RECENT PICTURE BOOKS



Adler, David A.; illustrated by Jeffrey Ebbeler. *Hanukkah Cookies with Sprinkles*. Springfield, NJ: Apples & Honey Press, 2015.



Sara learns about the Jewish tradition of tzedakah when she shares food with a hungry stranger. (Preschool, Primary)



Barash, Chris; illustrated by Alessandra Psacharopulo. *Is It Hanukkah Yet?* Chicago: Albert Whitman, 2015.

From snow on the ground to making applesauce and latkes to lighting the menorah, this sweet, lyrical story shows the seasonal and traditional ways we know Hanukkah is on its way. (Preschool)



Fisman, Karen; illustrated by Martha Avilés. *Nonna's Hanukkah Surprise*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2015.

When Rachel loses the special menorah her mother gave her so she could share Hanukkah with her cousins, Rachel's grandmother comes to the rescue with a creative and crafty solution. (Preschool, Primary)



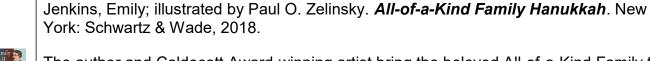
Glaser, Linda; illustrated by Aleksander Zolotic. Way too Many Latkes: A Hanukkah in Chelm. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2017.

When Faigel can't find her latke recipe her husband asks the rabbi, whose advice leads them to make way too many latkes, in this Hanukkah story about the foolish people of Chelm. (Preschool, Primary)



Hoffman, Amalia. *Dreidel Day*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2018. (Board Book)

A sweet and playful cat encourages the reader to count to eight to celebrate Hanukkah. (Primary)





The author and Caldecott Award-winning artist bring the beloved All-of-a-Kind Family to life in a new format. When Gertie, the youngest, is not allowed to help prepare latkes, she throws a tantrum. Banished to the girls' bedroom, she can still hear the sounds and smell the smells of a family getting ready to celebrate. But then Papa comes home and she is allowed out – and given the best job of all: lighting the first candle on the menorah. (Preschool, Primary)





Jules, Jacqueline; illustrated by Kristina Swarner. *Light the Menorah: A Hanukkah Handbook*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2018.

In this Hanukkah manual for the contemporary Jewish family, holiday history, rituals, activities, songs, and recipes provide tools for creating meaningful family moments in the light of the menorah. Includes brief reflections to read aloud before reciting the candle-lighting blessings on each of the eight nights of Hanukkah. (Primary, Elementary)



Londner, Renee; illustrated by Iryna Bodnaruk. *The Missing Letters: A Dreidel Story*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2017.

The jealous *nuns*, *heys*, and *shins* in a dreidel maker's shop hide the *gimels* because everyone likes them best. But when they learn the importance of dreidels and how each letter is special, they're persuaded to return them. (Preschool, Primary)



Markel, Michelle; illustrated by André Ceolin. *Hanukkah Hamster*. Ann Arbor, MI: Sleeping Bear Press, 2018.

After finding a hamster that has been left behind in his taxi, a lonely immigrant cab driver celebrates Hanukkah with the little creature, while waiting to learn if the owner will return. (Primary)



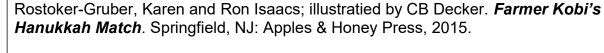
Newman, Lesléa; illustrated by Amy Husband. *Hanukkah Delight!* Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2016. (Board Book)

Whimsical bunnies celebrate Hanukkah in this...rhyming board book describing all the Hanukkah rituals beloved by Jewish kids. (Preschool)



Newman, Tracy; illustrated by Viviana Garofoli. *Hanukkah is Coming!* Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2015. (Board Book)

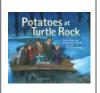
Readers join a family and their dog as they light the menorah, eat latkes, unwrap gifts, sing songs, play dreidel, eat chocolate Hanukkah gelt, and march like Maccabees during the eight nights of Hanukkah. (Preschool)





On the second night of Hanukkah, Farmer Kobi invites Polly to his home for dinner but her reaction to his animals proves she is not his perfect match, while a stranger who appears at the door just might be. Includes a note about Jewish values and how the story can be used to teach them to one's children. (Preschool, Primary)





Schnur, Susan and Anna Schnur-Fishman; illustrated by Alex Steele-Morgan. *Potatoes at Turtle Rock*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2016.

Annie leads her family on a nighttime journey around their farm to celebrate the first night of Hanukkah. At each stop along the way Annie uses riddles (and potatoes) to mark old traditions and start new ones. (Primary, Elementary)

Silberberg, Alan. Meet the Latkes. New York: Viking, 2018.



