

Welcome Queen Shabbat	Year Group: KS2	No. of lessons: 6
<p>Learning objectives: To understand how and why Jews celebrate Shabbat, and to empathise with them by relating some of the practices to their own lives.</p>		
<p>Themes to discuss: How our own families celebrate special occasions. What is rest and what is work. How people feel nearer to God.</p>		
<p>Activities and experiences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “In the beginning” – share /recap the Genesis Creation story e.g. use http://www.kids4truth.com/eng_creation.htm (a “dynamation”). Discuss why rest is important for people and what pupils do to relax. Write an imaginative piece or poem about what God might have done on his day of rest. • Discuss how Jews follow God’s example and rest on Shabbat – i.e nothing which can be described as work. This is such a special day it is described as a Queen. Listen to a song in praise of Queen Shabbat e.g. http://www.tara.com/sound/cocta75d_02.mp3 and look at Queen Shabbat art e.g. http://www.artprints.com/-ap/Shabbos-Queen-Posters_p81423_.htm Discuss together what preparations you would make if the Queen was visiting your home – then compare this with a Shabbat checklist (following page). What does the Shabbat list tell us a bout the specialness of Shabbat? Create a photoboard display or powerpoint of pupils preparing for Shabbat using the checklist. • Watch together the on-line powerpoint on bringing in Shabbat at http://www.refuel.org.uk/curric/ks2_topics/judaism/shabbat_meal_pres.php and find out more about the symbolic foods, candles etc. Learn a Shabbat song (see below) and make some plaited challah bread. Share the bread and some red grape juice. You can role play this in circle time – details at http://www.bje.org.au/kids/templateBase.php?id=453&qid=2 How did it feel? Compare with what pupils’ own families do on a Friday evening. • You are not supposed to work on Shabbat – so what counts as work? There are on-line activities to help with this at http://www.cist.org.uk/pv/cm/cw2441.htm and http://www.refuel.org.uk/curric/ks2_topics/judaism/shabbat_nowork_pres.php Study and worship do not count as work – there is a service at the synagogue in the morning. Pupils make a chart of how they spend their Saturday (remember to work from sunset to sunset) and decide what they could do and not do if they were Jewish and following the Shabbat rules. How much would their lives have to change? 		

- The Shabbat synagogue service - see the website pages for a variety of virtual tours of synagogues, including photographs of worship. Use the click me tour at <http://www.scheinerman.net/judaism/synagogue/tour/index.html> to discover what happens at a service. Create bookmarks which the congregation could give to visitors to the synagogue service, to explain what to do in the service. <http://www.torah4kids.net/> will also help here – look under “Worship / Observance”)
- Back home. Watch the presentation on saying goodbye to Shabbat with the Havdalah ceremony http://www.refuel.org.uk/curric/ks2_topics/judaism/shabbat_end_pres.php Think what evocative smells you would put in your own special spice box and their meaning for you. Think about how you feel at the end of Sunday, knowing it is back to work the next day, and compare with how Jews might feel as Shabbat comes to an end.

Websites and resources: <http://www.bje.org.au/kids/templateFolder.php?id=35&qid=2> has information on Shabbat at child level, including songs and stories. Challah recipes at: <http://www.jewishrecipes.org/recipes/challah/index.html>
Basic structure of a synagogue service at <http://scheinerman.net/judaism/synagogue/>

