



Year 5 RE Judaism: What does it mean to be a Jew?



Key Vocabulary

atheism	The belief that God does not exist.
creed	A statement of belief.
Exodus	The Exodus refers to the story of the Jews escaping from slavery in Egypt.
haroset	A mixture of nuts and apples eaten by the Jews at Passover.
Hebrew	The Jewish language. The Torah is written in Hebrew. Jews are sometimes called Hebrews.
Israelites	Another name for the Jews.
matzah	The flat bread or crackers eaten at Passover.
monotheism	The belief there is one God (Christianity, Judaism and Islam are monotheistic).
Passover	A Jewish festival where they remember Moses bringing the Jewish people out of Egypt and God's judgement of the 10 plagues 'passing over' the Israelites.
polytheism	The belief that there are many Gods. (Hinduism is a polytheistic religion)
Seder Meal	A special meal (with symbolic food) that is eaten at the Jewish festival of Passover.
sacrifice	To make a sacrifice is to give up something precious or important for a greater good.
symbol	An object or picture that has a special meaning.
synagogue	The Jewish place of worship.
Torah	The Jewish holy book, it contains the first five books of the Christian bible.



Jews believe **Abraham** is the founder of their faith and their nation. Abraham lived about 4000 years ago. Abraham was chosen by God to go to a new land and God **promised** Abraham him he would bless him and make him into a great people.

God gave Abraham a son, **Isaac**, and then asked him to journey up a mountain and sacrifice his son. Abraham trusted God's **promise** and obeyed, but then God provided a ram for Abraham to sacrifice instead.



Moses was chosen by God to lead the Jewish people out of slavery in Egypt. Moses spoke to Pharaoh and asked him to let the Jews go. When Pharaoh refused God sent **10 plagues** on the Egyptians. After the last plague of the death of the first born Pharaoh let the Israelites go.

Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt and into the desert. There on **Mount Sinai** God gave Moses the **ten commandments**, the rules and commands they were to follow. Jews still follow and live by the ten commandments today.



A **Mezuzah**, a small box that Jews fix to their doorways of their houses. The **Shema** is inside.

The **Shema**, the Jewish prayer that declares the Jewish belief in one God.

The **Seder meal** of lamb, egg, lettuce/parsley to dip in salt water, haroset, horseradish and Matzah.