hanukkah Traditions

Read each text. Then answer the questions.

Eight Nights of Light

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday. It lasts for eight nights, and it starts in late November or in December. Each night, families light candles in a **menorah**. On the first night, they light one candle. Each night after that, they add one more. On the last night, all eight candles shine!

1. How many nights does Hanukkah last? **7** **9** **8**

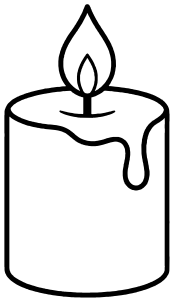
2. On the first night, all the candles are lit. **true** **false**

The Helper Candle

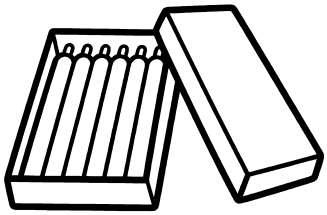
A Hanukkah menorah has room for nine candles, not eight. The ninth one is the **shamash**, the helper candle. It often stands up higher than the rest, or off to one side. In many families, the shamash is lit first. Then it is used to light the other candles. Many families set the menorah in a window. That way, people who walk by can see the lights.

3. What is the shamash used for?

4. How many candles does a Hanukkah menorah hold? **4** **8** **9**







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Name _____ Date _____



Hanukkah Traditions

Read each text. Then answer the questions.

The Dreidel

A **dreidel** is a spinning top with four sides. Each side has a Hebrew letter: Nun, Gimel, Hei and Shin. The letters stand for four words that mean "A great miracle happened there." In Israel, many dreidels have Pe in place of Shin. Then the words mean "A great miracle happened here." In the dreidel game, the side that lands up tells a player what to do.

1. How many sides does a dreidel have? **6** **4** **8**

2. What do the four letters stand for?

_____

_____

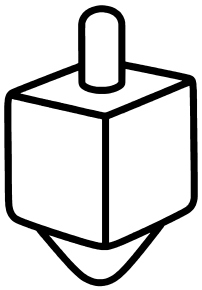
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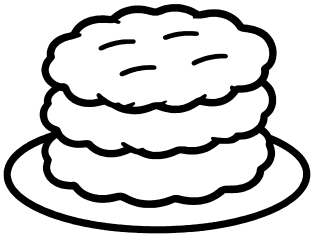
Foods Fried in Oil

At Hanukkah, many families eat foods fried in **oil**. **Latkes** are potato pancakes. They are fried until they are crisp. Some people eat them with applesauce. In Israel, a big treat is a round doughnut filled with jam. The oil helps people remember the Hanukkah story.

3. Latkes are made of ____ **potatoes** **bread** **apples**

4. In Israel, a favorite treat is a doughnut filled with jam. **true** **false**







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Name _____ Date _____



Hanukkah Traditions

Read each text. Then answer the questions.

Gelt

Gelt is a Yiddish word for money. Long ago, children were often given coins at Hanukkah. Now many children get chocolate coins in gold or silver foil. They use them to play the dreidel game. Some families also give gifts. Some give to people in need.

1. What does the word gelt mean? **light** **candy** **money**

2. What can children do with chocolate gelt?

_____

_____

_____

The Hanukkah Story

Hanukkah remembers events from more than 2,000 years ago. A king had taken over the Jewish **Temple** in Jerusalem. He would not let Jews live by their own ways. A small group called the Maccabees fought back, and they won back the Temple. In about 164 BCE, they cleaned it and lit its lamp again. The word Hanukkah means **dedication**. Jewish tradition tells that they had only enough oil for one day. But it burned for eight days!

3. The word Hanukkah means ____ **candle** **dedication** **eight**

4. Why does Hanukkah last eight nights?

_____

_____

_____

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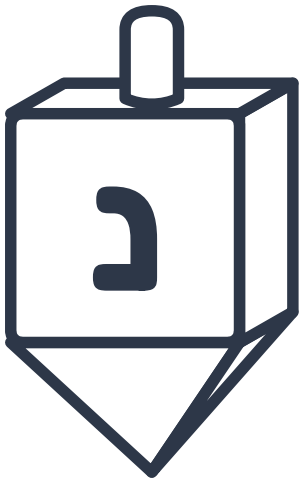
Name _____ Date _____



Hanukkah Traditions

Write the name of the letter on each dreidel.

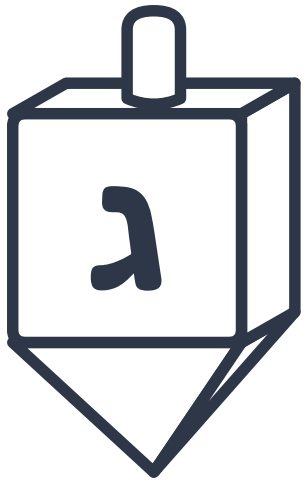
Word bank: Gimel Shin Nun Hei



_____

_____

_____



_____

_____

_____



_____

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_____

_____

_____

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Name _____ Date _____



Hanukkah Traditions

Draw a line from each word to what it means.

menorah	●	● the helper candle
shamash	●	● potato pancakes fried in oil
dreidel	●	● a word that means dedication
latkes	●	● coins, often made of chocolate
gelt	●	● a Hanukkah lamp with places for nine candles
Hanukkah	●	● a top with four sides

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Name _____ Date _____



Hanukkah Traditions

Draw and write about a tradition your family loves.

