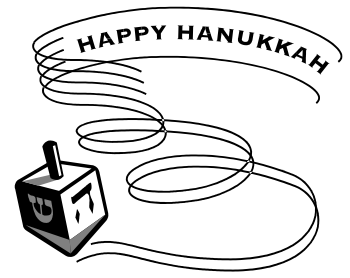


DREIDEL and the story of Hanukkah

Dreidel began as a quick way for Jews to hide their study of Torah over 2000 years ago. They'd pretend to be playing this game whenever the Syrians approached. Today, dreidel is played to commemorate Hanukkah.



Directions:

1. The dreidel is a four sided top with a Hebrew letter on each side.
2. Each player adds the same number of coins, chocolate gelt, or other token to a pot at the beginning.
3. Each player spins the dreidel. When the dreidel falls, the player must then follow the action according to whichever letter is facing up.
4. The one with the most tokens wins.



NUN – You receive nothing. Put in nothing.



GIMEL – You win everything in the pot.



HAY – You get half of the pot.



SHIN – Put one token into the pot.

Over 2000 years ago, Greek-Syrian kings ruled over Judea (present-day Israel) and the Jews living there. King Antiochus Epiphanes forbade the Jews from practicing their beliefs and endeavored to make them worship the Greek gods instead. As a result, Jews were forced to hide their beliefs.

Judah Maccabee and his four brothers led the Jewish resistance to the Greek-Syrian oppression. After three long years of fighting a much larger force, they succeeded and recaptured Judea.

After winning, the Maccabees reclaimed the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, cleaned and restored it. However only one enough oil remained to light the Temple's menorah for a single day. It would take a week before there was more oil. Miraculously, the oil stayed lit for eight days, until more oil was processed. This is why the Hanukkah Menorah has 8 candles (plus an extra candle, the Shamash, to light the rest).