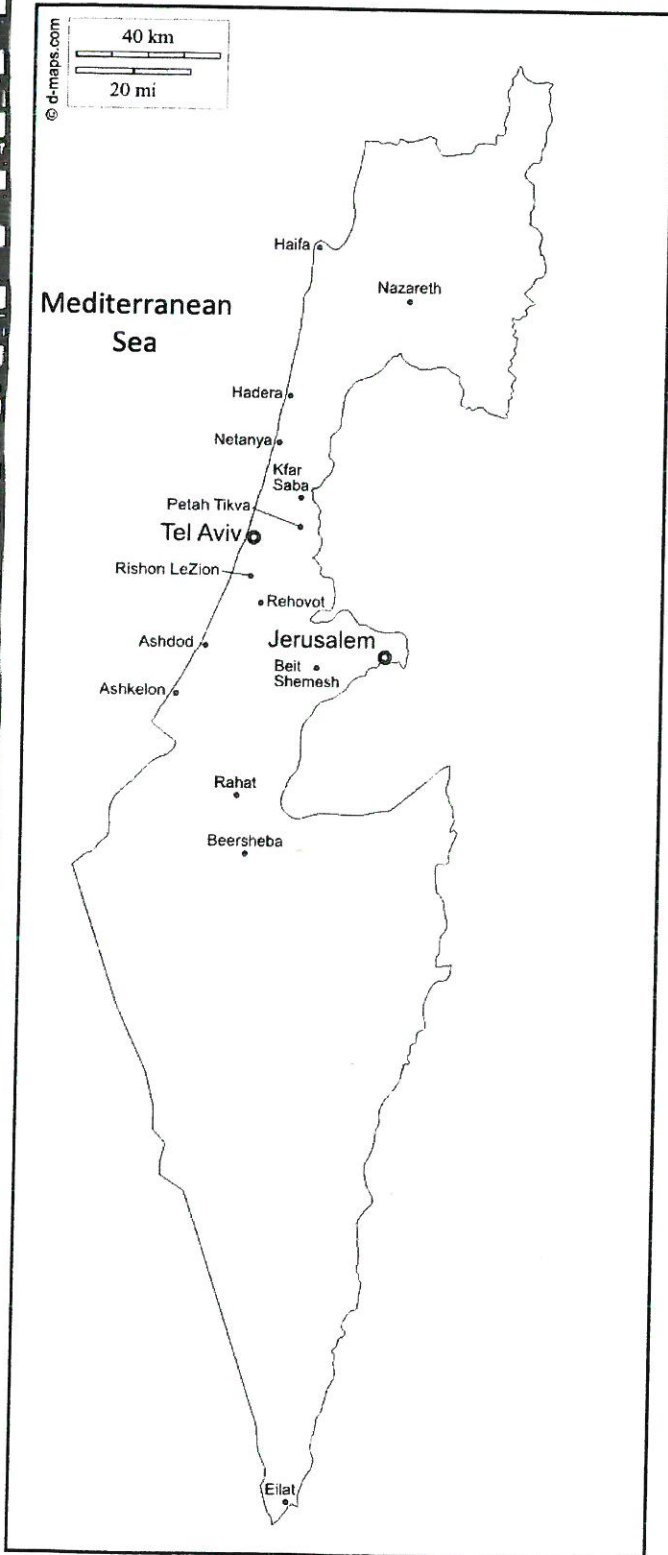


Israel

Name: _____



1. Which body of water borders Israel to the west?

2. If you traveled from Rahat to Ashkelon, which direction would you be going?

3. Which city shown on the map is the farthest south?

4. Jerusalem is one of the most sacred places in the world for Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. In which area of Israel is Jerusalem located?

