

KS1 Unit 5, Lesson 6: Jewish Wedding

Context: Previously pupils will have explored the practise of circumcision and bar mitzvah. Now they are looking at a Jewish wedding.

Overview:

Children will understand Jewish wedding customs and link these to obedience to God's Law - Torah.

Essential core:

- Know that the Torah means 'teaching' is the most important part of Jewish scriptures.
- Know that it contains the first 5 books of the Hebrew Bible.
- It teaches Jews what God is like and how they should live their lives.

Resources: props for a Jewish wedding - chupah (wedding canopy), ketubah, wine glass (don't really break it!),

<http://www.bimbam.com>

www.youtube.com/watch?v=M6TwhIAWYIE

Vocabulary

Chupah, ketubah, mazel tov.

INTRODUCTION:

David has brought on a wine glass. He is going to a Jewish wedding. A wine glass is traditionally broken and the congregation say the congratulatory wish of "Mazel Tov!"

CELEBRATE:

There are three excellent short cartoon videos explaining what happens at a Jewish wedding here.

<http://www.bimbam.com>

There are also many good videos on YouTube. This one has no explanation but is my favourite.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=M6TwhIAWYIE

You could re-enact a Jewish wedding in the classroom and then ask the actors what they were doing and how they felt.

What does this tell us about what Jews believe about Marriage? What has this to do with the teachings of The Torah?

DISCUSSION & PLENARY:

What were the main customs in a Jewish wedding? Why do Jews do these things - what do they mean?

What has all this got to do with obeying God's Law - Torah, and Jewish beliefs about what is best for all people?