## THE HEBREW ACADEMY TIMES

## "The HAT"

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### SPECIAL EDITION in honor of Chanukah

A Newspaper FOR THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE of Hebrew Academy of Tampa Bay

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## Hebrew Academy Goes to the Zoo





Ms. Katy asked some of the students what they liked best about their field trip to the Tampa Zoo at Lowry Park. Everyone really enjoyed the Safari! Here are some of the other things we will always remember about that day:



**NOSSON - THE AMERICAN ALLIGATOR** 

SHNEUR - THE RED WOLF AND AMERICAN ALLIGATOR

ARIK - THE SLEEPING BEAR, FIGHTING MONKEYS, AND THE AVIARY

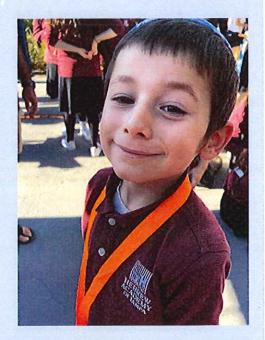
YOSEF - THE MONKEYS FIGHTING, THE ALLIGATOR, AND THE MACAW FLY-OVER

DANIEL - BEING WITH FRIENDS









**MEYER - THE MACAW FLY-OVER** 

**MOSHE CHAIM - THE ORANGUTANS** 

SIMCHA - THE KOMODO DRAGON

DOVID - ALL THE ANIMALS

MAYA - THE MANATEE





TZVI - THE ALLIGATOR

**SHOLOM - SPREADING YIDDISHKEIT** 



NISSI L - EVERYTHING!

**ROCHEL - MANATEES AND GORILLAS** 

**RUNYA - MANATEES** 

**NAOMI - ALL THE ANIMALS** 

#### MS. LYNN SAYS THAT HER CLASS LIKED THE BABOONS AND ORANGUTANS

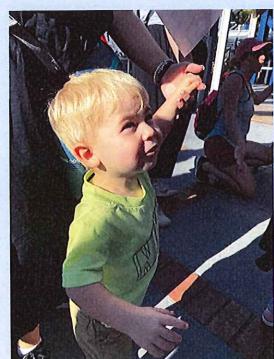
MS. SIERRA - WATCHING THE GIRAFFES EAT

RABBI ZALMAN - TIME WITH MY STUDENTS AND RABBI YOSSI

MORAH NISSIM - THE MACAW FLY-OVER

MS. DANIELLE - THE OKAPI (COUSIN OF THE GIRAFFE)

MS. KATY - MOMMY ORANGUTAN CARRYING HER BABY AROUND





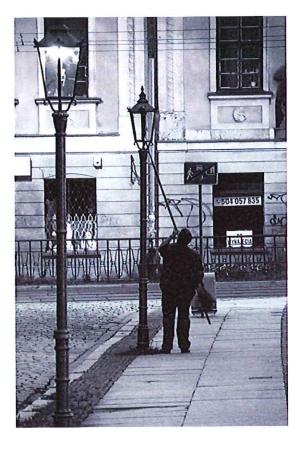


## A Street-Lamp-Lighter

## By Arik Yarmush

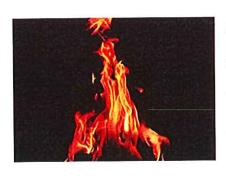
A man has a torch in his hand. Right before darkness, he goes to the lamp pole and lights it on fire. Now you're probably thinking of a bandit; but I'm talking about a Street-Lamp Lighter.

A Street-Lamp Lighter? What's a Street-Lamp Lighter? A Street-Lamp Lighter is a person who would go around and light lamp poles, right before it got dark (which in the olden days weren't auto-lighted).



In the times of The Yom Kippur War (see more about the Yom Kippur war at <a href="https://history.com">history.com</a>), in a letter to children, the Rebbe said that each child should light up the days of Chanukah with Mitzvos (good deeds) and that would light up the whole year. We should all be an example to everyone about Mitzvos; and when we do that, we are like a lamplighter who lights up a street. We light up the people with Mitzvos. Chanukah

symbolizes this when we light a candle every night to light up the world. The Rebbe once said that he heard from his father-in-law (The Freidike Rebbe) that his father was asked "what is a Chosid (follower of a Rebbe)"? Rabbi Sholom Dovber (the Freidike Rebbe's father) answered that a Chosid is a street lamp lighter, who would go and light another Yid's אוני (Neshama, soul). In other words, bring him closer to Yiddishkeit (Judaism) even if he's overseas or very far away you could always bring him to Yiddishkeit.<sup>1</sup>



We should apply this to our daily lives and we should all be lamplighters to find another Neshama and bring them closer to Yidishkeit. Even if they are very far away from Yiddishkeit, we can still bring them back. If we all bring everyone to

Yiddishkeit, we will make a roaring flame of Judaism and that will bring Moshiach NOW!!!

