A Hanukkah escape room at home

The Secret of the Oil Jug



Ages 5–7

4 stations ✦ seek, count & puzzle ✦ a sweet treasure at the end

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OPERATION OIL JUG

Guide for Grown-ups

Read before you start – this page is not for kids 😉

What you need

A printer, scissors, glue or tape, 4 envelopes (or folded sheets), a pencil, and a box for the treasure. Put a small jug or bottle inside (the "oil jug") – and if you like, doughnuts, chocolate coins or a little surprise.

Set-up – about 15 minutes

1. Print all the pages. Cut out the agent IDs, labels and hint cards.
2. Put each station in its own envelope and stick the matching label on it.
3. Hide the envelopes following the table. Hand over station 1 together with the opening letter.
4. Stick "The Treasure Lock" on the box and hide it under the table.

Hiding plan & answers

Station	Mission	Where to hide it	Answer
1	How many candles are lit?	By hand – with the opening letter	**5**
2	The hiding dreidels	In the fridge	**2**
3	Oil jug jigsaw	Under a pillow	**8**
4	Dreidel maze	Inside a shoe	**3**

TREASURE CODE

The kids tell you the code – and you "unlock" the box

5 - 2 - 8 - 3

Tips

- Stuck? Give a hint card first, and only then more help. The fun is in discovering!
- You can change the hiding places – just update the table.
- At the end, snap a photo of your "Hanukkah heroes" with their certificates and share it with us 💕

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A Letter from Judah Maccabee

A grown-up reads it out loud

✦ A secret letter – read it out loud ✦

Hello, Hanukkah heroes!

This is Judah the Maccabee. We have a big problem: **the last jug of oil has vanished!** Without the oil we cannot light the menorah – and Hanukkah is about to begin.

I have hidden secret envelopes all around your home. Each envelope holds a mission. Every mission you solve gives you a **secret number** – and tells you where the next envelope is waiting.

Once you have all the numbers, you can open the box where the oil jug is hidden (and maybe a sweet surprise, too...).

I am counting on you! Work together, help each other, and never give up.

M

Good luck,

Judah Maccabee



DOOR SIGN • HANG IT BEFORE YOU START

TOP SECRET

Maccabee Headquarters

Now in progress:

Operation Oil Jug



Secret agents only 🕵️

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Mission Invitations

Cut out and hand one to every player – or snap a photo and send it to family and friends 💌

PERSONAL INVITATION • TOP SECRET

You have been recruited for Operation Oil Jug!



To: _____

When: _____

Where: _____

Bring a clever head and a brave heart ✦ Judah Maccabee

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Secret Agent IDs

Cut out – every player fills in their own ID before the mission starts 🕵️

Maccabee Agent ID — No. 001

Draw yourself

Name

Secret agent name

My superpower

Fingerprint

Rank
☐ Rookie ☐ Detective ☐ Commander

Mission: The Secret of the Oil Jug



Maccabee Agent ID — No. 002

Draw yourself

Name

Secret agent name

My superpower

Fingerprint

Rank
☐ Rookie ☐ Detective ☐ Commander

Mission: The Secret of the Oil Jug



Maccabee Agent ID — No. 003

Draw yourself

Name

Secret agent name

My superpower

Fingerprint

Rank
☐ Rookie ☐ Detective ☐ Commander

Mission: The Secret of the Oil Jug



Maccabee Agent ID — No. 004

Draw yourself

Name

Secret agent name

My superpower

Fingerprint

Rank
☐ Rookie ☐ Detective ☐ Commander

Mission: The Secret of the Oil Jug



OPERATION OIL JUG

Envelope Labels



Cut out and stick one label on each envelope – and the last one on the treasure box

1

Operation Oil Jug

Station 1

Open only with the whole team

TOP SECRET

2

Operation Oil Jug

Station 2

Open only with the whole team

TOP SECRET

3

Operation Oil Jug

Station 3

Open only with the whole team

TOP SECRET

4

Operation Oil Jug

Station 4

Open only with the whole team

TOP SECRET

★

Operation Oil Jug

Treasure Box

Opens only with the secret code

TOP SECRET

OPERATION OIL JUG

STATION 1

How many candles are lit?

