



HANUKKAH RESOURCES

Books to Enhance Your Family's Celebration
Available in the Gray Cultural & Learning Center

FOR YOUNGER READERS:

In the Pinsof Children's Reading Room

***The Hanukkah Story* by David A. Adler; illustrated by Jill Weber**

Retells the story of the first Hanukkah, describing how Mattathias and his followers defeated their Greek rulers, the rededication of the Temple, and the miracle of the oil, and discusses how Hanukkah is celebrated today. See also: *Hanukkah Cookies with Sprinkles* and *Chanukah in Chelm*

***Maccabee!* by Tilda Balsley; illustrated by David Harrington**

Judah and the small army of Maccabees fight to free Jerusalem from the cruel armies of King Antiochus in this rhyming version of the Hanukkah story. See also: *ABC Hanukkah Hunt*, *The Count's Hanukkah Countdown*, and *Eight is Great*.

NEW! *Hanukkah in Little Havana* by Julie Anna Blank illustrated by Carlos Velez Aguilera

Celebrating Hanukkah with Nonna and Nonno in Florida is like a dream-picking oranges in the sun, dancing the salsa, playing in the waves at the beach, and eating Nonna's bunuelos stuffed with almonds and guava jelly.

***Engineer Ari and the Hanukkah Mishap* by Deborah Bodin Cohen**

In Israel in the 1890s, a train derails and its engineer, who was rushing to spend Hanukkah with friends, is surprised when a Bedouin who helps him says they are in the very place where the miracle of Hanukkah began.

***Queen of the Hanukkah Dosas* by Pamela Ehrenberg; illustrations by Anjan Sarkar**

A boy is worried that his little sister's climbing will spoil the first night of Hanukkah, when his family combines his father's Jewish traditions with his mother's East Indian cooking.

***Latke, the Lucky Dog* by Ellen Fischer; illustrations by Tiphonie Beeke**

A family rescues a dog from a shelter during Hanukkah, and the pup proceeds to create holiday hijinks as he gets used to his new home.

***Nonna's Hanukkah Surprise* by Karen Fisman; illustrated by Martha Aviles**

When Rachel loses the special menorah her mother gave her so she could share Hanukkah with her cousins, Rachel's grandmother comes to the rescue with a creative and crafty solution. See also *An Adventure in Latkaland*

***Happy Llamakkah!* by Laura Gehl; illustrated by Lydia Nichols**

Follow along with the Llama family's Hanukkah traditions as they light their menorah, spin the dreidel, fry latkes, and more.

***Jeremy's Dreidel* by Ellie Gellman**

A boy makes a Braille Hanukkah dreidel for his father, who is blind. Includes instructions for making different types of dreidels.

***Mrs. Greenberg's Messy Hanukkah* by Linda Glaser**

When Rachel makes latkes with her friend Mrs. Greenberg, the project turns out to be a very messy one. See also: *The Borrowed Hanukkah Latkes*, *Hoppy Hanukkah!* and *Way Too Many Latkes*.

NEW! *The Christmas Mitzvah* by Jeff Gottesfeld; illustrated by Michelle Laurentia Agatha

Al Rosen was a Jewish man who loved Christmas. Saddened to see a neighbor working on Christmas eve, Al offered to perform a "mitzvah", or good deed: to take over his Christian neighbor's shift for no pay so he could spend the holiday with his family. This soon became an annual tradition spanning thirty years, where Al and his family worked a wide variety of odd jobs so others could have holidays off.

***Menorah Under the Sea* by Esther Susan Heller**

Describes how, while studying sea urchins in Antarctica, marine biologist David Ginsburg celebrated Hanukkah by creating his own menorah on the sea floor.

***All-of-a-Kind Family Hanukkah* by Emily Jenkins; illustrated by Paul O. Zelinsky**

In 1912 New York, Gertie feels left out while Mama and her four older sisters cook Hanukkah dinner, but Papa comes home and asks her help with an important task. Based on the classic *All-of-a-Kind Family* series by Sydney Taylor.