My family loves to

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Hanukkah Traditions

Read each text. Then answer the questions.

Eight Nights of Light

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday. It lasts for eight nights, and it starts in late November or in December. Each night, families light candles in a **menorah**. On the first night, they light one candle. Each night after that, they add one more. On the last night, all eight candles shine!

1. How many nights does Hanukkah last? **7** **9** **(8)**

2. On the first night, all the candles are lit. **true** **(false)**

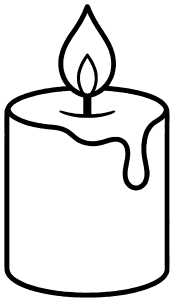
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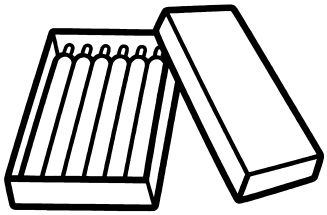
3. What is the shamash used for?

To light the other candles.

4. How many candles does a Hanukkah menorah hold? **4** **8** **(9)**







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Hanukkah Traditions

Read each text. Then answer the questions.

The Dreidel

A **dreidel** is a spinning top with four sides. Each side has a Hebrew letter: Nun, Gimel, Hei and Shin. The letters stand for four words that mean "A great miracle happened there." In Israel, many dreidels have Pe in place of Shin. Then the words mean "A great miracle happened here." In the dreidel game, the side that lands up tells a player what to do.

1. How many sides does a dreidel have? 6 **(4)** 8

2. What do the four letters stand for?

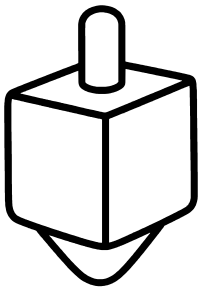
A great miracle happened there.

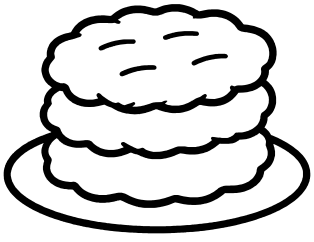
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3. Latkes are made of ____ **(potatoes)** **bread** **apples**

4. In Israel, a favorite treat is a doughnut filled with jam. **(true)** **false**







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Hanukkah Traditions

Read each text. Then answer the questions.

Gelt

Gelt is a Yiddish word for money. Long ago, children were often given coins at Hanukkah. Now many children get chocolate coins in gold or silver foil. They use them to play the dreidel game. Some families also give gifts. Some give to people in need.

1. What does the word gelt mean? **light** **candy** **money**

2. What can children do with chocolate gelt?

Play the dreidel game with it (or eat it).

The Hanukkah Story

Hanukkah remembers events from more than 2,000 years ago. A king had taken over the Jewish **Temple** in Jerusalem. He would not let Jews live by their own ways. A small group called the Maccabees fought back, and they won back the Temple. In about 164 BCE, they cleaned it and lit its lamp again. The word Hanukkah means **dedication**. Jewish tradition tells that they had only enough oil for one day. But it burned for eight days!

3. The word Hanukkah means ____ **candle** **dedication** **eight**

4. Why does Hanukkah last eight nights?

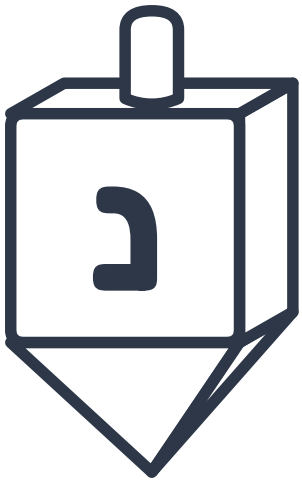
The story says the oil burned for eight days.

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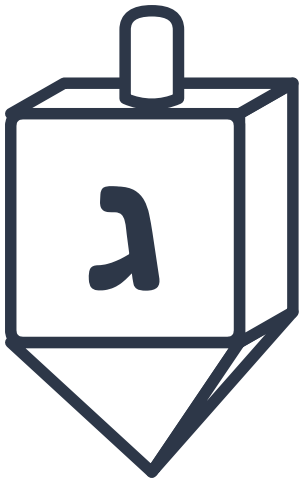
Hanukkah Traditions

Write the name of the letter on each dreidel.

Word bank: Gimel Shin Nun Hei



Nun



Gimel



Hei



Shin

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Hanukkah Traditions

Draw a line from each word to what it means.

menorah	the helper candle
shamash	potato pancakes fried in oil
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