



# Create Heirloom Jerusalem Stone Shabbat Candlesticks

**Topic:** Jerusalem Stone Shabbat Candlesticks



**Grade Level:** Family, All

**Please note:** This project can be more costly than most projects. Consider using this craft as the centerpiece activity for a family learning event.

**Goals for the Lesson/Activity**

**Students will:**

- Learn a brief history of Jerusalem stone
- Explore the connection many Jews feel to this ancient stone and to the land of Israel

**Students will be able to** create their own heirloom candlesticks from Jerusalem stone.

**Materials needed**

- Jerusalem stone pieces; rinsed and dried; approximately 18-20 stones are needed for two candlesticks. Boxes of Jerusalem stone may be purchased from <http://www.jerusalemstoneusa.com/>. For current pricing, contact them at: [info@jerusalemstoneusa.com](mailto:info@jerusalemstoneusa.com).
- Two Shabbat Candle Drip cups per student – Candle cups vary in price and metals. A few different sources are:
  - <http://www.1-800-dreidel.com/jewishcandlecups.aspx>
  - [http://www.weissjudaica.com/system/scripts/search.cgi?category=604&show\\_all=1](http://www.weissjudaica.com/system/scripts/search.cgi?category=604&show_all=1)
- Glue that is non-toxic, nonflammable, and bonds stone to stone and stone to metal. We recommend Weldbond for classroom use.

**Background for Teacher**

- For over 3,000 years, buildings in Jerusalem have been constructed with Jerusalem stone.
- The laws requiring the use of Jerusalem stone for the facades of all buildings in Jerusalem was formalized under the British Mandate in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- “Jerusalem Stone is a type of dolomitic limestone that is quarried around Jerusalem and other parts of Israel. Jerusalem Stone is a generic term describing natural stone material coming from areas from the Jordan River on the east to the Mediterranean Sea on the west, and from the southern Port of Eilat on the Red Sea to The Galilee and Haifa on the north.” Taken from: <http://www.jerusalemstoneusa.com/aboutstone.html>



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- Jerusalem stone may be found in a wide range of colors, including several different shades of beige/gold as well as shades of light pink, white and grey.

### **Description of Activities**

Before starting the art project, encourage each participant to take a piece of stone and hold it in their hands. Talk about the stones. How does it feel to hold a piece of stone from the land of Israel? Why might creating Shabbat candlesticks out of Jerusalem stone be different than creating candlesticks using rocks from the local home improvement store?

### **Making the Shabbat Candlesticks:**

1. Glue the two or three largest stones next to each other to create a base.
2. To create each candlestick pillar, encourage students to spend time stacking the stones before gluing. They can experiment with color, height, and making sure their stones can balance.
3. Glue stones to the base. Glue one stone on top of the next, creating a column. Be careful not to saturate the surface with glue or stones will slide.
4. Glue on the candle cups.
5. Let candlesticks dry overnight.