***Light the Menorah! A Hanukkah Handbook* by Jacqueline Jules; illustrated by Kristina Swarner**

In this Hanukkah manual for the contemporary Jewish family, holiday history, rituals, activities, songs, and recipes provide tools for creating meaningful family moments in the light of the menorah. The book includes brief reflections to read aloud before reciting the candle-lighting blessings on each of the eight nights of Hanukkah. See also: *Happy Hanukkah Lights* and *The Ziz and the Hanukkah Miracle*.

***The Hanukkah Bear* by Eric A. Kimmel**

On the first night of Hanukkah, Old Bear wanders into Bubba Brayna's house and receives a delicious helping of potato latkes when she mistakes him for the rabbi. See also: *The Chanukah Guest*, *The Golem's Latkes*, *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins*, *Asher and the Capmakers*, *The Magic Dreidels*, *When Mindy Saved Hanukkah* and *Zigazak*.

***The Runaway Latkes* by Leslie Kimmelman**

When three potato latkes escape Rebecca Bloom's frying pan, everyone including the cantor, the rabbi, and the mayor joins in the chase. See also: *The Eight Knights of Hanukkah* and *Hanukkah Lights, Hanukkah Nights*.

***Judah Maccabee Goes to the Doctor* by Ann D. Koffsky; illustrated by Talitha Shipman**

As Hanukkah approaches, a caring older brother discovers that it is not an outward show of strength that wins the trust of his little sister, but inner strength as he bravely agrees to have the vaccination that will protect them both from threatening illnesses.

***Little Red Ruthie* by Gloria Koster; illustrated by Sue Eastland**

Heading through the forest to her Bubbe Basha's house to make latkes on the first night of Hanukkah, Little Red Ruthie encounters a hungry wolf.

***Nathan Blows Out the Hanukkah Candles* by Tami Lehman-Wilzig**

Although Jacob finds his autistic brother, Nathan, annoying, he gets angry at a new neighbor who calls Nathan weird, but their mothers help the boys get along with a special Hanukkah observance. See also: *Hanukkah Around the World*

***Jodie's Hanukkah Dig* by Anna Levine**

Jodie dreams of one day becoming a famous archaeologist and when her father takes her to visit a dig in Modiin, home of the Maccabees, she is uniquely able to help.

NEW! *Latkes and Applesauce* by Fran Manushkin; illustrated by Kris Easler

When a blizzard leaves a family housebound one Hanukkah, they share what little food they have with some starving animals who later return the favor.

***Eight Winter Nights: A Family Hanukkah Book* by Laura Krauss Melmed**

Short verses describe symbols, foods, and family fun associated with the festival of Hanukkah. See also *Moishe's Miracle: A Hanukkah Story*.

***Harvest of Light* by Allison Ofanansky**

Contemporary, full-color photographs help to illustrate how one Israeli family raises olives and uses the oil to light their Hanukkah menorah. See also *How It's Made: Hanukkah Menorah*

***The Trees of the Dancing Goats* by Patricia Polacco**

During a scarlet fever epidemic one winter in Michigan, a Jewish family helps make Christmas special for their sick neighbors by making their own Hanukkah miracle.

***Chanukah Lights Everywhere* by Michael Rosen**

A young boy counts the candles on the family menorah and the lights he sees in the world around him on each night of Hanukkah. See also: *Our Eight Nights of Hanukkah* and *Elijah's Angel: A Story for Chanukah and Christmas*.

***Meet the Latkes* by Alan Silberberg**

Lucy Latke's family is a family of potato pancakes. After lighting the menorah and gobbling the gelt, Grandpa Latke tells everyone the Hanukkah story, but it's up to the Latke family dog to set the record straight.