Count only the candles that have a flame



YOUR CODE

How many candles are lit? Draw the number



NEXT ENVELOPE

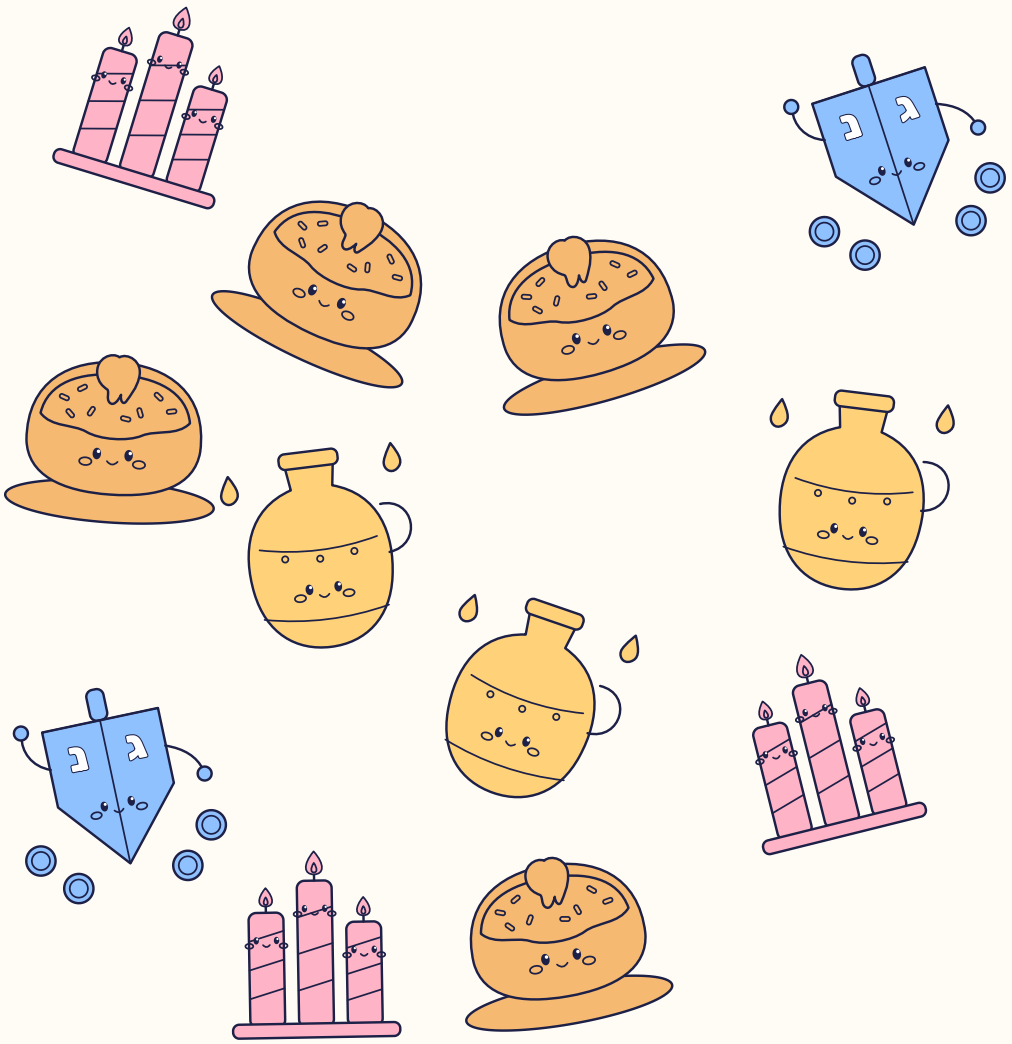
Look for the place in the picture!

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STATION 2

The Hiding Dreidels

Find all the dreidels in the picture and count them



YOUR CODE

How many dreidels did you find?



