



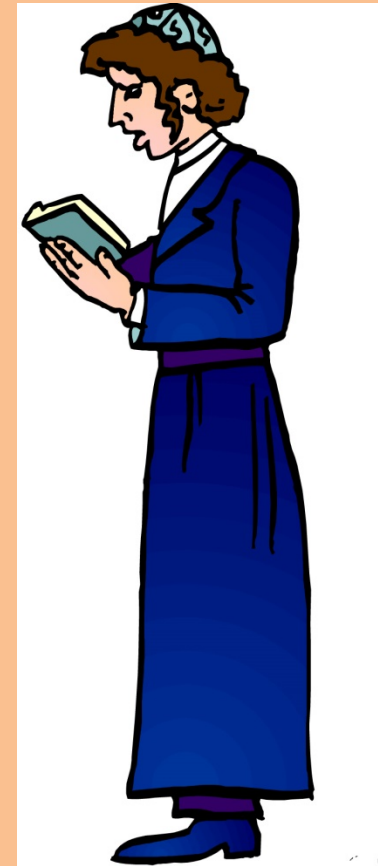
Judaism



What is Judaism?

Judaism is a religion

People who follow the
religion of Judaism are
known as Jews



How did Judaism begin?



Jews believe that around 4,000 years ago, God spoke to a man named Abram (who was renamed Abraham)

Jews believe that God told Abraham to search for a 'promised land'

This time is when Jews believe that Judaism began

What do Jews believe?

- that there is only one God
- that God made a special agreement with them
- that God gave them the Torah and the Ten Commandments to tell them how to live their lives the right way

What language do Jews use?

The main Jewish language is Hebrew

ם	מ	ל	ך	כ	י	ט	ח	ז	ו	ה	ד	ג	ב	א
Mem	Mem	Lamed	Khaf	Khaf	Yod	Teit	Cheit	Zayin	Vav	He	Dalet	Gimel	Beit	Aleph

ת	ש	ר	ק	ץ	צ	ף	פ	ע	ס	ן	נ
Tav	Shin	Reish	Qof	Tzadi	Tzadi	Peh	Peh	Ayin	Samekh	Nun	Nun

Hebrew is the ancient language of the Jews

Hebrew is used for prayer

What festivals do Jews celebrate?

There is at least one Jewish fast or festival in all but one month of the Jewish calendar

Some of these are:

- *Rosh Hashanah* (New Year)
- *Yom Kippur* (the Day for Atonement)
 - *Pesach* (Passover)
- *Shavuot* (celebrating receiving the Torah)

What festivals do Jews celebrate?

Shabbat (in Hebrew) / Sabbath (in English) is the most important Jewish festival

Shabbat lasts from before sunset on Friday to after sunset on Saturday every week



Friday



Saturday

What do Jews do on Shabbat?

On Shabbat Jews rest, because they believe that this is what God did when he created the world

They also light a special candle, say special prayers and share a special meal



What other times do Jews celebrate?

Jews also have events for special times in people's lives

Some of these events are for naming a baby, 'coming of age' at 12 or 13 years old, marriage and death



Where do Jews go to pray?

Jews often go to synagogues to pray



However Jews pray elsewhere too - they have special prayers after getting up, before going to bed, and before and after eating

Who are Jewish religious leaders?

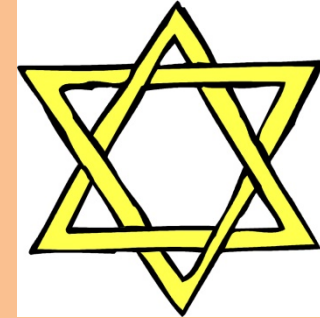
Jewish religious leaders are called Rabbis

Rabbis lead prayers in synagogues and help other Jews to learn more about being a good Jew



What special symbols and objects do Jews use?

The Star of David
(recalls a great Jewish leader)



Yad (a pointer used when
reading a Torah scroll, to avoid
touching it with the hands)



Shofar (a ram's horn that is used to
call people on Rosh Hashanah)



Which places are special for Jews?

These are some of the special places for Jews:



Jerusalem is
the most holy
city for Jews



The Western Wall (part of a
destroyed temple) in Jerusalem is
the most holy site for Jews