

HOLIDAYS

This holidays module takes you through the Jewish calendar and gives a new perspective on some of our most prominent holidays! Every workshop will make the holiday not just an ancient ritual but also deeply relevant to your modern life, too!

WORKSHOP 1: TEN DAYS OF AWE

RECIPE: CJA'S GRILLED FRUIT SALSA



COOKING CONNECTION

Cooking gives us plenty of practice to learn from our mistakes! Who hasn't messed up a new recipe, or even a recipe that you've made a million times? Trial and error is a huge component of cooking.



JEWISH CONNECTION

In Judaism, water is a central feature running through our prayers and rituals. During the ten day period between the holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, Jews have a special ritual using water that literally and metaphorically cleanses our mistakes and allows us to seek self improvement.



EVERYDAY CONNECTION

Just like water ebbs and flows, in our lives we can make mistakes, reflect, and try again, and again.



WORKSHOP 2: SUKKOT

RECIPE: CJA'S FRUITS OF THE FIELD QUICHE



COOKING CONNECTION

In the kitchen, not only is the food we use temporary (that's why we refrigerate our dairy and produce to extend its limited lifespan), but also the process of cooking is temporary! However, at the same time, food also creates lasting memories.



JEWISH CONNECTION

The holiday Sukkot refers to a temporary three-sided booth called a sukkah. Celebrating Sukkot can help us reflect on our own lives. We're all temporary structures, just like a sukkah, with the ability to change and grow.



EVERYDAY CONNECTION

We are all on our own journeys, growing and maturing into our fullest potentials. At the same time, our history, heritage, and value systems can remain through generations as many physical things change around us!



WORKSHOP 3: HANUKKAH

RECIPE: CJA'S LATKE BAR



COOKING CONNECTION

In the kitchen we try new things, and therefore adapt, all the time! Cooking requires us to adjust both our ingredients and our cooking techniques to the environment that we're cooking in.



JEWISH CONNECTION

Historically, the Hanukkah story is about Jewish people dealing with the big and challenging idea of hanging onto our Jewish culture and identity. Today, when Jewish families all over the world light the Hanukiah in our homes, we assert our religious and cultural freedom.



EVERYDAY CONNECTION

The choices we make about how we express any part of our identities should come from our personal values. By learning our history and practices, we can define what is important in our everyday lives.



WORKSHOP 4: TU B'SHEVAT

RECIPE: CJA'S CORN AND BROCCOLI CALZONES



COOKING CONNECTION

A chef knows that cooking is often a "long-game" and that you must be patient for food to cook properly. For example, think of the difference between the concept of "fast food" vs cooking something "low and slow."



JEWISH CONNECTION

On Tu B'shevat, we celebrate the birthday of the trees! This holiday invites us to think about our relationship with trees and with nature itself, and how trees can teach us to be better people in our everyday lives.



EVERYDAY CONNECTION

Trees remind us to look at the long-game— forward to the future, while staying rooted in the present. They also teach us patience, compassion, and presence.



WORKSHOP 5: PURIM

RECIPE: CJA'S HAMANTASCHEN



COOKING CONNECTION

Many dishes need a little time for all the flavors to "get to know" each other. Just like people, it takes a while for flavors to form those bonds that make the flavor profile deep, rich, and full.



