



Reinventing Ritual: Contemporary Art and Design for Jewish Life

A Gallery Guide for Families

This guide is for kids and grown-ups to use together as you explore the exhibition.
Begin on the 2nd floor.

Have you ever used a special costume, container or object
for an important occasion or holiday?

The artists in this exhibition have redesigned objects used in rituals specific to the Jewish community. A ritual can be described as a ceremony or traditional way of doing things, both personal and within your community. Some rituals may be ordinary, like brushing your teeth, while other rituals may be special, such as celebrating a birthday or holiday. Do you follow or practice certain rituals at home or at school?

Enter the first gallery...



Talila Abraham (Israeli, b. 1965), *Dantela*, 2004, stainless steel: etching,
Courtesy of the artist Kfar Truman

Look around the gallery. Pick out an
artwork that catches your eye.

Describe it to your family:

What does it look like?

What do you think it is made of?

If it is a video, describe what is
happening.

Why did you choose it?

Does it remind you of something
you've used or seen before?

The objects in this exhibition are made from many different types of materials.
See how many different materials you can find and list them here.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Explore the rest of this and the next gallery...

Walk through to the gallery with the wooden structure on wheels...



Allan Wexler (American, b. 1949), *Gardening Sukkah*, 2000, wood, wheels, gardening implements, eating utensils, and ritual objects, Courtesy of Ronald Feldman Fine Arts, New York

In this room, there are many kinds of containers. Some of the containers hold liquid, some hold spices, some hold sacred paper, and one is even big enough to hold people! All of the containers are used for special Jewish practices, holidays or activities.

Explore the gallery with your family and discuss what each of the containers can possibly hold inside.

In the space below, design a container you might use for a special occasion or holiday. Think about ways to make the shape, texture and design playful and unique!



Jonathan Adler (American, b. 1966), *Utopia Menorah*, 2006, stoneware: fired and glazed, The Jewish Museum, New York, Purchase: Contemporary Judaica Acquisitions Committee Fund, 2009-21

Walk into the final gallery and find the Hanukkah lamps. How are the lamps in this case similar to one another? How are they different? Did you see the Hanukkah lamp on the wall behind you?

If you were to create an imaginative Hanukkah lamp design, what unusual objects might you include?

Congratulations, you have finished your tour!
Keep a lookout for more Hanukkah lamps on the 4th floor.

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