

Hanukkah Upside Down

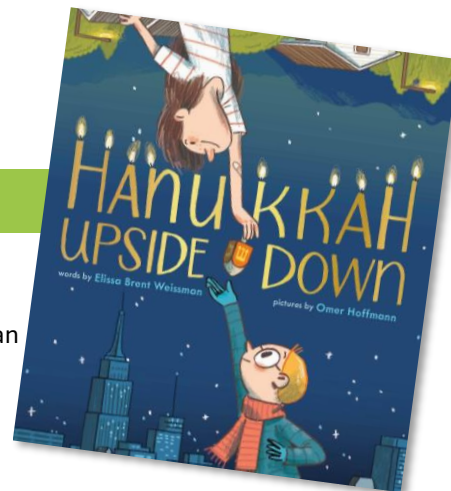
READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Celebration, Family, Gratitude, Holiday, Traditions

Book Brief: Cousins Noah in New York and Nora in New Zealand compete to see who can have the best Hanukkah—winter or summer style. Through eight nights of unique traditions, they discover their shared love for the holiday brings them closer together.

Author:
Elissa Brent Weissman

Illustrator:
Omer Hoffmann



BEFORE READING

The Cover: Have students make predictions about the story based on the cover.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice about the cousins.

Prior Knowledge: Show students a map. Display where New Zealand is in relation to New York City. Have a discussion.

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: “As we read today, listen to how cousins celebrate Hanukkah on different parts of the world.”

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What are the cousins discussing on the phone?
- Why were there 8 chances to prove who has the better Hanukkah?
- Who had the better Hanukkah?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: Noah and Nora celebrate Hanukkah together. How do they celebrate Hanukkah?

Extending Our Thinking: Noah and Nora competed to determine who had the better holiday. Using [RIF's Venn Diagram](#) have students compare and contrast Noah in NYC and Nora in New Zealand.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about Hanukkah.
 - [All-of-a-Kind Family Hanukkah](#) (2018)
 - [Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblin](#) (2014)
 - [The Story of Hanukkah](#) (2011)