

# Year 5: Why do Jewish people go to the synagogue?

## A special place for Jews

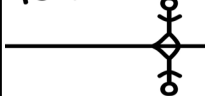
Jewish people go to a **synagogue** to worship. Men and women sit separately in some synagogues. The most important part of the **synagogue** is the **Ark**. This is where the **Torah** is kept. The **Torah** is treated with great respect. Jews are not allowed to touch it.



## What happens during Shabbat?

- Shabbat (Sabbath) is the Jewish holy day, a day of rest.
- God commanded it to be kept holy as the fourth of the **Ten Commandments**.
- It begins just before sunset on Friday and ends just after sunset on Saturday.
- It is a time of calm, a time of stillness in life.
- Sabbath candles are lit at sunset on Friday.
- Jews will drink wine from a special goblet, the **Kiddush Cup**.
- **Challah** (a soft, rich, eggy bread) is eaten.
- Jewish families will visit the **synagogue**.

Take time to reflect



Are there any similarities between the way Christians worship and the way Jews worship?

## Vocabulary

Ark	A chest or box holding the two stone tablets inscribed with the Ten Commandments.
Judaism	A belief in one God who revealed himself through ancient prophets.
Moses	An important prophet in Judaism.
Rabbi	A religious leader in Judaism.
Sabbath	God's 'day of rest' and worship.
Synagogue	A building where a Jewish congregation meet for religious worship.
Torah	The first five books of the Hebrew Bible.
Yad	A pointer used by a Jewish leader to follow the text during the Torah reading.

## Challah



Torah and Yad



Ark