<sup>1.</sup> For more information go to chabad.org



## 13 Chanukah Facts Everyone Should Know By Nosson Rubashkin

Do you know a lot about Chanukah?

This week I'm going to tell you 13 facts everyone should know about Chanukkah.



1. We have eight days of Chanukah. Why? Because over 2,000 years ago the Syrian Greeks conquered Israel. The Greeks defiled the Beit Hamikdash (Holy Temple). After we beat the Greeks in war, we went to the Beit Hamikdash and fixed it up. When it was time to light the menorah (they lit the menorah everyday in the Beit Hamikdash), they couldn't find any jug with the Kohen Gadol's (High Priest) stamp. So, they continued searching and they found one jug with the seal! They knew the oil would last only one day but they lit the menorah anyway. Hashem (G-d) caused a miracle and the oil lasted eight days (the amount of time it took to get new oil).

There is another reason why we light the menorah for eight days. Seven represents the world. There are seven days of the week, seven classical planets, seven musical notes, and the

world was created in seven days. After the number seven there is the number eight. We are all used to seven. Seven is our "comfort zone". So on Chanukah we leave our "comfort zone" and we light eight candles. For more information about menorahs, be sure to read Maya's article!

- 2. We light the Chanukah candles after dark. Why? Because we light the menorah to spread light and it's easier to see the light from the candles in the dark.
- 3. Chanukah is the only Jewish holiday that is not mentioned in the Torah. Why? Because the men of the great assembly sealed the canon two centuries before the Chanukah miracle.

- 4. We eat potato latkes fried in oil to remind us of the miracle of the oil. But there is another thing that we have on Chanukah... cheese. Why do we eat cheese on Chanukah? Because there was a brave woman by the name of Yehudit. She gave cheese and wine when she killed the enemie's General of the Army. For more information about this story, read the article written by Daniel M.
- 5. There was a debate about how we light the menorah. Beis Hillel (House of Hillel) said that we add another candle everyday (like we do nowadays) because we want to add light. On the other side, Beis Shammai (House of Shammai) says you start with eight candles and everyday we take away one.

6. Who were the Jews expelled by-the Syrians, Greeks, or Hellenists? All of the above. After the death



of Alexander the Great, his empire was broken into parts. There was a group of Jews called the Hellenized Jews who helped the Syrians and they were a greater threat to the Jews than the Syrians. Why? Because the Syrian Greeks wanted to destroy our bodies but the Hellenists wanted to destroy our Judaism. For more of this story, be sure to read Dovid's article.

- 7. On the first night of Chanukah, candles were lit all over the courtyard of the temple to spread light out of the holiest place on Earth.
- 8. Most Jewish Holidays can only begin on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Shabbat. But Chanukah can start on any day of the week other than Tuesday because the month after Chanukah can have either 29 or 30 days.
- 9. Everyone knows that the heroes of the story are the Maccabees. That's true, but they also did something terrible. Yehuda and his family were priests so they were supposed to work in the Holy Temple. Yehuda's successors took the rulership for themselves when the rulership should have belonged to King David's descendants.



- 10. Avraham Genin, for most of his life, lit his menorah in the privacy of his home. Even though he was a soldier in the red army and lost his foot, he made a public menorah lighting in the Kremlin Palace.
- 11. In December of 1993, the Endeavour went to space to help the Hubble Space Telescope. One of the astronauts was Jeffrey Hoffman. He knew he would be stuck in space over Chanukah so he brought a dreidel and a travel electric menorah so he was able to celebrate Chanukah in space. Through live satellite communication he wished everybody a Happy Chanukah.
- 12. The most common custom is to light your menorah by the window to show light to the outside world. We light the menorah on the opposite side of the mezuzah so we are surrounded by Mitzvos.
- 13. The purpose of the menorah is to spread light to as many people as possible. In recent years the mitzvah of menorah has rippled out even further than just lighting in our homes and in the synagogue.

