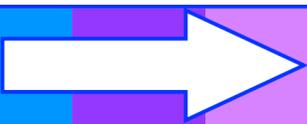


Jewish Celebrations

Learning Objective:

To recap facts about Judaism and Jewish beliefs.

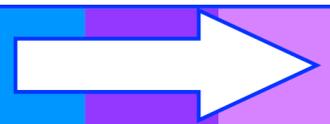
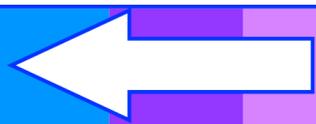
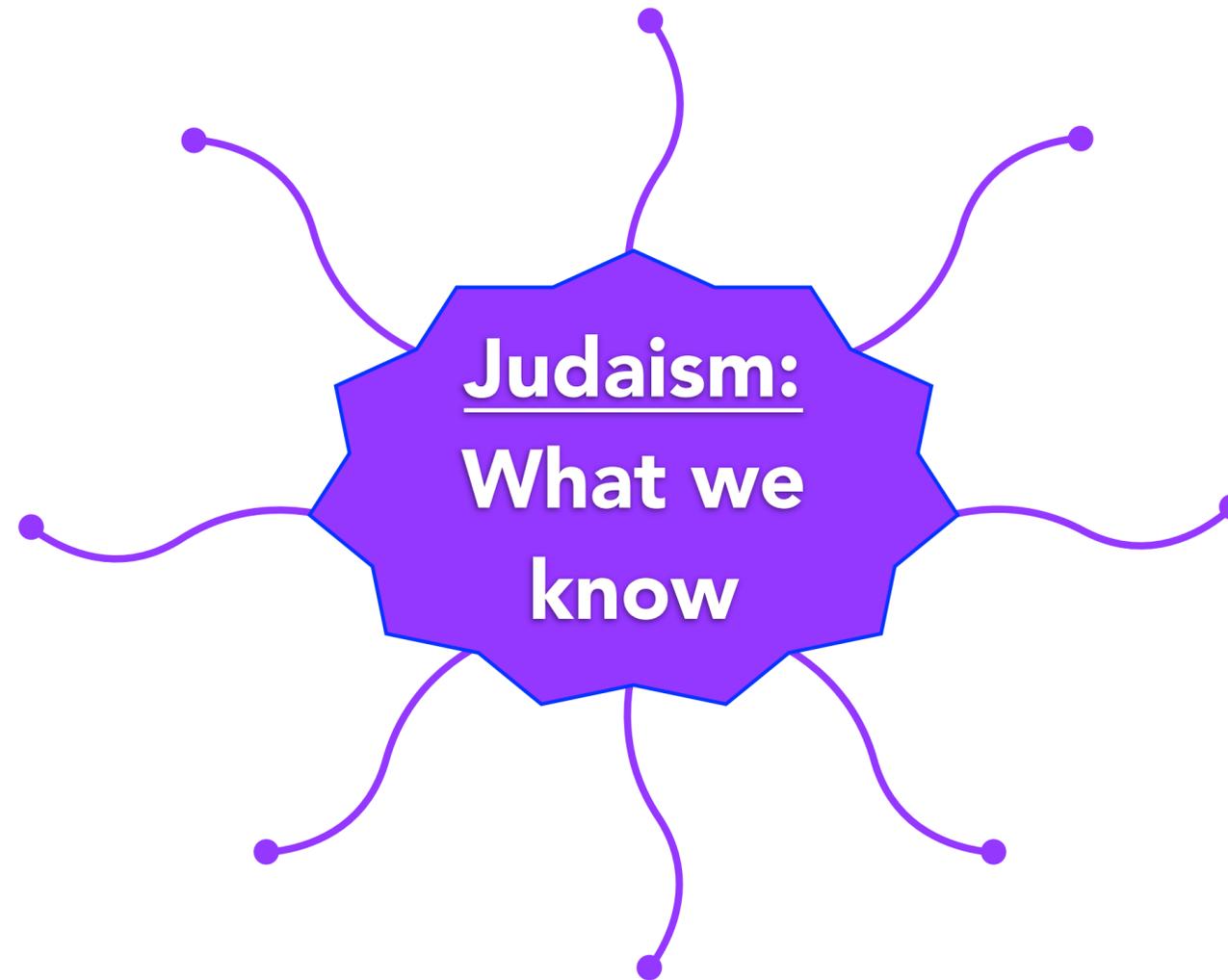




**What do
you already
know about
Judaism?**

Discuss your ideas with a partner.

What ideas did you think of? Create a mind map as a class...





These words are all very important in Judaism. Can you describe what each one is or what each means?

Torah

rabbi

**Ten
Commandments**

synagogue

Abraham

Star of David

**Sabbath
(Shabbat)**

monotheistic

Israel

Judaism is one of the oldest religions in the world. It is a **monotheistic** religion which means that Jews believe in only one God. It began around the year 2,500 BC with a man called **Abraham** who believed that there was only one God at a time when other people believed in lots of different gods. Abraham is known as the father of Judaism and after him, many people followed his teachings.

There are millions of Jews in the world, especially in **Israel** and the USA. Israel is an important country for Jews because they believe it is the land that God gave to Abraham's descendants. The Israeli flag has the **Star of David**. This star is a Jewish symbol.

