

KS1 Unit 2, Lesson 1: Rosh Hashanah

Context: In this lesson pupils will be introduced to the festival of Rosh Hashanah, the beginning of the Jewish New year.

Overview:

- Understand what happens and why at Rosh Hashanah.
- This begins ten days of fasting and repentance that ends with Yom Kippur
- Relate these things to obedience to God's laws - Torah.

Essential core: There is no essential core about Rosh Hashanah at KS1. This is the guidance for KS2.

- Know that Yom Kippur is the holiest day in the Jewish calendar.
 - This period starts with Rosh Hashannah and ends ten days later with Yom Kippur.
 - It is during this time of fasting,
 - So Jews show how sorry they are, and attend the synagogue as often as they can, listening to the Torah; for asking for forgiveness from those who they have wronged, forgive those who have wronged them and ask G-d to forgive them; saying, "And for all these, God of forgiveness, forgive us, pardon us, and grant us atonement."

Resources: shofar, www.truetube.co.uk/film/im-sorry

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zgqnv4j>

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/09/24/yom-kippur-2012-day-of-atonement-explained_n_1910959.html

Vocabulary: forgiveness, pardon, atonement, Rosh Hashannah, Yom Kippur, shofar.

INTRODUCTION

Today David has brought apples and honey that is eaten at the festival of Rosh Hashanah - the Jewish new year. People say "Shana Tova" - have a good year.

What happens at Rosh Hashanah? Let's watch this Jewish video and see.

http://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/2385613/jewish/Tap-into-Rosh-Hashana.htm

CELEBRATE:

Let's sing "We blow the Shofar" from the "Two candles Burn" cd. If you have a shofar, now is the time to try to blow it! What did the people in the video say was the reason for blowing the shofar? (It is a wake up call to say sorry).

Watch a short video of Charlie explaining Rosh Hashanah

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zgqnv4j>

Hungry now? Eat slices of apple dipped in honey and talk about what the Jewish people said about what they think about as they do this (a sweet beginning to a good new year ahead).

What did Charlie say about fasting - not eating - and saying sorry to God?

How can **we** show people that we really mean it when we say sorry?

REFLECT:

Think about the different things that people do to celebrate and mark the beginning of the new year. They may take time to reflect upon what happened in the last year and make promises and plans for the year ahead. Is this always a happy time? Is it a time to make good new year's promises (resolutions)?

PLENARY & FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT:

What is fun at Rosh Hashanah? What do Jewish people think about at this special time?