



# Hanukkah Dictionary

- Dreidel:** A spinning top used in a popular Hanukkah game. We spin the dreidel and try to win tokens such as pennies or chocolate coins, called Hanukkah *gelt*.
- Hag Ha'urim:** A name for Hanukkah meaning "Festival of Lights."
- Latkes:** Potato pancakes fried in oil. We eat them on Hanukkah to remember the legend of the oil that lasted for eight days.
- Menorah:** A candleholder. The great menorah that stood in the Temple in Jerusalem had seven branches. The menorah we use on Hanukkah, the *hanukkiyah*, has nine branches.
- Ner Tamid:** Hebrew for "eternal light," the light that burned day and night in the holy Temple. Today, the *Ner Tamid* refers to a lamp that continuously burns above the Holy Ark in the synagogue.
- Nes Gadol Hayah Sham:** Hebrew for "A great miracle happened there." The first Hebrew letter of each word in this sentence appears on the dreidel.
- Shamash:** The "helper" candle that is used to light all the other candles on the *hanukkiyah*.