NEXT ENVELOPE

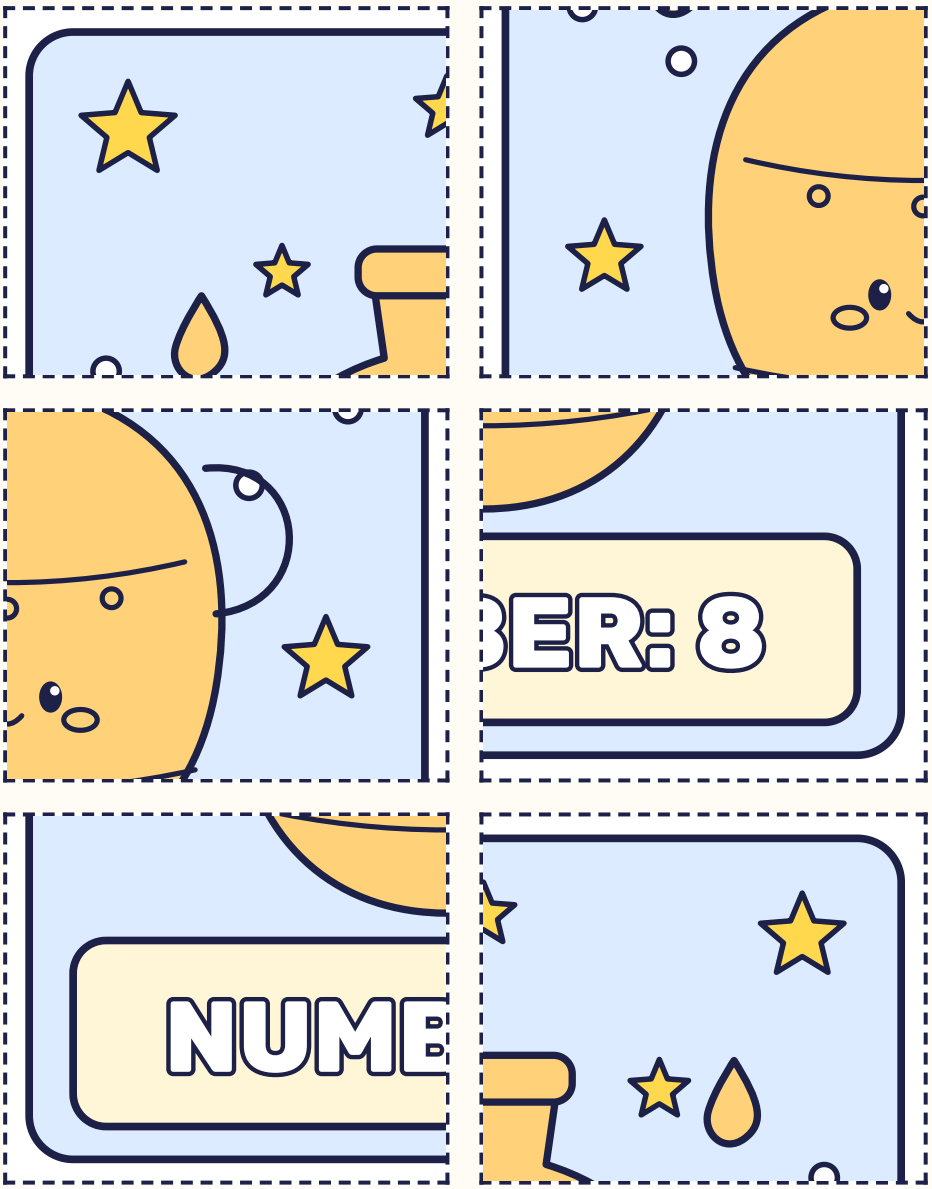
Look for the place in the picture!

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Oil Jug Jigsaw

STATION 3

Cut along the lines and put the picture together



YOUR CODE

Which number is in the picture?