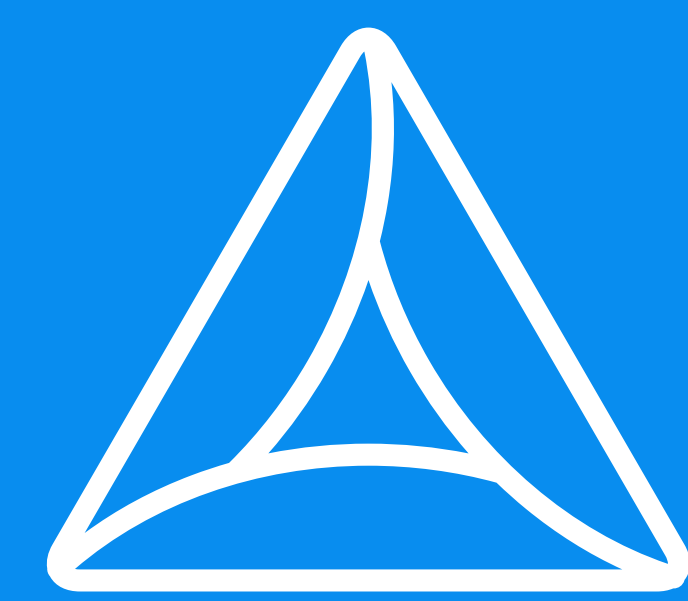
JEWISH CONNECTION

The four mitzvot of Purim emphasize the importance of unity and community in the story of how Esther and Mordechai saved the Jewish people from Haman's evil plot. Giving gifts to friends and gifts to the poor are ways to unify all Jews when we remember a time when all Jews were marked for death.



EVERYDAY CONNECTION

Every day, we can choose to find the things that unify us to our greater community rather than separate us!



WORKSHOP 6: PASSOVER

RECIPE: CJA'S CHAROSET TASTING PLATTER



COOKING CONNECTION

In the kitchen, we use contradictions to bring out different flavors in a dish all the time—sweet and salty, spicy and cooling, hot and cold, raw and cooked! Sometimes foods even inspire that simultaneous happy-sad feeling in us because of the memories we associate with them.



JEWISH CONNECTION

Today, different cultures make all different kinds of charoset, but every charoset is bound together by the same story. Charoset also provides us with dual metaphors—the appearance which reminds us of mortar, and the sweet taste which reminds us of freedom.



EVERYDAY CONNECTION

"Happy-sad" is a powerful--and contradictory--feeling. Recognizing that you have multiple feelings about a situation can deepen the importance of the situation itself.



WORKSHOP 7: SHAVUOT

RECIPE: CJA'S CHEESE BLINTZES



COOKING CONNECTION

A really good recipe is one that helps us learn techniques and use them elsewhere in our cooking. Rather than just reading a recipe once, using it to make that specific food, and then forgetting about the recipe until the next time we make that dish, we can actually use what worked in that recipe in other things that we make.



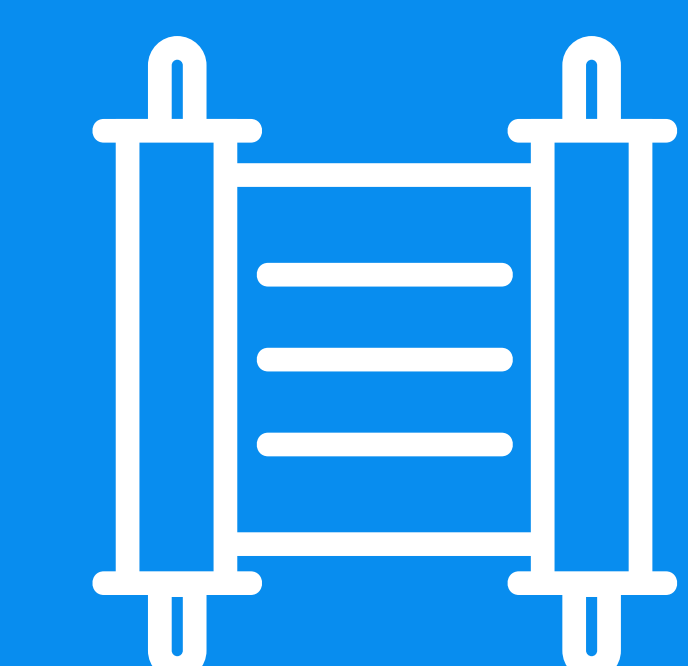
JEWISH CONNECTION

On this holiday, we celebrate the giving of the Torah. We also read the Book of Ruth, which teaches us about a person who received the Torah again and again, even though she wasn't born into Judaism.



EVERYDAY CONNECTION

Just like the Torah, advice or wisdom can be given once but received again and again. We get to decide every day whose advice we want to listen to, so we have to decide whose advice is best!



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