NEW! *Baby Loves Angular Momentum on Hanukkah!* by Ruth Spiro; illustrated by Irene Chan

Baby discovers the science behind spinning a dreidel on Hanukkah, exploring angular momentum, torque, friction, and gravity in this adorable board book.

NEW! *Hanukkah Upside Down* by Elissa Brent Weissman; illustrated by Omer Hoffmann

From their homes in New York and New Zealand, cousins Noah and Nora have a competition to decide who can have the world's best Hanukkah, winter or summer, but as the eight nights of Hanukkah go on, they realize they have more in common than they thought.

NEW! *Red and Green and Blue and White* by Lee Wind; illustrated by Paul O. Zelinsky

On Isaac's street most of the houses are decorated in red and green for Christmas including his friend, Teresa's, while Isaac's house is blue and white for Hanukkah; then someone smashes Isaac's window in the night, and Teresa comes up with a way to show support her friend--and gets the whole community to rally around their Jewish family.

***I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Dreidel* by Caryn Yacowitz; illustrated by David Slonim**

"I know an old lady who swallowed a dreidel, A Chanukah dreidel she thought was a bagel...Perhaps it's fatal." Indeed, Bubbe's first bite leads to an insatiable taste for oil, latkes, applesauce, gelt -- even menorahs! But as the family tries to distract her from her gluttony, the items she devours grow ever larger. Will they be able to reconnect with her and bring her home for the last night of Chanukah -- or will her feasting in fact be fatal?

***How Do Dinosaurs Say Happy Chanukah?* by Jane Yolen**

Illustrations and rhyming text present some of the different ways a well-behaved dinosaur can celebrate the eight days and nights of Chanukah. See also: *Dinosaur on Hanukkah* by Diane Rauchwerger.

FOR OLDER READERS:

In the Pinosof Children's Reading Room

***Dreidels on the Brain* by Joel Ben Izzy**

During the Hanukkah season of 1971, in the suburbs of the suburbs of Los Angeles, 12-year-old Joel, who dreams of being his own superhero despite serious disillusionment with his life, gets more than he bargained for when he bets everything on his own Hanukkah miracle, to see whether it's worth believing in God or miracles or anything at all.

***Four Sides, Eight Nights: A New Spin on Hanukkah* by Rebecca Tova Ben-Zvi**

Provides readers with a fun, informative guide to Hanukkah through a review of its food, games, and many traditions - enhanced with trivia, scientific facts, and more.

***A Dreidel in Time: A New Spin on an Old Tale* by Marcia Berneger**

A brother and sister receive a strange Hanukkah gift and family heirloom--a magic dreidel that takes them back in time to learn about the true meaning of Hanukkah.

***Like a Maccabee* by Barbara Bietz**

Days before Hanukkah, ten-year-old Ben prepares for his championship soccer game while pursued by the school bully and adjusting to a new roommate: his grandfather.

***Alexandra's Scroll: The Story of the First Hanukkah* by Miriam Chaikin**

Alexandra, a young Jewish girl from Jerusalem, describes her life and the creation of Hanukkah, more than 2000 years ago.

***The Christmas Menorahs: How a Town Fought Hate* by Janice Cohn**

Based on a real event that took place in Billings, Montana, this holiday tale tells how two children, their families, and an entire community stand together against the shameful actions in their own town.

***Candlelight for Rebecca* by Jacqueline Dembar Greene**

While Rebecca Rubin helps her building's ailing superintendent take care of his homing pigeons, she puzzles over what to do with the Christmas centerpiece her teacher insisted she make but which has no place in her Jewish home. Part of the new "American Girl" series which also includes *Meet Rebecca*, *Rebecca & Ana*, *Rebecca & the Movies*, *Rebecca to the Rescue*, and *Changes for Rebecca*.

***Maccabee Meals: Food and Fun for Hanukkah* by Judyth Groner and Madeline Wikler**

Eight nights of food, fun, and games for Hanukkah, with recipes, party themes, and holiday trivia.

