

Religious Education Knowledge Organiser

Year 1

Summer (ii)

Why is Shabbat important to Judaism?

Substantive Knowledge – Sabbath is a day of rest for the Jews.

What is Shabbat?

Shabbat is the Jewish Day of rest. It happens each week from sunset in Friday to sunset on Saturday. During this time, Jewish people remember the creation story.

Why is Shabbat important to Jews?

Jewish people remember the creation story from the Torah where God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh. Jews believe that keeping the Shabbat is a direct command from God and therefore should be seen as an important part of their religion.

Why celebrate Shabbat?

- The Jews celebrate Shabbat because God told them to keep the seventh day of the week, holy.
- 'Observe the sabbath and keep it holy..On that day no one is to work...Remember that you were slaves in Egypt, and that I,the Lord your God rescued you...That is why I command you to observe the Sabbath.'

The first Shabbat in history is described in Genesis 2:2-3: "on the seventh day God finished His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day. God blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it"

Why does Shabbat fall on the seventh day of the week?



day one - heavens earth light



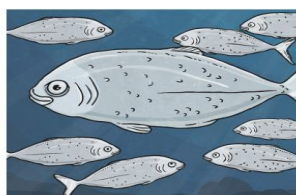
day two - sky



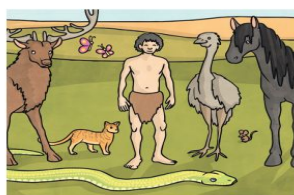
day three - land, water, plants



day four - sun, moon, stars



day five - fish, birds



day six - animals, man



day seven - rest, Sabbath God

How do Jews prepare of Shabbat?

In Jewish homes, a number of preparations are made before Shabbat. The house is tidied and food is prepared, and two candles are placed on the dining table.



Two candles are lit - one symbolises remembering the Shabbat and one symbolises observing the Shabbat.

What is the Shabbat table?



Challah bread - represents to food given by God as the Jews escaped Egypt.

On Shabbat, every house becomes its own little sanctuary, or a miniature version of the Holy Temple. And, therefore, the Shabbat table that is eaten on can be compared to the Altar that once stood in the Holy Temple. Important ritual items are then placed on the Shabbat table to assist with various Shabbat traditions.

Candlesticks with candles or oil lamps (these must be lit before sunset); a cup or goblet and wine or grape juice for kiddush; two whole challah loaves, placed on a tray and covered with a cloth. The table is traditionally covered with a white tablecloth, and richly set with nice tableware.

Portable Knowledge – What we need to remember

Shabbat is a day of rest for the Jews.

Core Vocabulary

Shabbat – Judaism day of rest

Jews – member of the people and cultural community whose traditional religion is Judaism

Creation - the act of bringing something into existence