

Jewish New Year

The Hebrew name for the Jewish New Year is Rosh Ha-Shanah. It doesn't fall on the 1st of January but in September or October, because the Jewish calendar is different than the calendar we normally use. On Rosh Ha-Shanah we recall how God created the universe. You could also say it's the birthday of the world!

How is Rosh Ha-Shanah celebrated?

Like all Jewish holidays, Rosh Ha-Shanah begins the evening before. During dinner or in the synagogue you eat a piece of apple dipped in honey. Then you wish each other a good and sweet year. But this holiday also has a serious side. A ram's horn is sounded during a special synagogue service; typically 100 tones. The horn, called a shofar in Hebrew, makes a very piercing sound. The tones are trying to say: 'Wake up, pay attention!' You are, in fact, being asked to look at yourself: how was my life in the past year, what went well and what not, how did I behave, how do I want to go farther? You then have ten days to set right the wrongs you may have committed, and then the Day of Atonement arrives.



My notes:

Tip from Max



Working on school project about the Jewish New Year? Bring a few apples and a jar of honey to school. And according to custom on Jewish New Year, then you wish each other a sweet year to come!