

Jewish Rituals, Practices, and Milestones Assignment

Though most religious traditions consider all time sacred, there are particular times when certain actions give greater focus to the sacred. The religious awareness of the Jewish people is best understood through their services, feasts, and celebrations.

- Your main task is to research and creatively present one of the sacred times in Judaism. This could be an oral presentation, a walk through the ritual that has the class participate, a visual/interactive poster, website etc. If you have an idea that you think would play to your strengths, talk to Ms. McElroy about your concept and she will approve it.
- The assignment also includes a written component. This includes a hand-out for the members of the class to have for their note packages and a personal reflection.
- You will have **3 class periods** to complete research and prepare.
- **No more than 3 people per group.**

PART 1: Creative Presentation and Class Hand-out

As a group you must include all of the following in your creative presentation:

- 1) Introduction and explanation of your ritual/sacred time.
- 2) Identify any symbols or rituals associated with your ritual/sacred time.
- 3) Read/connect a passage from the Torah that is related to your sacred time.
- 4) Explain how the ritual is connected to Jewish history.
- 5) Enhance your presentation with food, music, video, games etc.
- 6) Create a maximum one (1) page (either single or double sided) note that your peers can have to put into their note packages for Judaism. Ensure that all of the components listed above are included.
- 7) GET THE CLASS INVOLVED!!

Ensure that whatever you decide to do, that you divide the tasks evenly among the group members.

PART 2: Written Reflection Paragraph

Each person in the group is responsible for doing a personal reflection paragraph on what they found the most interesting about the festival/ritual/milestone that was researched. The reflection must include reasons why the points outlined were fascinating to you and how the rituals have made you think about celebrations in your family.

The final part of the final reflection (in a separate paragraph) is to outline your contributions to the group, as well as the other members. If you were to assign a mark to each person you worked with and a mark to yourself, what would they be?

Your reflection is completely confidential and will not be shared with the other members that you worked with. This is your chance to be honest about your contributions as well as the contributions of your teammates.

Research

Make sure that you research your chosen topic carefully. There are many books and websites on Judaism. You must use at least three sources to clarify information on your topic.

Ensure that you submit a bibliography for your work on the date that the project is due.

Here are a few sites that you might find helpful:

Judaism 101 – <http://www.jewfaq.org/index.shtml>

BBC Religion – <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/judaism/>

My Jewish Learning – <http://www.myjewishlearning.com/>

Chabad – http://www.chabad.org/holidays/default_cdo/jewish/holidays.htm

Being Jewish – <http://www.beingjewish.com/yomtov/>

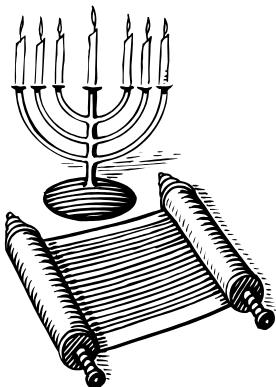
BE CREATIVE!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

WORK PERIOD 1 _____

WORK PERIOD 2 _____

WORK PERIOD 3 _____



Group Options

Ritual/Holy Day	Group Members	Date of Presentation
1. Rosh Hashanah		
2. Yom Kippur		
3. Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles)		
4. Simchat Torah		
5. Hanukkah (Chanukah)		
6. Purim (Feast of Lots)		
7. Pesach (Passover Seder Feast)		
8. Shavuot (Feast of Weeks)		
9. Tish'a B'Av		
10. Shabbat (Sabbath) – Synagogue, worship, services, Torah		
11. Bar/Bat Mitzvah		
12. Milestones: Naming a Child, wedding/marriage, kosher, death		

Please Note: Any of the above topics that are not picked, Ms. McElroy will do a lesson on them at a later date. Some of these festivals are larger than others, so if you would like to do more than one – just talk to Ms. McElroy.

Rubrics**Presentation:**

Criteria	Level			
<p>Knowledge/Understanding:</p> <p>Did you demonstrate a strong understanding of the ritual/sacred time?</p> <p>Was your information accurate and well researched?</p>	1	2	3	4
<p>Thinking/Inquiry</p> <p>Did you creatively present your information?</p> <p>Did you select valuable information to share with the class?</p> <p>Were you able to answer questions from the class or from your teacher?</p>	1	2	3	4
<p>Communication</p> <p>Were you able to speak clearly and with good eye contact or did you only read the screen/paper?</p> <p>Were you enthusiastic about your topic?</p> <p>Was the presentation of your information organized?</p>	1	2	3	4

Reflection:

<p>Communication</p> <p>Did you clearly demonstrate your understanding of your topic?</p> <p>Were you able to make connections to your personal understanding of the faith/faith in general?</p> <p>Did you provide a detailed account of your contributions to the project, and the contributions of your group members?</p>	1	2	3	4
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Comments: