

Create your own Maccabean Shield

CHANUKAH STORY

Select 6 out of the following 8 Questions and write an Answer inside of each of the 6 triangles of the Star of David.

Q: The Maccabees were fighting in what land?

A: The Maccabees fought for their rights to be Jewish in the land of Israel

Q: Who were the Maccabees fighting?

A: The Maccabees fought for their right to be Jewish against the Assyrian Greeks

Q: What were they fighting for?

A: The right to be Jewish

Q: Why do we light 8 candles?

A: When the Syrian Greeks destroyed the holy Temple, they trashed the Torahs, broke all of the pitchers of oil; except for one miraculously lasted 8 days!

Q: Who is the hero in the story Chanukah?

A: Judah Maccabee is the hero of Chanukah because his military might was so strong that he was able to conquer the enemy and make it safe for the Jewish people living in Israel to continue living their values openly and not have to hide anymore.

Q: What special foods do we eat on Chanukah? And why?

A: We eat potato latkes and jelly-filled donuts because they are fried in oil. We also eat chocolate gelt

Q: What are the letters on the side of a dreidel and what do they stand for?

A: Dreidels in every country outside of Israel have the letters: Nun, Gimmel, Hey, Shin. While Dreidels in Israel have Nun, Gimmel, Hey, Pey.

Meanings/Definitions:

Nun = Nes, the Hebrew word for miracle

Gimmel = Gadol, the Hebrew word for Big or Great

Hey = Haya, the Hebrew word for "happened"

Shin = Sham, the Hebrew word for "There"

Put it all together, to make a cohesive English sentence:

A Great Miracle Happened There

In Israel the dreidels are different, pronouncing: A great miracle happened HERE.

Instead of the "Shin" (Sham = There) on diaspora dreidels, the dreidels of Israel have the letter "Peh", which stands for Poh and means Here.

ISRAELI DREIDEL



DIASPORA DREIDEL



Q: Why is there a 9th candle on Chanukah menorah (Chanukiah)?

A: There are 9 candles on a Chanukiah because the 8 candles symbolize the 8 days that the oil stayed lit and the 9th candle is the Shamash "Helper" candle that lights the original 8 candles