



## READ YOUR WORLD



### Themes

- Chanukah
- holiday traditions
- family
- community
- cooperation

### Cross-Curricular Connections

#### Literacy

- holiday vocabulary
- rhyming text
- text-to-text connections
- writing to explain
- descriptive language

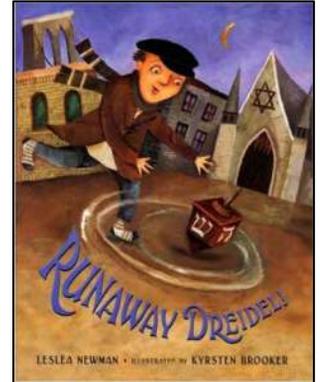
#### Geography

- map skills
- Israel Research Project

## Runaway Dreidel *by Lesléa Newman*

*“’Twas the first night of Chanukah and on the fifth floor,  
There was holiday hustling and bustling galore.”*

With chocolate babkas, latkes, and soup on the stove, traditions have begun for the whole family to enjoy. Surrounded by the sounds and smells of this wonderful day, a little boy plays with his dreidel while he waits. He waits and plays and plays and waits for the celebration to begin. Soon there will be lots of family and presents arriving.



With each spin of the dreidel the anticipation grows. The boy tries to grab his new top, but the spinning gets out of control. And just like that, the dreidel flies through the apartment and right out the door. The whole family runs as fast as they can, chasing the new shiny toy. They fly through the town and into a forest.

With the beach at their feet and nowhere to go, the family watches the glittering dreidel disappear in the sky.

Oh, where did that dreidel go?

## Activities

### ➤ Vocabulary

- dreidel - a four-sided spinning top, played during the Jewish holiday
- gelt – Chanukah gift money and/or chocolate coins for playing dreidel
- menorah – a candelabra for the nine Chanukah candles
- babkas – sweet braided bread with a sweet filling (chocolate)
- latkes – potato pancakes
- challah – braided bread
- kosher – foods that meet the Jewish dietary laws
- hora – a type of circle dance

