

Judaism - What special objects do Jewish people have in their homes?

This half term we are going to be learning about the religion Judaism and how being Jewish makes a difference to families and celebrations.

We are going to look at the question;

"What special objects do Jewish people have in their homes?"

Most of us have objects in our homes that are special to us - items that remind us of our families, things that have happened in the past and things that matter to us.

Can you think of objects that are special in your home?

Most Jewish homes will contain all these too, but there will also be some specifically Jewish objects that won't be found in most of our homes.

We are going to look at the mezuzah box.

This is one of the most recognisable objects in most Jewish homes. Here are some examples.



What do you think a mezuzah box is for?



A mezuzah is a small scroll with words from the Torah and it is kept in the mezuzah box.

Watch this clip to learn more about the mezuzah.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qB1mFgzzUeM>

The text on the scroll is part of a special Jewish prayer, the Shema.

*Hear, O Israel, The LORD is God, the LORD is one.
You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all
your soul and with all your might.
The words I command you today, keep these words in your heart.
Teach them to your children. Repeat them when you stay at home
and when you are away, when you lie down and when you get up.
Tie them as a sign on your hand and let them serve as a symbol on
your forehead;
Write them on the doorpost of your house and on your gates.*

These are very special words for Jewish people.
The mezuzah is the way many Jewish people obey the command in
the last line -

Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

You are going to make your own mezuzah box and small scroll.

On your scroll you are going to think about people that are important
to you and write words about them. You could draw a picture of
them too.

I'm looking forward to seeing your work on class dojo.

Mrs Cole

*See the link Making Your Own Mezuzah on the Swifts Home Learning
page for the task.*