



# RE

## Judaism

# Symbols and Meanings



# Aim

- I can name and explain the meanings of Jewish symbols.

# Success Criteria

- I can correctly match Jewish symbols with their definitions.
- I can design a Hamsa.



# Symbols



Jewish symbols and their meanings play an important role in the day-to-day life of every Jew.



# The Menorah



- The oldest symbol in Judaism is the Menorah. It is a seven branched candelabrum.
- The number of branches represents the seven days of the week.
- It represents the burning bush Moses saw on Mount Sinai.
- Olive oil is used to light the end of each branch.



# The Mezuzah



- The Mezuzah is a scroll which Jewish people keep inside a case.
- It is fixed to the right side of their doorframe and when Jewish people fix it there they chant 'Blessed are you, Lord, our God, Sovereign of the Universe'.
- The Mezuzah is placed on doorframes to constantly remind Jewish people of God's presence.
- If Jews move house they have to take the Mezuzah down from the door and take it with them.
- Whenever a Jewish person goes through their door they touch the Mezuzah to remind themselves that God is there.





# Symbolic Clothes



When Jews worship in the Synagogue they have to wear special clothes.

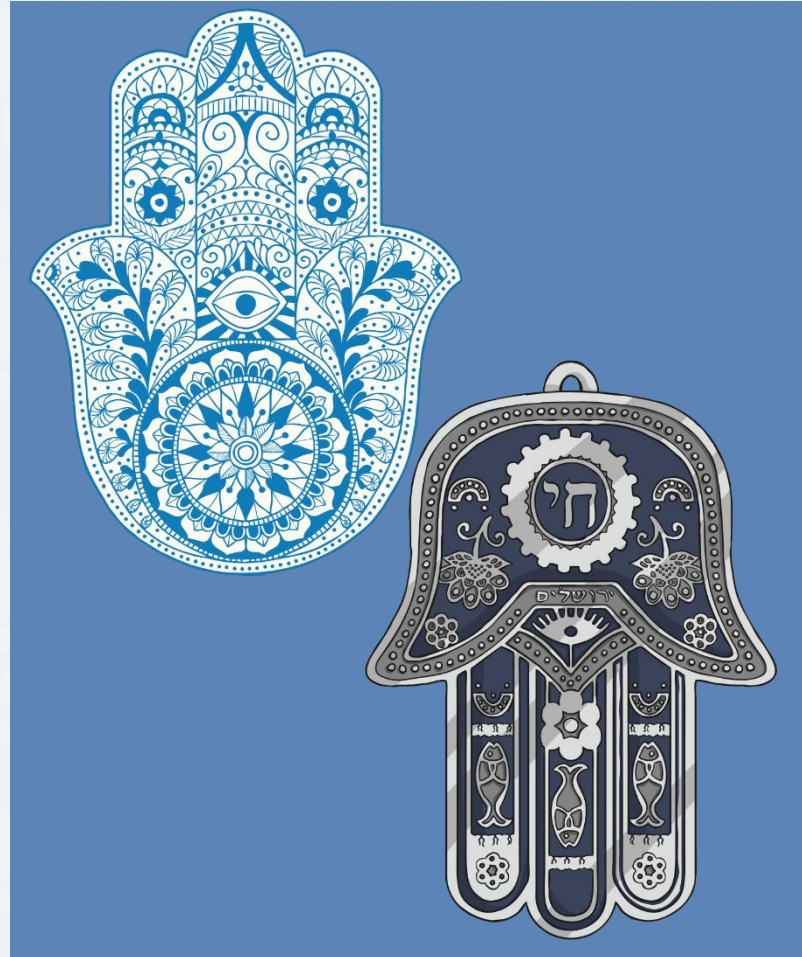
- **Yarmulke/Kippah:** this is a special cap that Jewish men and Jewish boys wear on their head to show that they respect God.
- **Tallit:** this is worn by Jewish men and is a tasselled shawl. It is worn to remind Jews that God is protecting them and also symbolises wrapping God's laws around them.
- **A Tefillin:** this is a box with ribbons. It is tied to a Jew's arm or somewhere near the head. It is worn to show they are thinking about God and that they love God.