5. To travel from Nazareth to the beautiful Baha'i Gardens in Haifa, which direction would you travel?

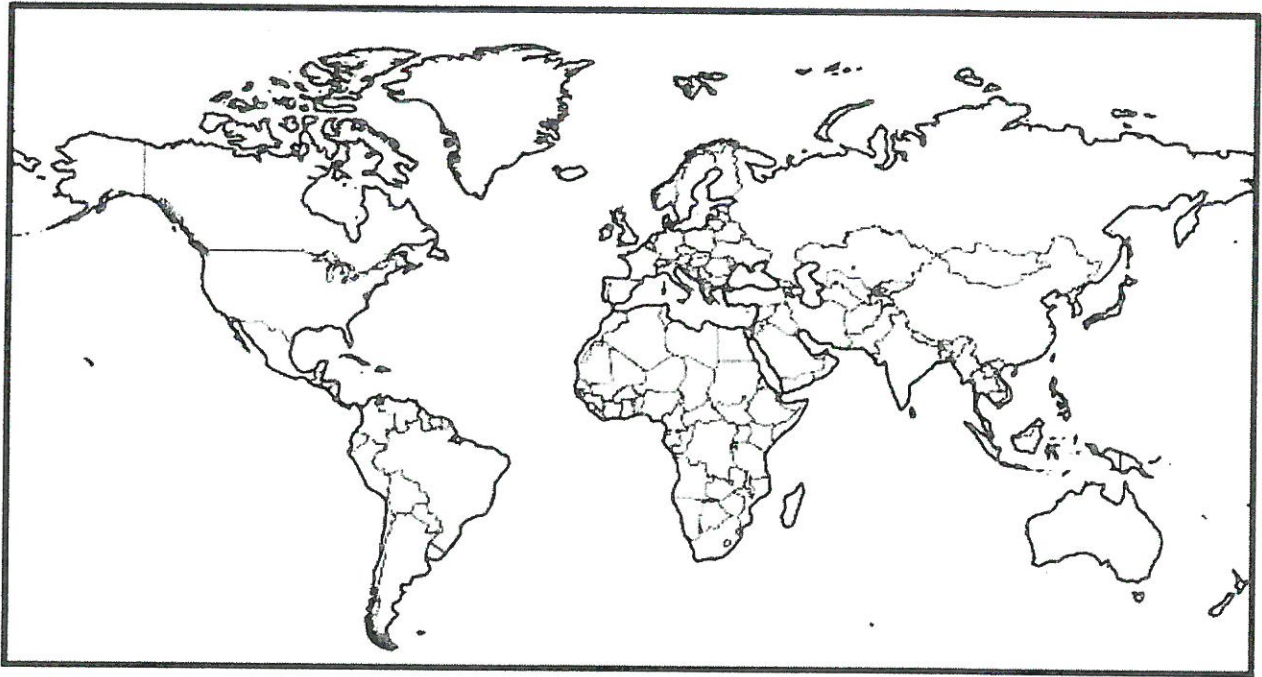
6. After going to the International Film Festival in Ashtod, and traveling to the Shefayin Water Park in Netanya, which direction would you travel?

7. Israel has declared Jerusalem as its capital. Other countries want the capital to stay in another city. Which city do they want it to stay in? _____

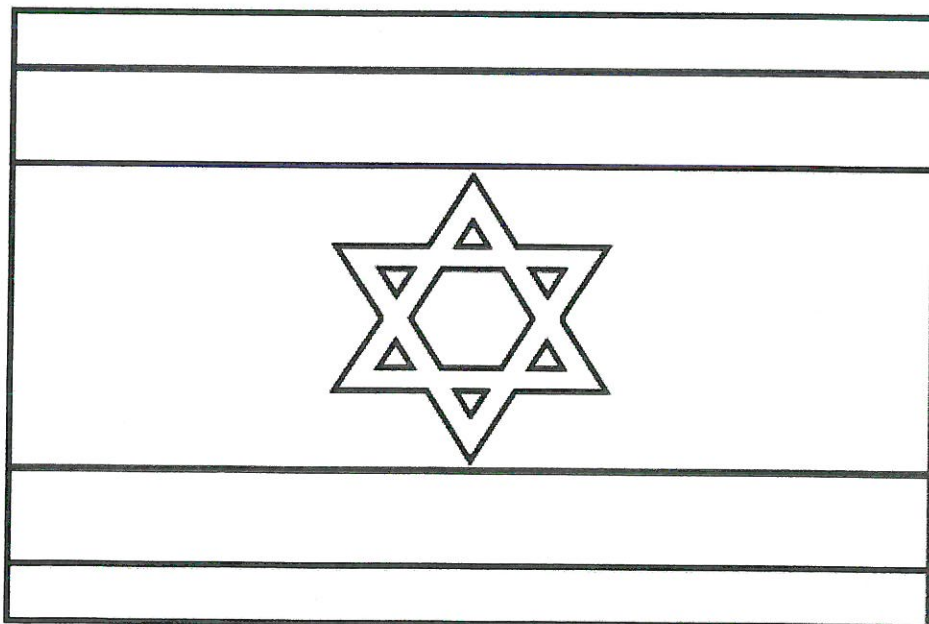
Israel

Name: _____

Color Israel on the World Map:



Color Israel's Flag



white

blue

white
background

blue
Star of David

blue

white

Holidays Around the World: Israel

Name: _____

Very few people celebrate Christmas in Israel, but there is another holiday that falls around the same time of the year, and that's Hanukkah. However you spell it (there are lots of different spellings), Hanukkah in Israel is a celebration of family and faith.

