



Chanukah

# Lesson Plan

*K-2 grade*

חג האורים שמח

*Happy Festival of Lights*

*Recommended for Grades K-2*

**If I Were a *Chanukiah*, What Would I Look Like?**

## Big Ideas

- The holiday of Chanukah is also known as the Festival of Lights.
- Everyone can be a light in their own way.
- Everyone has strengths regardless of physical size.

## Objectives

- Students will be able to identify the role the Maccabees played in the story of Chanukah.
- Students will understand that everyone is different, and be able to identify something that makes them special.

## Materials

- Book: [Maccabee!: The Story of Hanukkah](#) by Tilda Balsley
- Variety of materials to draw or build a *Chanukiah*, i.e. legos, blocks, play dough, paper, crayons, markers, pencils.
- Printed Matan visual



## Accessibility Considerations

- Allow flexible seating (provide students options for seating, i.e. on the floor, in a chair, in a bean bag chair, standing, etc.).
- Provide preferential seating (consider student strengths and group dynamics when arranging seating).
- Utilize the Handout 1 (included) for explaining the components of a *Chanukiah*.
- Provide picture examples of different *Chanukiot*.
- Consider sharing the book and/or visuals ahead of time for those that might benefit from previewing the lesson.
- Give clear directions and check that students understand the direction given.
- Allow processing/wait time before calling on a student to answer.

## Activities

1. Chanukah is the festival of lights. Review the Chanukah story with the students and highlight how the Maccabees were a very small army but still managed to beat Antiochus. Remind the students that on Chanukah we light the candles on the Chanukiah to help us remember the miracle of the little bit of oil lasting 8 whole days and the small army of the Maccabees defeating the bigger army!
2. Read the book [Maccabee!: The Story of Hanukkah](#) by Tilda Balsley.
3. Introduce the components of a Chanukiah. Use the visual attached to help students understand what all *Chanukiot* need to have.
4. Introduce the activity:
  - What would **I** look like if **I** were a *Chanukiah*?
  - Using materials such as legos, blocks, play dough, etc., have students draw/create themselves as a *Chanukiah*
  - What are some of your *Chanukiah*'s strengths ( it's really big and can light up a whole room OR it's very small and can be carried around, etc.)?
  - Allow time for students to complete making their *Chanukiahs*.
5. Have students share their *Chanukiahs* with the group. Ask students to identify:
  - What is something your *Chanukiah* would be really good at? Why?
  - What might be hard for your *Chanukiah*?
  - What makes all the *Chanukiot* similar?
  - What makes them different?

ALL our *Chanukiahs* give off light and they ALL help us celebrate Chanukah. We all have a light to give, and we all have something special about us that makes us important!

## Assessment:

- Each student's *Chanukiah* should have 8 candles and 1 *Shamash*