***The Jar of Fools: Eight Hanukkah Stories from Chelm* by Eric Kimmel**

Drawing on traditional Jewish folklore, these Hanukkah stories relate the antics of the people of Chelm, thought - perhaps incorrectly - to be a town of fools. See also: *The Spotted Pony: A Collection of Hanukkah Stories*, *A Hanukkah Treasury* and *Shield of the Maccabees*.

***Hanukkah At Valley Forge* by Stephen Krensky**

During the grim winter at Valley Forge, a Polish-born soldier tells General Washington about Hanukkah, who draws parallels between the Macabbees' war against their foes with the American war against the British oppressors.

***Penina Levine is a Potato Pancake* by Rebecca O'Connell**

When she finds her best friend is going to Aruba for vacation and her favorite teacher is taking a long leave of absence, sixth-grader Penina is not looking forward to Hanukkah with her little sister who is always stealing the spotlight. See also: *Penina Levine Is A Hard-Boiled Egg*.

***NEW! Eight Nights of Flirting* by Hannah Reynolds**

Sixteen-year-old Shira is on a mission to find the perfect boyfriend over Hanukkah, but after getting snowed in on Nantucket with her nemesis-slash-former-crush her plans begin to go off the rails. See also: *The Summer of Lost Letters*

FOR ADULTS:

In the Maxwell Abbell Library

***Hanukkah in America: A History* by Dianne Ashton**

Provides a comprehensive history of the Jewish holiday, from its roots in ancient history through its rise to prominence in the United States.

***Your Guide to the Jewish Holidays: From Shofar to Seder* by Cantor Matt Axelrod**

Intended for the reader who has no prior knowledge about the Jewish holidays as well as those who knows the basics, Axelrod's book takes a humorous, light-hearted look at the eleven most important Jewish holidays including Hanukkah.

***The Art of Hanukkah* by Nancy M. Berman**

A rich celebration of Hanukkah, featuring centuries of extraordinary art and artifacts.

***How to Spell Chanukah: 18 Writers Celebrate 8 Nights of Lights* edited by Emily Franklin**

Ring in the holiday with eighteen writers who extol, excoriate, and expand our understanding of this most merry of Jewish festivals as they offer up funny, irreverent, and, yes, even nostalgic takes on a holiday that holds a special place in Jewish hearts . . . and stomachs. See also: *Hanukkah Stories: Thoughts on Family, Celebration and Joy* by Nancy Rips and *Hanukkah Lights: Stories of the Season from NPR's Annual Holiday Special*.

***Every Person's Guide to Hanukkah* by Ronald Isaacs**

Provides readers with the essential information necessary to explore the concepts, history, and customs of Hanukkah.

***The Matzah Ball* by Jean Meltzer**

A best-selling Christmas romance novelist who has kept her career a secret from her family, “nice Jewish girl” Rachel Rubenstein-Goldblatt is forced to write her first Hanukkah romance and, in desperate need of inspiration, finds her summer camp arch enemy standing in her way.

***Celebrating the Jewish Year: The Winter Holidays* by Paul Steinberg**

Bursting with primary sources, poems, prayers, rituals, and stories for Hanukkah, Tu B’Shevat, and Purim, this guide will help you create a holiday experience rich in meaning and spirit.

***Hanukkah: The Family Guide to Spiritual Celebration* by Ron Wolfson and Joel Grishaver**

This newly-designed, easy-to-use edition of a classic spiritual sourcebook offers updated information, more family ideas, and new resources for every aspect of your holiday celebration.

***A Different Light: The Hanukkah Book of Celebration* by Noam Zion and Barbara Spectre**

A how-to guide to a creative candle-lighting ceremony: blessings, songs, stories, readings, games and cartoons to engage adults, teenagers and children on each of the eight nights. See also: *A Different Light: The Big Book of Hanukkah*.

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