HAPPY CHANUKAH...from The Toy Boat

Chanuka celebrates a 2000 year ago event. The Maccabees overcame the oppression of the controlling Syrian empire. To learn more about the religious history visit your local library.



Potato Latkes

Latke is Yiddish for pancake. These crisp potato pancakes are a traditional Chanukah food. You might need a little help cooking these as they need to be cooked in hot oil.

Utensils:

Need: 5 medium potatoes 1 onion 1 large egg 1/8th cup flour

vegetable oil

applesauce

Bowl knife colander metal grater 1/4th teaspoon salt mixing spoons measuring spoons frying pan

measuring cup plate paper towels spatula potato peeler

Peel and cut the potatoes and allow them to soak for about 1/2 hour in a bowl of cold water. Pour into colander and drain well. Peel the onion. Grate the potatoes on the grater. Also grate the onion. Place the grated onion and potatoes into the bowl and add the egg, flour and salt. Mix well. Place a piece of paper towel on the plate and set aside. Pour oil into the bottom of the frying pan and heat it. As soon as it is not drop a tablespoon of the mixture into the hot pan and flatten a little with the spatula. You can probably fit several into the pan at one time. Once the pancakes are golden brown on the bottom flip them over with the spatula. Once the second side is crispy remove the potato and place it on top of the paper towel. When the plate is filled with pancakes put a piece of paper towel on top of the first layer and start a second layer. This will absorb the extra cooking oil. Latkes are best hot with applesauce on top.



Gelt is money that is given as a gift at a holiday celebration. Today gelt is usually chocolate coins that are wrapped in gold foil. Sometimes gelt is used in place of real money while playing the dreidel game. Other times it is given in a little pouch to the children. The traditions vary depending on the family and regional differences.

Star of David

Need: 148 round edged toothpicks elmers glue a ruler, pencil, scissors white poster board Do:

Use a ruler and pencil and draw 2 equilateral triangles with 8" sides onto the posterboard. Cut out and glue the two together so they form the star. Make certain the triangles are straight before you glue them together. Outline the star with glue. Glue a toothpick along each edge. Repeat the pattern being sure you line up the toothpicks along one edge of the star. (see illustration) Once the star is finished place a brick or heavy book on top so that it will dry flat. Allow it to dry completely before moving it.



The Dreidel originated in medieval Germany and was a popular game with gamblers. Later the German letters were changed to Hebrew initials that meant 'a great miracle happened there'

Dreidel

Need:

3" square of cardboard ruler, scissors, markers a 3" pencil stub

Do:

Using your marker and ruler divide the square from corner to corner on an angle to make the 4 sections. Draw the Hebrew letters, one in each square. With the point of the scissors poke a hole through the center of the cardboard. Insert the pencil a little more than an inch. Or until it spins well.

To Play:

Each player will need 12 pennies. Each player puts one penny in the center (called the POT). Take turns spinning the dreidel. The letter that lands up are your directions.

Nun (none) you take nothing

Gimmel (give) you take everything in the pot. Then each player puts in a penny.

Heh (Half) you take half of what is in the pot.

Shin (add) put in 1 penny The game is over when one player has won everything,