**Jewish Festivals and Holy Days**

**The Jewish Calendar**

* Jewish festivals and holy days take place on the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** date every year, according to the Jewish calendar.
* However, these dates **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** from one year to the next according to the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (non-Jewish) calendar.
* The Jewish calendar is based on **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** cycles whereas the civil calendar is based on **\_\_\_\_\_** cycles.
* The months in the Jewish calendar are **\_\_\_** or **\_\_\_** days long.
* Years are numbered from the time of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** according to the traditional Jewish teachings.

**Rosh Hashanah**

* Refers to the Jewish **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** celebration.
* It begins around **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.
* Jews gather in the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, where they declare God **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** again and pray for God’s protection and blessing.
* Jews recall God’s **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of the heavens and the earth.
* A **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (ram’s horn) is blown to initiate the beginning of the new year.
* Jews will usually visit the graves of deceased relatives and friends.

**Yom Kippur**

* Means “**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.”
* Falls on the 10th day of the Jewish new year, which is usually in **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** or October.
* It is a solemn day of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.
* Jews must atone for their **\_\_\_\_\_\_** by reconciling with God and those who they have sinned against.

**Sukkot**

* Means “**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.”
* Begins 5 days after Yom Kippur and lasts **\_\_\_** days.
* It commemorates the 40 year period when the Jews **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the desert and built booths to protect themselves.
* Jews do not **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** during the first couple of days.
* Time is devoted to praying, eating, singing, learning, and entering a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (traditional Jewish booth).

**Pesach (Passover)**

* It is celebrated in the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** month of the year, on the 15th day of Nisan (March/April).
* Jews retell the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** story and have a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** meal.
* Passover was an event that occurred more than **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** years ago.
* It commemorates the time in the Biblical period when God punished the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** by killing their first-born **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. God freed the Jews from bondage and spared them from **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. God “passed over” the homes of the Jews.

**Purim**

* Means “**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.”
* It occurs during **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** during Feb. or Mar.
* It celebrates the Jewish victory over **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (the Persian P.M.) in the 5th century. Haman had tried to massacre Jews. He had created a lottery to pick dates to kill Jews.
* There is a minor **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** prior to Purim.
* Jews will typically read from the Book of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, give to charity, hold carnivals and plays, and enjoy meals **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

**Shavuot**

* Means “**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.”
* It is celebrated **\_\_\_\_\_** days after the first day of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, usually during May or June.
* Shavuot celebrates when the first fruits of the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** were brought to the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.
* It also commemorates when God gave the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (laws) to Jews.
* Work is **\_\_\_\_\_\_** permitted at this time.
* Jews will usually stay up late the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** night to study the Torah.
* A **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** ceremony is held. At this event, teens publicly state their acceptance of Judaism.

**Hanukkah**

* It means “**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.”
* It is an **\_\_\_\_** day celebration on the 25th day of the Jewish month of Kislev (Nov.).
* It celebrates the Jewish victory over the Syrian **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** in 165 B.C.E. During this event, Jews recaptured the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and rededicated it to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. While rededicating the Temple, Jews found a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (candelabrum) that stayed lit for **\_\_\_** days. This was surprising because there was only enough oil to keep it lit for **\_\_\_\_** day.
* During Hanukkah, the candles on the menorah are lit, blessings are recited, fried foods are eaten, children play traditional games, and gifts are given.
* Jews use Hanukkah to remember that they are called to be a “**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.”

**Shabbat (Sabbath)**

* This refers to the Sabbath.
* It is celebrated **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** week from sunset on Friday to sunset on Saturday.
* It is the most **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** time for Jews.
* Spending time with **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, refraining from **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, attending **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** services, **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, studying the Torah, and having a Sabbath meal are important.
* It recognizes that the Heavens and Earth and everything on Earth are a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** from God.
* Jews remember the 4th **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (“Keep the Sabbath Day holy”).

**Bar/Bat Mitzvah**

* Bar mitzvah means “**\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.”
* “Bar” means **\_\_\_\_\_\_** and “Bat” means **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.
* It is a coming of age ceremony that is celebrated at age **\_\_\_\_\_\_** for Jewish boys and at age **\_\_\_\_** for Jewish girls.
* It recognizes that the boy or girl is an **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and responsible for his or her religious training.