I spoke with some of my friends to learn their feelings about Chanukah. I asked them to tell me what Chanukah means to them and what they enjoyed most about the holiday.

Arik: "It reminds me to always be a lamplighter to help a nishama and bring it to Yiddishkeit (Judaism)." "I enjoy lighting my own menorah since we only do it 8 times a year and I eat latkes and doughnuts only on Chanukah."

Daniel: "To spread light." "I enjoy all the parties and watching people enjoy latkes."

Sholom: "We need to work to spread light" "I enjoy the donuts"

Dovid: "A happy and enjoyable holiday" "Everything"

Tzvi: "It means the holiday of light and to spend time with family and friends and remember the Maccabees who fought for our own sake and we won and also to remember the miracle of the jar of oil that lasted for eight days and also to do mivtzoim and share the light and the story of Chanukah to everyone and have a happy and fun Chanukah." What I enjoy about Chanukah is the donuts, Chanukah gelt, going to heritage night, having parties, and being with friends."

Emet: "I'm excited that the Greeks were conquered by the Maccabees." "I enjoy lighting the menorah and eating latkes."

If you want to know more about Chanukah go to Chabad.org. This is where I got most of my information.



#### Chanukah Flame

By Sholom Rubashkin



Why is Chanukah 8 days? Because the oil lasted 8 days.

We light the menorah for 8 days. Every night we, light a new one. We sing songs. While your Menorah is lit just for 30 minutes, don't worry you're not dancing that long, you're just singing

before you light it. You light it with your shamesh and you have 8 other candles. All the other candles should be on the same level, otherwise it is not Kosher. We light the menorah in a holy way.

Here is a story that happened on Chanukah.

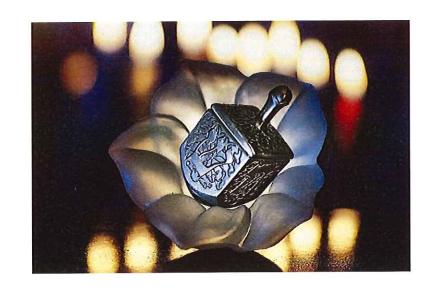
There was once a time when jews were expected to serve idols. Some of us hid and whenever we learned Torah, we would learn it in a cave; and whenever and they made rules like no shabbos, no bris milah, no Yom Tov, and no learning Torah. If we did that ,then they would kill you, chos visholom (god forbid). Someone named Matisyahu stood up and killed a Greek and later he died. This happened because the Greeks hated the Jewish people.

Chanukah is one of the longest holidays. And the best thing is I love lighting the menorah, going to events and getting Chanukah gelt.

# Spinning Dreidels By Chana

Why did the dreidel go to the doctor?

His head was spinning!



#### Why do we play dreidel?

When the Greeks ruled the Holy Land, they didn't let the Jews learn Torah. They also didn't let the Jews keep Shabbos. The Jewish children would hide in caves to learn Torah in secret. When the Greeks came, the Yidden would hide the scrolls and play with tops. They played dreidel as we do today.

#### What is a dreidel?

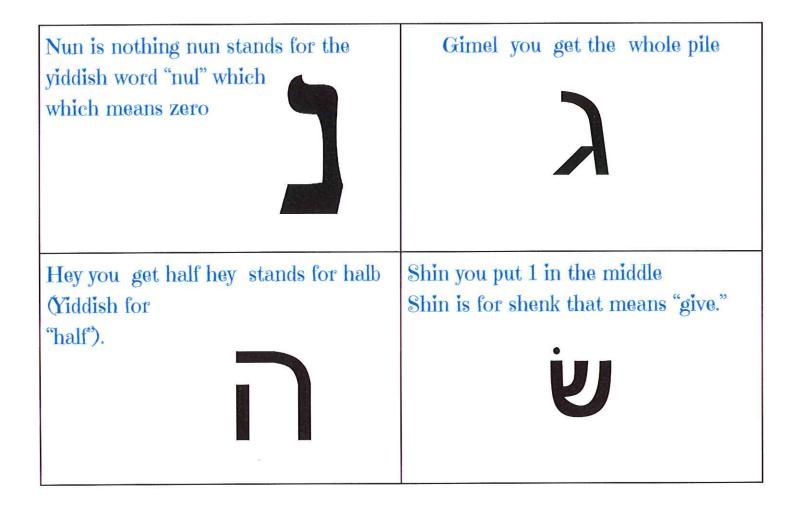
A classic dreidel has 4 sides. Some are made out of wood or plastic and some are clay. Did you know that 1 (nun) 1 (gimel) 7 (hay) w (shin) really means, "a great miracle happened there?" In Israel, the last letter w is changed to 2 which changes the meaning to "a great miracle happened HERE."