NEXT ENVELOPE

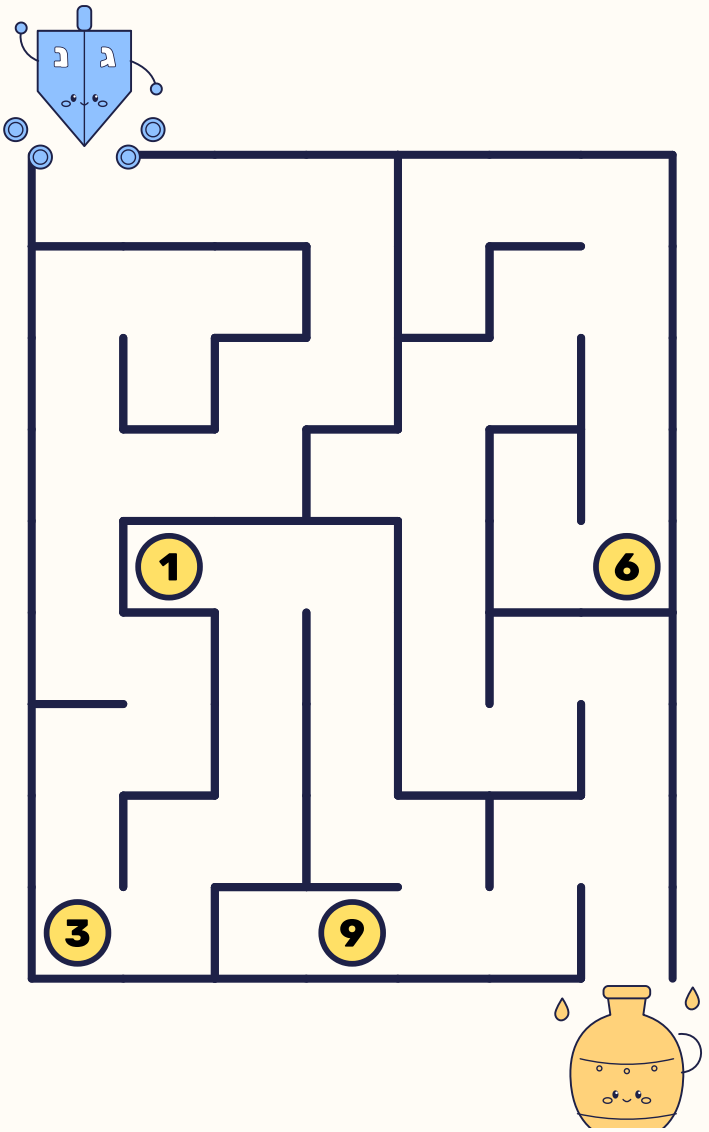
Look for the place in the picture!

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Dreidel Maze

STATION 4

Help the dreidel reach the oil jug – which number do you pass?



YOUR CODE

Which number did the dreidel pass?



NEXT ENVELOPE

Look for the place in the picture!

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Hint Cards

Cut out each card and fold it in half. Grown-ups keep the cards and hand one over only when needed!



Hint for station 1

fold here • open only if you are stuck

Count only candles with a flame – the tall helper candle (shamash) counts too!



Hint for station 2

fold here • open only if you are stuck

The dreidels are blue. Look for the tilted ones too.



Hint for station 3

fold here • open only if you are stuck

Start with the corners – the pieces with straight edges.



Hint for station 4

fold here • open only if you are stuck

Start at the dreidel at the top and go slowly with your finger.

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The Treasure Lock

Cut out the lock and stick it on the treasure box. Write the secret numbers in station order – then tell the code to a grown-up!

✦ The Maccabees' Treasure Box ✦



The Treasure Lock

Station 1	Station 2	Station 3	Station 4

Do not open without the right code!

✂ Cut along the dotted line

OPERATION OIL JUG • MISSION COMPLETE

Certificate of Courage

Proudly awarded to

for solving every puzzle, finding the jug of oil

and saving Hanukkah!



Judah Maccabee

Signature

Hanukkah Heroes ✦ 2026 ✦

Date