Judaism

Digital Resources and Children’s Books

Updated 11/2020

Kid-Friendly YouTube Clips:

Judaism in Brief: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2sOzmBAaCHA
What is Judaism? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VAylWxDQfk
History of Reform Movements, Reform, Conservative, Orthodox: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zUNpC9Vjftg
A Brief History of the Hasidic Jewish Movement: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zUNpC9Vjftg
Overview of the TaNak, Old Testament: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ALsluAKBZ-c
The Star of David: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qwj9UcJmWcE
What to expect in a Synagogue? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Z_gyc7yG_c
A Short Look at Jewish Holidays for Kids: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=grHSWGS2lJg
Jewish Wedding Dance Horah: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pGTho2a9t9k
What are the Top 8 Jewish Foods? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qSOjuogpKZs
How to play the Dreidel Game: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EktLN1T17p4
Hebrew Letters with Pictograph Meanings: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-1so3aMx6k
The Story of David and Goliath: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zLAcUZkx
Websites:
Overview of the Jewish Religion: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Judaism
Jewish Culture: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_culture
The Kabbalah, Jewish Mysticism: https://reformjudaism.org/beliefs-practices/spirituality/what-kabbalah
What to expect at a Passover Seder? https://reformjudaism.org/what-expect-passover-seder
The History of Hanukkah: https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/hanukkah-101/
Yom Kippur, Judaism 101: https://www.jewfaq.org/holiday4.htm
Traditional Jewish Foods and Recipes by Jewish Virtual Library: https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/vjw/intlfoodtoc.html
How to Make Challah Bread: https://www.delish.com/cooking/recipe-ideas/a32502247/challah-bread-recipe/

Lesson Plans:
Jewish Teacher Resource Center, Expansive Collection of Innovative Resources: https://jteach.org/
18 Pomegranates, Jewish Education Lesson Plan Library: https://www.boulderjcc.org/index.php?src=gendocs&ref=Chidush+Lesson+Plan+Library&category=community_programs&link
All About Judaism, Scholastic: https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/all-about-judaism/
Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Rite of Passage: https://www.boulderjcc.org/clientuploads/Lesson%20Plans/8BarBatMitzvahRiteofPassage67.pdf
Activities for Rosh Hashanah, Jewish New Year: http://teacherlink.ed.usu.edu/tlresources/units/byrnes-celebrations/rosh.html
Lesson Plan Hanukkah: https://www.teachervision.com/hanukkah/teacher-resources/6627.html
## Children’s Books:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>ISBN</th>
<th>Summary</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Happy Hanukkah, Curious George</em></td>
<td>H.A. Rey &amp; Margaret Rey</td>
<td>PreK-1st</td>
<td>HMH Books for Young Readers</td>
<td>054775731X</td>
<td>It is the eighth night of Hanukkah, and George and his friends have gathered for a celebration. They light the menorah, spin the dreidel, make latkes, and learn the importance of mitzvah! In this tabbed board book, youngsters will even find a tasty latke recipe and instructions for constructing a dreidel, with rules for play. A festive foil-stamped cover makes this a fine holiday gift for fans of Curious George.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>The Hardest Word: A Yom Kippur Story</em></td>
<td>Jaqueline Jules</td>
<td>K-4th</td>
<td>Open Road Media</td>
<td>9781480424760</td>
<td>The Ziz, a wonderful bird who lived long ago, is so big and clumsy that he can’t keep from bumping into things. When a tree he knocks over destroys the children’s garden, he seeks God’s help to fix things. “Bring me the hardest word,” God instructs him, and the Ziz flies off to search. He brings back words like rhinoceros, rock, and Rumplestiltskin, but none is acceptable, until he makes an important discovery.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Clever Rachel</em></td>
<td>Debby Waldman</td>
<td>K-5th</td>
<td>Orca Books Publishers</td>
<td>9781554690817</td>
<td>In this retelling of a Jewish folktale, Jacob tries to stump Rachel with his best riddles but fails repeatedly. When a young woman in need of help presents Rachel and Jacob with the trickiest riddles of all, they discover the only way to solve them is to work together.</td>
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| Title: Light the Lights! A Story About Celebrating Hanukkah and Christmas  
| Author: Margaret Moorman  
| Grade: PreK-3rd  
| Publisher: Cartwheel  
| ISBN: 0590483838  
| Summary: Every December, Emma and her family celebrate two special holidays. First comes Hanukkah, with dreidel games and lighting the menorah. Then comes Christmas, with carols, bright lights on the tree, and presents for everyone! |

| Title: Celebrate Hanukkah  
| Author:  
| Grade: 1st-5th  
| Publisher: National Geographic  
| ISBN: 1426302932  
| Summary: Celebrate Hanukkah illustrates the joyous celebrations of Jewish people around the world—including Ghana, Uganda, India, Israel, Peru, the United States and Poland, as they light menorahs, spin dreidels, and make latkes. Includes the story of U.S. astronaut Jeffrey Hoffman, who brought a menorah and a dreidel on his Space Shuttle mission in 1993. |

| Title: The Wooden Sword: A Jewish Folktale from Afghanistan  
| Author: Ann Redisch & Carol Liddiment  
| Grade: K-4th  
| Publisher: Open Road Media  
| ISBN 13: 9781480494633  
| Summary: Disguised in servant’s clothes, an Afghani shah slips out of his palace to learn more about his people. When he encounters a poor Jewish shoemaker full of faith that everything will turn out just as it should, the shah grows curious. Vowing that no harm will befall the poor man, he decides to test that faith, only to find that the shoemaker’s cheerful optimism cannot be shaken. But the biggest challenge of the poor man’s life is yet to come! |
| Title: You are SO not invited to my Bat Mitzvah!  
Author: Fiona Rosenbloom  
Grade: 6th-10th  
Publisher: Hyperion Books for Children  
ISBN: 0786838914  
Summary: Stacy Friedman is getting ready for one of the most important events of her young life: her bat mitzvah! All she wants is the perfect BCBG dress to wear, her friends by her side, and her biggest crush ever, Andy Goldfarb, to dance with her (and maybe even make out with her on the dance floor). But Stacy’s well-laid plans soon start to fall apart. Her stressed-out mother forces her to buy a hideous sequined dress that makes her look like the bride of Frankenstein. Her mitzvahs are not going well at all. And then the worst thing in the entire world happens - causing Stacy to utter the words that will wreak complete havoc on her social life ..."You are "SO" not invited to my bat mitzvah!"

| Title: Judaism  
Author: Angela Gluck Wood  
Grade: 6th-10th  
Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing  
ISBN 13: 9781568473765  
Summary: Wood covers the basic history, beliefs, practices stating traditional positions, but acknowledges that there are many ways of being Jewish in the modern world. She stresses the ethnic diversity of the Jewish people, including sections on Jews of Sephardic, Russian, and Ethiopian origin. The author makes note of the changing role of women within Judaism and the dilemmas of individuals of mixed faith.

| Title: A Jewish Teen in Brooklyn  
Author: Arnold L. Stern Sr.  
Grade: 10th-12th  
Publisher: Dorrance Publishing  
ISBN 13: 9781480908932  
Summary: A Jewish Teen in Brooklyn follows the memories of Frieda Stern, who grew up in a whirlwind of Hungarian dancing lessons, trips to the Chinese laundry, and other vividly described vignettes of daily life in Brooklyn at the turn of the last century. This series of remembrances stitches together a picture of family life in the tenements, teaching readers about Jewish observance and the value of the small things in life.