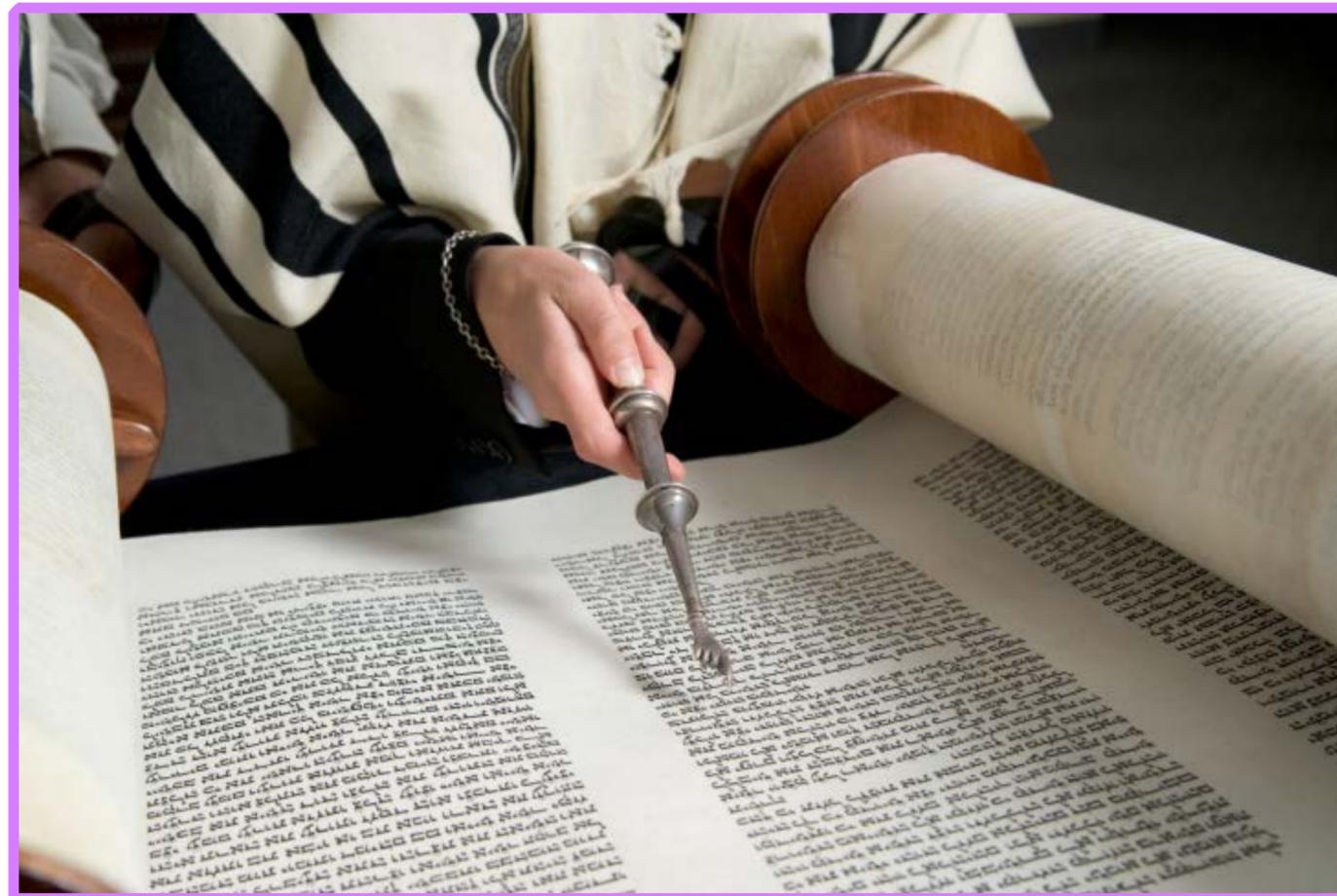


This is the flag of Israel with the Star of David in the centre.

Jews go to a temple called a **synagogue** to worship. A **rabbi** leads services. The word 'rabbi' means 'teacher'. During a service, the rabbi will read from the **Torah** which is the Jewish holy book. The Torah is written in **Hebrew** which is an ancient language that many Jews still speak today. Torahs in a synagogue are usually written as scrolls but they can be written as a normal book too.



Inside a synagogue. What can you see?



A rabbi reads from the Torah scrolls. The Torah is so holy that they are not allowed to touch it so they use a pointer called a yad.

The Torah tells the story of the Jewish people and it has lots of rules and guidance to help Jews live as they believe God wants them to. The most important rules in the Torah are the **Ten Commandments**. The Ten Commandments are rules given to a man called Moses directly from God. Moses wrote them down on stone tablets at the top of Mount Sinai.



Do you know
what any of the Ten
Commandments
are?



The Ten Commandments

What do you think of these commandments?



Only worship God.

Make God the most important thing in your life.

Always say God's name with respect.

Make one day a week a special day for God.

Respect your parents.

Do not murder.

Be faithful to your husband or wife.

Don't steal.

Don't lie.

Don't be jealous of what other people have.

The **Sabbath** is a holy day for Jews. It is a day of rest when people don't do any work (including housework, cooking, driving and many other things). The Hebrew word for Sabbath is **Shabbat**. Jews look forward to Shabbat all week so that they can rest, spend time with God and enjoy being together with friends and family. Shabbat starts on Friday evenings at sunset and ends at dusk on Saturday evenings.



Jewish families have a special meal on Friday evenings to mark the start of Shabbat. They have a special plaited bread called challah.