Lucy Latke's family is a family of potato pancakes. After lighting the menorah and gobbling the gelt, Grandpa Latke tells everyone the Hanukkah story (complete with mighty Mega Bees who use a giant dreidel to fight against the evil alien potatoes from Planet Chhh, but it's up to the Latke family dog to set the record straight. (Preschool, Primary)



Singer, Isaac Bashevis; illustrated by Suzanne Raphael Berkson. *The Parakeet Named Dreidel*. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2015.

On the eighth night of Hanukkah, a family rescues a Yiddish-speaking, dreidel-playing parakeet. (Primary, Elementary)



Stein, Joel Edward; illustrated by Elisa Vavouri. *A Hanukkah with Mazel*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben. 2016.

Misha has no one to celebrate Hanukkah with until he discovers a hungry cat in his barn. The lucky little cat inspires Misha to turn each night of Hanukkah into something special. (Primary, Elementary)



Ungar, Richard. Yitzi and the Giant Menorah. Toronto: Tundra Books, 2016.

When the people of Chelm receive the gift of a giant menorah from the Mayor of Lublin, they spend the days of Hanukkah pondering how to thank him for his great gift. When Hanukkah is nearly over, Yitzi comes up with the perfect idea. (Primary, Elementary)

CLASSIC/FAVORITE PICTURE BOOKS



Adler, David A.; illustrated by Kevin O'Malley. *Chanukah in Chelm*. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1997.

When the rabbi tells Mendel to get a table for the Hanukkah menorah, Mendel makes the task more difficult than it should be. (Primary, Elementary)



Adler, David A.; illustrated by Jill Weber. *The Story of Hanukkah*. New York: Holiday House, 2013.

In a simple yet dramatic text and vibrant paintings, the story of the courageous Maccabees and the miracle that took place in the Temple in Jerusalem is retold. (Preschool, Primary)





Balsley, Tilda; illustrated by David Harrington. *Maccabee! The Story of Hanukkah*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2010.

Rhyming text retells how Mattathias, his son Judah Maccabee, and other faithful Jews freed Jerusalem from King Antiochus, who wanted to impose the Greek gods, and the miracle occurring when they lit the menorah that gave rise to Hanukkah. (Preschool, Primary)



Brown, Barbara; illustrated by Stacey Schuett. *Hanukkah in Alaska*. New York: Henry Holt, 2013.

A little girl describes the short, harsh days of winter in Alaska and her efforts to keep a moose from destroying trees and the swing in her back yard, which she finally succeeds in doing with the help of a Hanukkah treat. Includes facts about Hanukkah and the aurora borealis. (Preschool, Primary)



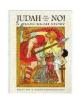
Chwast, Seymour. *The Miracle of Hanukkah*. Maplewood, NJ: Blue Apple Books, 2006.

Simple text and color illustrations describe the first Hanukkah. (Preschool)



Cohen, Deborah Bodin; illustrated by Shahar Kober. *Engineer Ari and the Hanukkah Mishap*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2011.

Near Palestine in the 1890s, a train derails and its engineer, who was rushing to spend Hanukkah with friends, is surprised when a Bedouin who helps him says they are in the very place where the miracle of Hanukkah began. (Preschool, Primary)



Feder, Harriet K; illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahn. *Judah Who Always Said,* "No!" Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben, 1990.

Brave Judah, a leader in the resistance to the changes a Greek king tries to force upon the Jews of Jerusalem, takes part in a stunning victory celebrated today as Hanukkah. (Preschool, Primary)



Fischer, Ellen; illustrated by Tiphanie Beeke. *Latke, the Lucky Dog.* Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2014.

A family rescues a dog from a shelter during Hanukkah, and the pup proceeds to create holiday hijinks as he gets used to his new home. (Preschool, Primary)



Gellman, Ellie; illustrated by Maria Mola. *Jeremy's Dreidel*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2012.

A boy makes a Braille Hanukkah dreidel for his father, who is blind. Includes instructions for making different types of dreidels. (Primary)

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NEW AND FAVORITE TITLES FOR HANUKKAH



Guthrie, Woody; illustrated by Dave Horowitz. *Honeyky Hanukah*. New York: Doubleday, 2014.

Part of a little-known series of songs Guthrie wrote celebrating Jewish culture, inspired by his mother in law, Aliza Greenblatt, a well-known Yiddish poet who lived across the street from him during his years in Coney Island, New York. (Preschool, Primary)



Hirsh, Marilyn. *Potato Pancakes All Around: A Hanukkah Tale*. New York: Bonim Books, 1978.