#### How to get started:

In addition to a dreidel you will need...

nuts, pennies, nickels, chocolate, and coins, or just about anything else to play for. All players sit around the playing area. Everyone takes a turn spinning the dreidel. My favorite part of playing dreidel is eating the coins that I get.

## Rules of The Dreidel Game



Right now in Music class we are learning how to sing the Dreidel song while using sign language with our hands.

If you would like to learn how to use sign language to sing the Dreidel song, here is a link to a video you can watch:

The Dreidel Song in ASL https://www.613tube.com/watch?v=93uG9F6gm0k.



## <u>Menorahs</u> By Maya Sasser



According to chabadorg, the largest menorah stands at 32 feet tall and is lit at Fifth Avenue and 59th Street in Manhattan near Central Park, in New York City.

Chanukah is a holiday celebrated by Jews around the world. This article will tell you about why we light the menorah, and why we celebrate Chanukah.

When do I light?

on Shabbos.

On Chanukah we light the candles in the Menorah (Holder). This year we will light the first candle on Sunday December 18.

What about on Shabbos? When do we light after the sun goes down?
On Friday we have to light before it starts to get dark because you can't light candles



How long should the flames burn? Chanukah candles should last almost an hour.

Where do I light?
Some people put their menorah by the front door or by the window.

How do we light? What is the Shamesh?

First we put candles on the right to left. The Shamesh is used to light the other candles. It is the tallest one in the middle of the menorah. You should not use a lighter to light the other candles.

Why do we celebrate Chanukah?
A long time ago there was a miracle.
Chanukah is 8 nights because the Jewish people had only one drop of oil left but it lasted 8 days and nights.



Before you say the blessings you should make it appropriate. On the first night of Chanukah, recite all three blessings and on the next few say only two.

#### Blessings for the Menorah in Hebrew

בּרוּדְ אַתָּה אָדֹנִי אֶלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶדְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתִיו וְצְנָנוּ לְהַדְלִיק גֵר חֻנַבָּה

בּרוּךְ אַתָּה אָדֹנָי אֶלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לַאָבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֶם בִּזְמֵן הַזָּה

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה אָדֹנָי אֱלֹהִינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁהֶחֶנָנוּ וְקִיּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לִזְּמֵן הַזָּה

#### Transliteration of Blessings for the Menorah

Bah-rookh ah-tah ah-doh-noi eh-loh-hay-noo meh-lekh hah-oh-lahm ah-sher ki-deh-shah-noo beh-mitz-voh-tahv veh-tzee-vah-noo leh-hahd-like nair kha-noo-kah.

Bah-rookh ah-tah ah-doh-noi eh-loh-hay-noo meh-lekh hah-oh-lahm sheh-ah-sah nee-sim lah-ah-vo-tay-noo bah-yah-mim hah-haym biz-mah mah-zeh.

Bah-rookh ah-tah ah-doh-noi eh-loh-hay-noo meh-lekh hah-oh-lahm heh-heh-ya-noo veh-kee-mah-noo ve-hig-ee-yah-noo liz-mahn hah-zeh.

