

UKS2 R.E. Unit 2.9 Why is The Torah so important to Jewish people?

Vocabulary

Torah	Sacred scroll containing Holy Scripture
Synagogue	Jewish place of worship
Hebrew	The language written in The Torah
Rabbi	Jewish religious leader
Orthodox	Living by the traditional teachings in the Torah
Mezuzah	Box containing parchment with a prayer fixed to door.
Shabbat	Jewish day of rest
Kippah	Skullcap worn by Jewish men
Kosher	Jewish dietary regulations
Rosh Hashanah	Jewish New Year Festival
Star of David	Symbol of Judaism

By the end of this Unit I will be able to.....

- Identify and explain Jewish beliefs about God
- Give examples of some texts that say what God is like and explain how Jewish people interpret them
- Make clear connections between Jewish beliefs about the Torah and how they use and treat it.
- Make clear connections between Jewish commandments and how Jews live (e.g. in relation to kosher laws)
- Give evidence and examples to show how Jewish people put their beliefs into practice in different ways
- Make connections between Jewish beliefs studied and explain how and why they are important to Jewish people today.
- Consider and weigh up the value of e.g. tradition, ritual, community, study and worship in the lives of Jews today, and articulate responses on how far they are valuable to people who are not Jewish

Information that will help me

Shabbat is the Jewish day of rest. It begins just before sunset on a Friday night and lasts until after dark on Saturday. Shabbat is very important to Jewish people: they dress in their best clothes, serve the best food, set the table beautifully and light candles. Often guests are invited to share food, stories and prayers. Special loaves of bread called challot are served during Shabbat. In the past Jewish people have been very poor so their traditional recipes were ways of making a little bit of meat and fish go a long way.



What I have already learned about Judaism

- Jewish people believe in one God who has no human form.
- The Torah is the sacred text in Judaism and written in Hebrew
- The synagogue is the Jewish place of worship.
- Judaism began 4000 years ago and Abraham is the father of the Jewish religion.
- Jewish people celebrate Shabbat each week - it is a day of rest.
- Jewish people often have a mezuzah with prayer inside fixed to their door.
- Abraham is said to have made an agreement with God, known as the Covenant,
- The six pointed Star of David is the symbol of Judaism.
- Many Jewish people follow a Kisher diet



The Torah is the most holy Jewish text, given to the Jews by Moses around 1250 B.C. Torah means teachings in Hebrew. **Teachers of the Jewish faith are called rabbis.** They lead worship in the synagogue, conduct marriage and funeral ceremonies and give people advice on religious matters. Religious Jews can be **Orthodox** (people who follow the laws of the Torah very strictly) and **Progressive** (people who have

Many Jewish families follow a **kosher diet**. This means that milk and all other dairy products may not be cooked or eaten with meat. All meat must be kosher; kosher animals have to have a cloven hoof and chew the cud (so cows and sheep). There should be no pork, no shell fish and no birds of prey.