A wandering peddler teaches the villagers how to make potato pancakes from a crust of bread. (Preschool, Primary)



Hyde, Heidi Smith; illustrated by Jamel Akib. *Emanuel and the Hanukkah Rescue*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2012.

Nine-year-old Emanuel stows away aboard a whaling ship until the Hanukkah candles in a window light the way to bring him home. (Primary, Elementary)



Jaffe, Nina; illustrated by Louise August. *In the Month of Kislev: A Story for Hanukkah*. New York: Viking, 1992.

A rich, arrogant merchant takes the family of a poor peddler to court and learns a lesson about the meaning of Hanukkah. (Primary, Elementary)



Kimmel, Eric A.; illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka. *Hanukkah Bear*. New York: Holiday House, 2013.

On the first night of Hanukkah, Old Bear wanders into Bubba Brayna's house and receives a delicious helping of potato latkes when she mistakes him for the rabbi. Includes a recipe for latkes. Revised version of Kimmel's 1990 classic, *The Chanukkah Guest*. (Preschool, Primary)



Kimmel, Eric A.; illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman. *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins*. New York: Holiday House, 1989.

Relates how Hershel outwits the goblins that haunt the old synagogue and prevent the village people from celebrating Hanukkah. A Caldecott Honor Book. (Primary, Elementary)



Kimmel, Eric A.; illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein. *The Jar of Fools: Eight Hanukkah Stories from Chelm*. New York: Holiday House, 2000.

Drawing on traditional Jewish folklore, these Hanukkah stories relate the antics of the people of Chelm, thought – perhaps incorrectly – to be a town of fools. (Primary, Elementary)



Kimmel, Eric A.; illustrated by Matthew Trueman. *Simon the Bear*. New York: Disney-Hyperion, 2014.



Simon sets out for America aboard the HMS Atlantic, but the ship collides with an iceberg mid-journey. Saving himself by leaping onto the menorah, he decides (since it is the first night of Hanukkah) that he will light the first candle in the menorah he has brought from home, in hopes of inviting a similarly miraculous salvation. His miracle shows up – a huge polar bear. (Preschool, Primary)



Kimmel, Eric A.; illustrated by Barbara McClintock. *When Mindy Saved Hanukkah*. New York: Scholastic, 1998.

A tiny Jewish family living behind the wall of a synagogue must battle a frightening cat if they want candles for their Hanukkah menorah. (Primary, Elementary)



Kimmelman, Leslie; illustrated by Paul Yalowitz. *The Runaway Latkes*. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman. 2000.

When three potato latkes escape Rebecca Bloom's frying pan on the first night of Hanukkah, everyone including the cantor, the rabbi, and the mayor joins in the chase. (Preschool)



Kropf, Latifa Berry; photographs by Tod Cohen. *It's Hanukkah Time!* Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2004.

Photographs and easy-to-read text portray children in a Jewish preschool as they prepare for and participate in a Hanukkah party, including lighting the menorah, playing dreidel, making *sufganiyot*, and telling the story of the Maccabees. (Preschool)



Lamstein, Sarah; illustrated by Neil Waldman. *Letter on the Wind: A Chanukah Tale*. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mill, 2007.

When there is no oil for Chanukah, Hayim, the poorest man in the village, sends the Almighty a letter, asking for help. (Primary, Elementary)



Levine, Arthur A.; illustrated by James E. Ransome. *All the Lights in the Night*. New York: Tambourine Books, 1991.

Moses and his little brother Benjamin find a way to celebrate Hanukkah during their dangerous emigration to Palestine. (Primary, Elementary)



Manushkin, Fran; illustrated by Robin Spowart. *Latkes and Applesauce: A Hanukkah Story*. New York: Scholastic, 1989.

When a blizzard leaves a family housebound one Hanukkah, they share what little food they have with some starving animals who later return the favor. (Preschool, Primary)





Melmed, Laura Krauss; illustrated by David Slonim. *Moishe's Miracle: A Hanukkah Story*. New York: HarperCollins, 2000.

Kind-hearted Moishe is given a magical frying pan that will produce all the latkes you could wish for – latkes by the dozen, latkes by the hundreds – but only Moishe must use it. Alas, his short-tempered wife, Baila, does not heed the warning. (Primary, Elementary)



Ofanansky, Allison; photographs by Eliyahu Alpern. *Harvest of Light*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2008.

