



## Unit L2.10 How do festivals and family life show what matters to Jewish people?

### Enquiry Questions

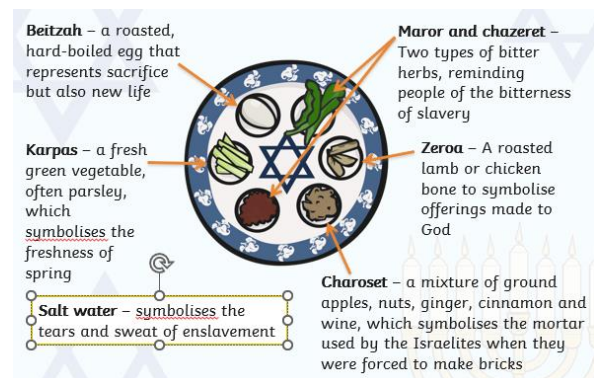
- What do Jewish families celebrate every week?
- Why do Jewish people celebrate Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur?
- Why is Pesach important for Jews?
- Why are commandments and blessings important to Jewish people?

### What will I know by the end of the unit?

Shabbat is a holy day each week where many Jewish people rest and really think about God. Shabbat happens every weekend, beginning on Friday evening, and ending Saturday evening.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are celebrated in the Autumn and mark the Jewish new year. Jews believe that it is important to repent, turn from bad behaviour and set your course to be good in the coming year. The blowing of the Shofar (a ram's horn) marks the start of a ten day period known as the 'Days of Repentance' (Rosh Hashanah). This ends with Yom Kippur – the holiest day of the year.

Pesach (Passover) is celebrated in the Spring to remember how the Israelite people were freed from slavery by Moses over 3000 years ago. The story of the Passover is in the Torah, the Jewish holy book. Pesach is celebrated for seven or eight days. On the evening before it begins there is a special service called a Seder. At the Seder meal there is a special Seder plate on the table with lots of symbolic foods.



Many Jewish people believe the words in the Torah are the words of God. The story of Moses and the 10 commandments is important to Jews. Although the Torah is not just a book of rules and commandments, those that are in the Torah help to shape the way many Jewish people live their lives. Blessings are also important. The Talmud teaches that Jewish people should say thank you 100 times a day.

### Key Vocabulary

Judaism, Jew, special, Holy, festival, celebrate, Shabbat, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Shofar, Pesach, Passover, Seder, Torah, rules, commandments, Talmud, blessings