

Resource Guide

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The Eight Knights of Hanukkah

We understand that how we gather looks different these days. Whether you are coming together in person or online, PJ Library will continue to provide content to connect with your community. Inside you'll find ways to:



- **Use Jewish text in everyday occurrences**
- **Make meaningful connections to families through Jewish values**
- **Enrich learning experiences for all ages**



The Eight Knights of Hanukkah

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It's the last night of Hanukkah, and everyone is doing their part for the big celebration, but a dragon called Dreadful has other ideas. Dreadful roams the countryside, interrupting the party preparations. Lady Sadie must call upon the Eight Knights of Hanukkah to perform deeds of awesome kindness and stupendous bravery and put an end to the dragon's shenanigans.

Be Brave!

The knights show us that there are many ways to be brave and helpful. During time with the children in your program, ask them which of the knights they most relate to. Present ways that they could dress up as the knights and act out the scenes depicted in the book. To take it a step further, while dressed in knightly garb, children could participate in even more acts of kindness and heroism. Siblings or caregivers could take pictures of film the daring knights in the act, or children can reflect themselves using words, pictures, or song.

5th Night

For many of our families, Hanukkah involves giving and receiving gifts. With 8 nights of the holiday, why not choose one night to give back? Many have chosen to participate in "5th Night" an initiative to encourage acts of *tzedakah* during Hanukkah. Promote this idea to the families in your community through a social media campaign highlighting different local organizations that could benefit from these types of gifts. Ask the families to share back their stories of giving in words, pictures, or videos that you can share with the larger community as well.

Family Crest

The eight knights depicted here are all quite unique. For a family program, use the beautiful illustrations to go on a book scavenger hunt-seeing which characteristics the knights have in common and what sets them apart. Suggest that families create a chart to track what they find (or create a template for them). After they've searched the book, have them think about which ideas connect to their own family and use those images to create their own bravery badge or shield.

Get out the map

The map that is featured at the beginning and end of the book helps to tell you what's important in this kingdom. If your community was to draw its own map, what would be highlighted? Which organizations, public spaces, stores and more would be at the center of your map? Crowdsource the answers to those questions and then bring in some artists from you community to create a depiction of which places are central to you all.

The Hanukkah Story on our podcast:

www.pjfor.me/hanukkah-story

For more books about bravery:

www.pjfor.me/being-brave