An Israeli family raises olives and uses some of the oil to light their Hanukkah menorah. (Preschool, Primary)



Pinkwater, Daniel; illustrated by Jill Pinkwater. *Beautiful Yetta's Hanukkah Kitten*. New York; Feiwell and Friends. 2014.

Huddling with her parrot friends in a warm nest atop a street light as the winter begins, Yetta the Yiddish chicken discovers a stray kitten and must find it a safe home when her parrot friends are reluctant to adopt it. This multilingual (English, Yiddish, Spanish) story is a clever introduction to the celebration of Hanukkah. (Preschool, Primary)



Polacco, Patricia. *The Trees of the Dancing Goats*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1996.

During a scarlet fever epidemic one winter in Michigan, a Jewish family helps make Christmas special for their sick neighbors by making their own Hanukkah miracle. (Primary, Elementary)



Pushker, Gloria Teles; illustrated by Judith Hierstein. *Toby Belfer Never Had a Christmas Tree*. Gretna, LA: Pelican Pub 1991.

Living in a small Louisiana town where hers is the only Jewish family, Toby Belfer gives a party for her friends in order to explain Hanukkah, including the story of Judah Maccabee, the significance of the menorah, how to make potato latkes, and how to play the game of dreydl. (Primary, Elementary)



Simpson, Martha Seif; illustrated by Durga Yael Bernhard. *The Dreidel That Wouldn't Spin: A Toyshop Tale of Hanukkah*. Bloomington, IN: Wisdom Tales, 2014.

The most beautiful dreidel a shopkeeper has ever seen will not spin for the two children who insist they must own it, but perhaps it would spin for a child with the true spirit of Hanukkah in his heart. (Preschool, Primary)



Spinner, Stephanie; illustrated by Jill McElmurry. *It's a Miracle! A Hanukkah Storybook*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2003.



Every night of Hanukkah, after Owen lights the menorah, Grandma Karen kicks off her cowboy boots and tells him a bedtime story. On the first night there's the inspiring story of a girl who dreams of becoming a rabbi. On the fourth night there's the amazing story of the alien who gets lost in a little girl's backyard. And on the seventh night there's the silly story about a boy who wants to be a baby...and whose parents let him! (Primary, Elementary)

Yacowitz, Caryn; illustrated by David Slonim. *I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Dreidel*. New York: Arthur A. Levine, 2014.



A family drives through the snow to visit their beloved grandmother who spreads out a Chanukah supper for everyone to enjoy. But one dish goes a little wrong and leads to Bubbe's insatiable taste for oil, latkes, applesauce, gelt -- even menorahs! Beyond the joy of a Jewish take on this most American of folk songs, the illustrations here offer hilarious parodies of great works of art by da Vinci, Rembrandt, Vermeer, Hopper, Rockwell, Matisse, Picasso, and other masters. (Preschool, Primary)



Yolen, Jane; illustrated by Mark Teague. *How Do Dinosaurs Say Happy Chanukah?* New York: Blue Sky Press, 2012.

Illustrations and rhyming text present some of the different ways a well-behaved dinosaur can celebrate the eight days and nights of Chanukah. (Preschool)



Ziefert, Harriet; illustrated by Karla Gudeon. *Hanukkah Haiku*. Maplewood NJ: Blue Apple Books, 2008.

A traditionally Japanese poetic form is used to celebrate the eight nights of Hanukkah. There's one haiku for each night, and stepped pages add one candle to the menorah every time the page is turned. (Preschool, Primary)

BOOKS FOR OLDER READERS



Adler, David A. *The Kids' Catalog of Hanukkah*. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 2004.

A Hanukkah book chock full of history, stories, activities, music, riddles, games, mazes, cartoons, puzzles, recipes, crafts, songs, and so much more. (Elementary)



ben Izzy, Joel. *Dreidels on the Brain*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 2016.

As he tries to survive Hannukah in the suburbs of Los Angeles in 1971, middle-school magician Joel learns to appreciate life's small miracles with the help of an unusual stranger he meets on a bus. (Elementary, Middle School)

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NEW AND FAVORITE TITLES FOR HANUKKAH

Ben-Tzvi, Rebecca Tova; illustrated by Susan Natti. *Four Sides, Eight Nights: A New Spin on Hanukkah*. Brookfield, CT: Roaring Brook Press, 2005.



