

HANUKKAH



How can I keep the party rolling?

Many families look for alternative ways to celebrate, other than giving gifts for all eight nights, in order to focus on the joy of the holiday. Here are some suggestions:

- **First night — gift night** Celebrate by giving small gifts. Additionally, have every family member choose another family member's name out of a hat. Family members can then make (rather than purchase) a gift for the selected relative to be given later during the holiday.
- **Second night — craft night** Make *Hanukkah*-related crafts or decorations to display in your home. These can be *Happy Hanukkah* signs, color pictures of *dreidels*, a creative *menorah* and anything else that comes to mind.
- **Third night — family game night** Every family member chooses a game for the family to play.
- **Fourth night — book night** Give books as gifts or borrow *Hanukkah*-themed books from the library and read them together.
- **Fifth night — dessert night** Celebrate with food! Make or buy jelly doughnuts, cookies shaped like *menorahs* or *dreidels*, or whatever your family enjoys.
- **Sixth night — family outing** Choose something fun to do as a family, such as going to the movies or a favorite restaurant.
- **Seventh night — give a gift** Present the gifts you made from the first night.
- **Eighth night — Tzedakah night** *Tzedakah* is Hebrew for “justice,” so this is a night to do something to make the world a better place by helping those in need. This can take many forms, including charitable donations, working on behalf of social causes etc.

Hanukkah in a Box

Celebrating a new holiday can be overwhelming for an interfaith family. So many traditions, so many rituals. That's why we created *Hanukkah in a Box*, a simple kit with the items and information that make it easy to explain and share a cultural tradition with family members who may not have grown up lighting the *menorah* or spinning *dreidels*. A free gift from jHUB to interfaith families living in Greater Cleveland — shipped straight to your door.

Still have questions?

For more information about *Hanukkah*, jHUB and interfaith programs or Jewish culture, contact Rabbi Melinda Mersack, Director, at mmersack@jecc.org, 216-371-0446 x232 or Danya Shapiro, Program Associate, at dshapiro@jecc.org, 216-371-0446 x207.