#### Blessings for the Menorah in English

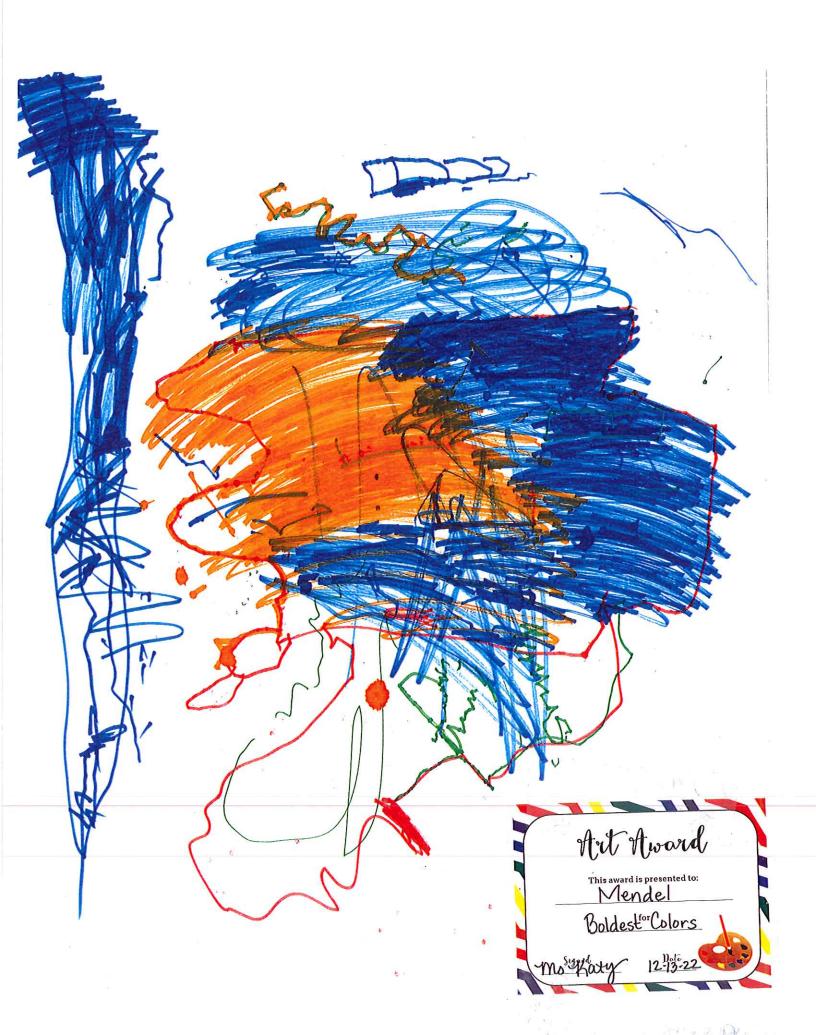
Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to kindle the Hanukkah light.

Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who performed miracles for our forefathers in those days, at this time.

Blessed are You, L-rd our G-d, King of the Universe, who has granted us life, sustained us and enabled us to reach this occasion.

I asked my friend Chana who lights the menorah at her home. She said she usually does it with her brother Nissi. Sometimes her dad helps her little brother Shneur light them. She said "of course Tzvi will light them one day when he gets older."

What I like about lighting the Menorah on Chanukah is spending time and connecting with my family, together that makes us feel happy, calm, and loving.



# Delicious Doughnuts By: Runya Dubrowski

Why do we have latkes and doughnuts on chanukah? I mean they are delicious but what is the meaning of why we eat them? Well both latkes and doughnuts are fried in oil. The reason we eat these foods is because there was a very big miracle when they found one last jug of oil. They lit the menorah with the oil that would only last one day but instead it lasted for a full 8 days. This is the reason why we have doughnuts and latkes.

#### Main ingredients

- 1 tablespoon dry yeast
- 2 tablespoons + 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 and 1/2 cups warm milk or water
- 4-5 cups flour
- 1 egg + 1 yolk
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 4 tablespoons butter, room temperature
- 1/4 cup powdered sugar, for sprinkling on top
- 1 cup jam, custard, caramel, chocolate, marshmallow any filling of preference!

#### Instructions

- 1. In a stand mixer, or large bowl, proof yeast by mixing with two tablespoons sugar and warm milk or water as preferred. Let sit for 10 minutes until frothy.
- 2. Add three cups of flour, baking powder, egg and yolk, and rest of sugar and mix well. Add one cup of flour, salt, then add one tablespoon of butter at a time until incorporated.

- 3. Knead for five to seven minutes, adding extra flour as needed for a smooth consistency. Set in a warm place to rise for 45-60 minutes.
- 4. Gently pull off handfuls of the dough and lightly form into balls (whatever size your family prefers). Rest on a baking sheet for a second rise they will double during rising. Heat oil in a wide pot on medium high for 10 minutes. Test with a small pinch of dough: if it is the right temp, you should immediately have bubbles forming around the dough. Fry two or three doughnuts at a time. Be sure not to crowd in the pot or they will not cook right and will be oily on the inside.
- 5. Rest on a paper towel-lined wire rack to cool for 10-15 minutes.
- 6. Pipe your filling into the doughnut using a piping bag, or a nozzled bottle with a tip big enough for filling to squeeze through.
- 7. Sprinkle the tops with powdered sugar and enjoy!