Everything you ever wanted to know about the Hanukkah holiday, centered on the children's game of dreidel (a spinning top). Includes the history and customs of the holiday, trivia, a song, science facts, and many jokes. Also, the personalities, from Bible heroes and heroines to an astronaut spinning a dreidel in zero gravity. And dreidels, from diamond-encrusted to Space Age to the giant Dreidel House on the Rutgers University campus. (Elementary, Middle School)



Benderly, Beryl Lieff. *Jason's Miracle: A Hanukkah Story*. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman, 2000.

Twelve-year-old Jason has ambivalent feelings about Hanukkah until he finds himself transported back to the time of the Maccabean revolt in Judea. (Elementary)



Chaikin, Miriam; illustrated by Stephen Fieser. *Alexandra's Scroll: The Story of the First Hanukkah*. New York: Henry Holt, 2002.

Alexandra, a young Jewish girl from Jerusalem, describes her life and the creation of Hanukkah, more than 2000 years ago. (Elementary, Middle School)



Cohn, Janice; illustrated by Bill Farnsworth. *The Christmas Menorahs: How a Town Fought Hate*. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman, 1995.

Describes how people in Billings, Montana joined together to fight a series of hate crimes against a Jewish family. (Elementary, Middle School)



Goldin, Barbara Diamond; illustrated by Elaine Greenstein. *While the Candles Burn: Eight Stories for Hanukkah*. New York: Viking, 1996.

Reflecting the key themes of the Festival of Lights, a selection of eight original and retold stories reflects on such timeless ideas as commitment, courage, miracles, religious freedom, faith, and peace. (Elementary)



Groner, Judyth and Madeline Wikler; illustrated by Ursula Roma. *Maccabee Meals: Food and Fun for Hanukkah*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben, 2012.

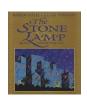
Eight nights of food, fun, and games for Hanukkah. With recipes for young and old, party themes, and holiday trivia. (Elementary)



Heiligman, Deborah. *Celebrate Hanukkah*. Washington, DC: National Geographic, 2006.

The vivid photography of National Geographic illustrates the joyous celebrations of Jewish people around the world—including Ghana, Uganda, India, Israel, Peru, the United States and Poland, as they light menorahs, spin dreidels, and make latkes. (Elementary)





Hesse, Karen; illustrated by Brian Pinkney. **Stone Lamp, The: Eight Stories of Hanukkah Through History**. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2003.

In a series of eight powerful and evocative free-verse poems, award-winning author Karen Hesse captures the resilient spirit of the Jewish people through the voices of eight children at Hanukkah – from Tamara in 12th-century England and Jeremie in 13th-century France to Havva in 17th-century Turkey and Ori in 20th-century Israel. (Middle School)



Kimmel, Eric A. *A Hanukkah Treasury*. New York: H. Holt, 1997.

Presents stories, songs, recipes, and activities related to the celebration of Hanukkah. (Elementary, Middle School)



Krensky, Stephen; illustrated by Greg Harlin. *Hanukkah at Valley Forge*. New York: Dutton. 2006.

During the Revolutionary War, a Jewish soldier from Poland lights the menorah on the first night of Hanukkah and tells General George Washington the story of the Maccabees and the miracle that Hanukkah celebrates. Based on factual events. (Elementary)



Rocklin, Joanne; illustrated by Catharine O'Neill. *The Very Best Hanukkah Gift*. New York: Dell Yearling, 1999.

During his family's eight-day celebration of Hanukkah, eight-year-old Henry learns the pleasure of giving and overcomes his fear of dogs. (Elementary)



Singer, Isaac Bashevis. *The Power of Light: Eight Stories for Hanukkah*. New York: Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 1980.

Eight tales by Nobel laureate Isaac Bashevis Singer—one for each night of the Hanukkah celebration—tell of a world in which miracles abound, love triumphs, and faith prevails. (Elementary)

BOOKS FOR FAMILY LEARNING



Wolfson, Ron; edited by Joel Lurie Grishaver. *The Art of Jewish Living: Hanukkah*. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights, 2001.

This newly-designed, easy-to-use edition of a classic spiritual sourcebook offers updated information, more family ideas, and new resources for every aspect of your holiday celebration.



Zion, Noam and Barbara Spectre. *A Different Light: The Hanukkah Book of Celebration*. New York and Jerusalem: Devora and Shalom Hartman Institute, 2000.

A how-to guide to a creative candle-lighting ceremony: blessings, songs, stories, readings, games and cartoons to engage adults, teenagers and children on each of the eight nights. See also the authors' companion volume, *A Different Light: A Pluralist Anthology: The Big Book of Hanukkah*.