Hanukkah is called the Festival of Lights and it came about for two reasons. First, it celebrates a great military victory that took place over 2,000 years ago, when a small Jewish army defeated the Greeks, who were ruling over them. After the battle ended, and there was only enough oil in the temple to light the menorah (a many branched candleabra) for a day or two, surprisingly, the oil lasted for eight days. Hanukkah celebrates what many Jewish people see as a miracle.

Unlike the American tradition of children receiving a gift for each night of Hanukkah, Hanukkah in Israel doesn't center on gift giving. While children do receive some gelt (money), chocolate coins, and dreidels (spinning tops), the holiday is focused on family time together, the ceremony of lighting the candles, and eating, of course!

On the first night of Hanukkah, the annual Torch Relay takes place in Jerusalem's Old City. People line the streets while a torch is passed from hand to hand, until it reaches and lights a giant menorah on the Western Wall.

During Hanukkah, schools are closed and some families take this opportunity to travel. Jerusalem is a popular spot to see hundreds of menorahs on display in the Mea Sharim neighborhood. Children enjoy making crafts related to the holiday and singing songs and learning stories about the holiday. Parties are also held, as well as big production plays for children like Festigal or the Motek Shel Festival.

Each night, the menorah is lit in homes all over Israel, prayers are said, and songs are sung, keeping with the tradition. To light the menorah, the middle candle is used to light the other candles. The first night one candle is lit. The second night two are lit. Finally on the eighth night, all of the candles are lit.

In addition to the candle lighting, songs, and prayers, many people enjoy eating a variety of foods fried in oil, which reminds them of the story long ago. These foods may include latkes (potato pancakes), sufganiyot (donuts filled with jelly, chocolate, or other fillings), svinge (fried dough with chocolate, sugar, or jam on top), as well as other treats. Although Hanukkah is not one of Israel's main religious holidays, it is one that many people enjoy.

1. Make an inference why is Hanukkah called the Festival of Lights?

2. In the second paragraph, the author stated that Hanukkah, "...celebrates a great military victory." What is a synonym for victory?

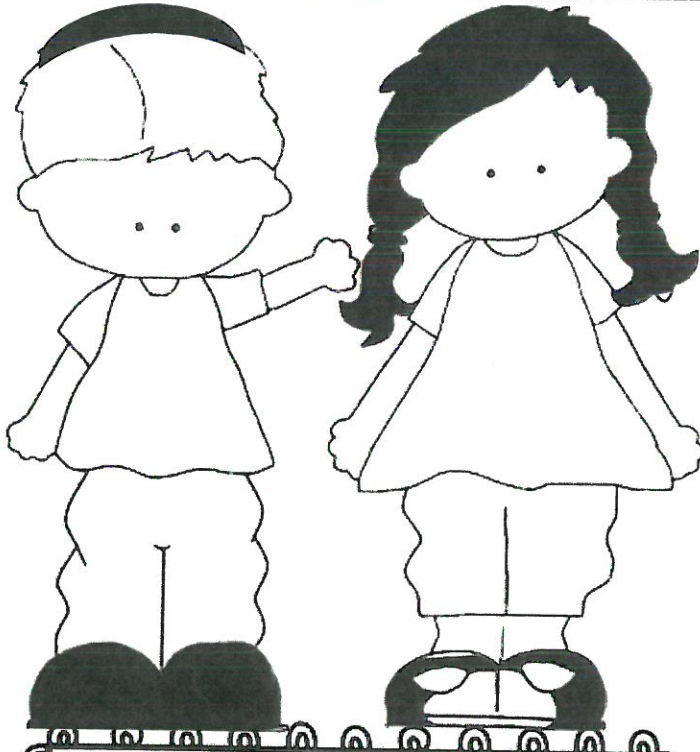
3. What is the main difference between Hanukkah in America and Hanukkah in Israel?

4. In the sixth paragraph, the author describes how the eight candles are lit. Make an inference. Why are there eight candles to light on the menorah?

5. Why are traditional Hanukkah foods fried in oil?

Israel

Name: _____



how to say happy hanukkah:

Chanukah Samaech

(Haw new kuh sah-may-ach)

Gift Giver:

An Israeli Tradition:

Traditional Holiday Food:

