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Sukkot

Sukkot is also known as the Feast of Tabernacles, or the Feast of Booths.

The word 'Sukkot' means huts, and Jewish families build an open air structure in which to live during the holiday. The important thing about the hut is that it should have a roof of branches and leaves, so that those inside can see the sky. It should also be a temporary and flimsy structure, to remind the family of the time their ancestors lived in the desert in temporary homes after the Exodus. The Sukkot ritual is to take 4 types of plant material: an etrog (a citron fruit), a palm branch, a myrtle branch, and a willow branch, and rejoice with them. (Leviticus 23: 39-40). People rejoice with them by waving them or shaking them about.



- 1 Sit down with the children and show them the series of pictures overleaf. You may wish to lay the sheets out either on a table or the floor, and then read the story.
- 2 Talk to the children about when they have eaten meals outside. Was it fun?
- 3 Ask the children about the things they like to remember. What helps you remember things?
- 4 Look at the 4 types of plant material (Lulav) and draw them. You will find a blank drawing template on iChild.
- 5 Prepare a picnic with the children and make a temporary tent to eat it in.

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**Jewish people
remember the time
they spent in the
wilderness after their
escape from Egypt.**



The preparation for the festival is to build a Sukkah (a temporary hut), where you can have your meals outside. Today these can be portable.



During Sukkot it is traditional to make a 'Lulav'. The Lulav is made out of myrtle branch, willow branch, palm branch and lemon.

These types of plant material are used because; Myrtle reminds us of our eyes. Willow reminds us of our mouth. Palm reminds us of our spine. Lemon reminds us of our heart.