



Look For Lights

With Morah Holly

Take a moment to discover the beauty and variety of lights around you in this engaging activity for children of all ages. Walk or drive through your neighborhood and observe the many sources and types of lights you encounter. From streetlights to menorahs, headlights to house decorations, the world around us is full of light.

How to Do It:

- **Step 1:** Equip yourselves with a notepad or smartphone to jot down or photograph the different lights you see.
- **Step 2:** Take turns spotting lights and noting what they're used for. Are they guiding, decorating, or warning?
- **Step 3:** Reflect on the different types of light. Are they natural, like sunlight or moonlight? Or man-made, like LED holiday lights or candles in a menorah?

- **Step 4:** Discuss how light makes life better, brighter, or safer.

Connect to Chanukah:

Ask your children:

- *How do lights play a role in the tradition of Chanukah?*

The Chanukah lights commemorate the miracle of the oil that lasted eight days in the Beit HaMikdash. Lighting the menorah each night reminds us of that miracle and our resilience as a people.

- *How do the lights we see every day connect to the message of Chanukah?*

Just like the menorah lights spread warmth, hope, and inspiration, other lights in our lives guide us, protect us, and bring us joy.

Expand the Activity:

- **Creative Reflection:** After your outing, draw a picture or write a short story about your favorite light source and why it stood out to you.
- **Family Discussion:** Share stories of how light has been meaningful in your own family traditions or how you've seen it bring hope during challenging times.
- **Action Item:** Challenge your family to "be a light" for others during Chanukah by performing acts of kindness that brighten someone's day.

This activity not only engages children in observing the world around them but also deepens their appreciation of the symbolic power of light during Chanukah and throughout the year.

How do lights play a role in the tradition of Chanukah?