



Set the Hanukkah Snack Table

Grade Level

All

Goals for the Lesson/Activity

Students will be able to...

- Identify ritual objects related to the celebration of Hanukkah
- Describe the importance of ritual objects and their relation to the Hanukkah story
- Review and retell portions of the Hanukkah story as a result of hands-on play and visual reminders

Materials needed

A collection of small objects, including but not limited to:

- Toy hammers
- Toy shields
- Dreidels
- Various *Hanukkiyot*
- Gelt
- Toy elephants
- Candles
- Olives
- Olive oil
- Latkes and/or potatoes
- Jelly doughnuts (*sufganiyot*)
- Frying pan
- Large copies or die cuts of the Hebrew letters *nun*, *gimel*, *hay*, and *shin*
- Hanukkah song sheets
- Copies of the blessings recited for lighting the *hanukkiyah*
- Hanukkah fabric or wrapping paper

Description of Activities

Set up the Hanukkah snack table with the various objects down the middle of the table. You could use Hanukkah wrapping paper or fabric as a runner underneath the objects. As the class sits down for snack, ask students to take a look at the table decorations. Call on each student in turn to choose an item that they see on the table, hold it up, and describe what it is and why it is important to the story of Hanukkah.

You could also use the set table to play “What’s Missing?” Ask students to look around at all the objects on the table. Then, students close their eyes and you remove one of the items. When students open their eyes, they must guess which item was removed and relate its importance to the Hanukkah story.