# Hamsa



- Some Jews wear a kind of good luck charm called a Hamsa.
- It is shaped like a hand and usually has a picture of an eye in its middle.
- It is worn to remind Jews of God's protective hand and his watchful eye over them.
- It is called a hamsa because the Hebrew word for five (meaning five fingers on a hand) is hamesh.
- On the right are two examples of hamsa designs.





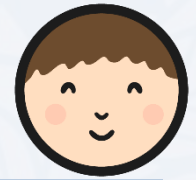
# The Star of David



- The Star of David is recognised as the symbol of the Jewish community and is named after King David of ancient Israel.
- It is the standard symbol in Synagogues.
- Have you ever seen this symbol before?



# Symbols and Definitions










Can you match the symbols from Judaism to their definitions?

## Symbols

Symbol	

## Symbols and Definitions

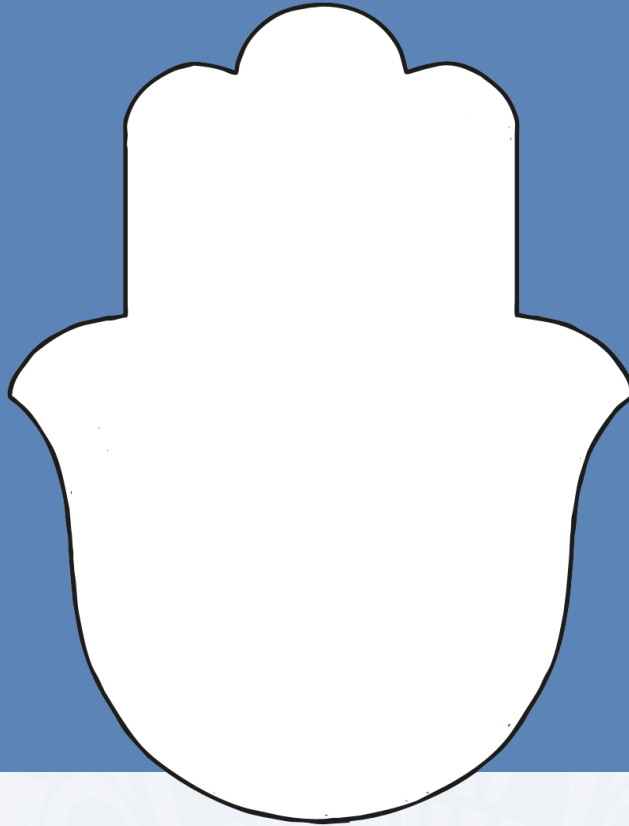
	<b>The Menorah:</b> The oldest symbol in Judaism is the Menorah. It is a seven branched candelabrum. It represents the burning bush Moses saw on Mount Sinai. Olive oil is used to light the end of each branch.
	<b>A Kippah:</b> This is a special cap that Jewish men and Jewish boys wear on their head to show that they respect God.
	<b>A Tefillin:</b> This is a box with ribbons. It is tied to a Jew's arm or somewhere near the head. It is worn to show that they are thinking about God and that they love God.
	<b>A Hamsa:</b> Some Jews wear a kind of good luck charm called a hamsa. It is shaped like a hand and usually has a picture of an eye in its middle. It is worn to remind Jews of God's protective hand and his watchful eye over them. It is called a hamsa because the Hebrew word for five (meaning the five fingers on a hand) is hamesh.
	<b>The Star of David:</b> This is the symbol recognised as the symbol of the Jewish Community and is named after King David of ancient Israel. It is the standard symbol in synagogues.
	<b>A Tallit:</b> This is worn by Jewish men and is a tasselled shawl. It is worn to remind Jews that God is protecting them and also symbolises wrapping God's laws around them.
	<b>The Mezuzah:</b> The Mezuzah is a scroll which Jewish people keep inside a case. It is fixed to the right side of their doorframe and when Jewish people fix it there they have to chant 'Blessed are you, Lord, our God, Sovereign of the Universe'. The Mezuzah is placed on doorframes to constantly remind Jewish people of God's presence. If Jews move house they have to take the Mezuzah down from the door and take it with them. Whenever a Jewish person goes through their door they touch the Mezuzah to remind themselves that God is there.

# Design a Hamsa



Can you design a hamsa?

Design it on your whiteboard by drawing around your hand.





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