

How do Jews in Gloucestershire celebrate festivals, and how does this show what matters to them? (Y3 & Y4)

Key Vocabulary

Exodus	The journey of the Children of Israel out of slavery in Egypt
Matzah	Unleavened bread eaten during Pesach to remember the haste of the ancestors' departure
Pesach (Passover)	A festival celebrating the Exodus and the theme of freedom
Repentance (Teshuvah)	Turning away from bad deeds and saying sorry to move on
Rosh Hashanah	The Jewish New Year, marking the beginning of the 10 Days of Awe
Seder	A symbolic meal at the start of Pesach that focuses on the journey from slavery to freedom
Shabbat	The weekly day of rest, starting Friday evening and ending Saturday night
Symbol	Something that represents something else, such as the foods on a seder plate
Torah	The Jewish holy book, which contains stories and laws
Yom Kippur	The holiest day of the year, focused on fasting, prayer, and final judgement
10 Commandments	Important rules found in the Torah; the 4th commandment tells people to keep the Sabbath holy
Worldview	A way people understand life and the world



Shabbat (The Day of Rest)

REASON:
The Story of Creation – God rested on the 7th day after creating the world (Torah teaching).

REASON:
The 4th Commandment – One of the 10 Commandments instructs to keep the Sabbath holy.

DEFINITION:
Ritual Timing – Begins Friday sunset, ends Saturday night; involves special meals and family time.



The 10 Days of Awe

Rosh Hashanah (The Jewish New Year)

DEFINITION:



Marks start of 10 days of Awe; time for "fresh start" & celebrating creation.

EXAMPLE: Customs



Blowing the Shofar, eating sweet foods, and the ritual of Tashlich.

Yom Kippur (The Day of Atonement)

KEY FINDING:



Holiest day; many fast and attend synagogue to pray for forgiveness.

SUPPORTING FACT: The Story of Jonah



Teaches God is kind and fair, forgiving sins.



Pesach (The Festival of Freedom)



TIMELINE EVENT:
The Exodus Story – Recalls Moses leading Israelites from slavery in Egypt to freedom.



PROCESS STEP:
Removing Chametz – Households remove all "chametz" (leaven (food/bread) before the festival.



DEFINITION:
Matzah – Unleavened bread eaten to remember leaving Egypt in a hurry before bread could rise.

KEY THEMES & VALUES



Rest & Ritual

Using rituals to set aside time for family and God.



Repentance & Forgiveness

Importance of saying sorry, making amends, and focusing on self-improvement.



Freedom

Celebrating the right to be free and remembering the history of the Children of Israel.

Friday Evening

Action: **Welcoming Shabbat**



Feeling: **Hello to Rest!**



Rituals: Lighting two single candles, eating **Challah** bread, greeting family



The Seder Meal



DEFINITION: Highly symbolic meal at the start of Pesach; focuses on journey from slavery to freedom.



KEY FINDING: Symbolic Items – Seder plate foods act as symbols for hardships of slavery and joy of freedom.

Saturday Night



Action: **Departing Shabbat**



Feeling: **Goodbye to Rest.**

Rituals: Waiting for three stars, lighting one braided Havdalah candle, smelling sweet spices

