

# **10 Important Things** to Know About **Rosh Hashanah**



### 1. The month of Elul

The Jewish month before Rosh Hashanah is called *Elul*. During this month, we think about our behavior and actions from the last year and decide on changes we want to try and make in the coming year. Download a family "Elul inventory" for your family at www.jkidphilly.org/elul\_inventory

### 2. What's in a name?

In Hebrew, Rosh Hashanah means, literally, "head of the year" or "first of the year." Rosh Hashanah takes place on the first and second days of the Hebrew month of Tishri.



## 3. The "Birthday of the World"

Rosh Hashanah is also known as the "Birthday of the World"—a "birthday" is someting that children can relate to! Talk about how children receive presents on their birthdays. What present would you like to give the world this year?

## 4. Apples & Honey

One delicious Rosh Hashanah tradition is dipping apples into honey and saying a blessing for a sweet new year. Print our blessing card at http://bit.ly/appleshoneyblessings --and if it gets sticky, print a new one next year!



#### 5. Round Challah

On Rosh Hashanah, it is traditional to eat a round challah that symbolizes the cycle of life and the passage of time from year to year. Baking challah with your jkids is a wonderful new year activity! Check out this Challah recipe from Joy of Kosher: http://bit.ly/roundchallahgeller







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## 6. Greeting cards

Celebrate the new year by sending cards to friends and family. Jkids can be really creative with this tradition! We also have postcards that you can print, download, color and put in the mail! Find them here: http://bit.ly/roshhashanahcards

### 7. The Shofar



The Shofar is a ram's horn that is blown like a trumpet during the Rosh Hashanah service, and at the end of Yom Kippur. There are three different sounds of the shofar. Hearing the shofar blast can remind us to do our best in the new year. Listen to the shofar here: https://youtu.be/nkWEG3PmgZA Then try making your own shofar sounds:

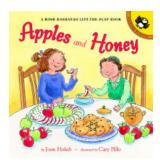
tekiah-one short blast shevarim-three short blasts teruah-nine short blasts

# 8. Synagogue

Going to synagogue on Rosh Hashanah is one way to take time to think about how we behaved last year and what we want to change about ourselves in the new year.

#### 9. Tashlich

Traditionally, on the first day of Rosh Hashanah, Jews go to a body of water and toss in crumbs of bread to symbolically throw away (tashlikh) the things we did wrong last year so we can start again.



#### 10. Read all about it!

Find your favorite PJ Library book to read to learn more about Rosh Hashanah! http://bit.ly/pjroshhashanah

... for families just like yours!



