

# Hanukkah Scavenger Hunt

with the  
YM&YWHA of Washington Heights & Inwood

Get ready to travel . . . through Bennett Park — and back in time — to learn the story of Hanukkah. Follow the trail of scavenger hunt clues, with linked songs and interactive activities.

**Parent Tip:** Adapt as needed, based on your child's age and interest. Follow their lead, and have fun! Dive into the “ask” questions now, or later at home.



**LOOK:** Find the Little Free Library

**LISTEN:** “Veronica Monica and the Story of Chanukkah”  
by Shalom Sesame

<https://youtu.be/sQft5EdHzkk>

**LEARN:** Our story begins a long time ago in Israel, with a temple in Jerusalem, and a golden menorah that burned oil.

**TRY IT:** Magically transport yourself to ancient times . . . clap your hands three times, bump elbows with your grown-up, and spin like a dreidel. Look around for something yellow or shiny.

**ASK:** How have generations of my family celebrated Hanukkah in the past?



**LOOK:** Find the cannon

**LISTEN:** “Maccabee March” by Shira Kline

<https://youtu.be/qNwwHWRAUJQ>

**LEARN:** When King Antiochus ruled over the land, he told the Jewish people, “you can’t do that” about many things they did, like celebrating Jewish holidays. To fight for their right to be free, Judah and the Maccabees marched.

**TRY IT:** March like a Maccabee around the cannon and along the cobblestone path.

**ASK:** In what ways am I free to celebrate holidays? How can I help others be free?



**LOOK:** Find the picnic tables

**LISTEN:** “Chanukah oh Chanukah” by Josh & The Jamtones

[https://youtu.be/uhFWz\\_gtnTs](https://youtu.be/uhFWz_gtnTs)

**LEARN:** After much marching, the king was gone, and Judah and the Maccabees returned to the temple. It was messy and dirty, with a missing menorah and broken bottles of oil, but they worked hard to clean it.

**TRY IT:** Wave your arms around in circles, back and forth, like you’re cleaning up the temple and making it shine again. If there’s a leaf or litter under the table, pick it up and throw it away.

**ASK:** How might I help clean up my community?



**LOOK:** Find the playground slides

**LISTEN:** “Kad Katan” (a small cruse or jug) by Matan Ariel

<https://youtu.be/F7TfVSHWInE>

**LEARN:** The Maccabees built a new menorah and looked for oil to light it, but all the bottles of oil were broken. Then they found one tiny jug of oil.

**TRY IT:** Find the smallest slide in the playground and slide down it. Look at the surface to see if the metal shines like oil.

**ASK:** In what ways am I small, yet powerful, like the tiny jug of oil?



**LOOK:** Find a lamppost

**LISTEN:** “8 Days of Hanukkah,” by Sharon Jones and Dap-Kings

[https://youtu.be/VT2\\_7aq3ytE](https://youtu.be/VT2_7aq3ytE)

**LEARN:** That one small jug of oil—enough to light the menorah for a single night—lasted for eight days!

**TRY IT:** Find a lamppost, run around it, and look for seven more lampposts.

**ASK:** When one day is tough, how can I keep my light shining for another day?



**LOOK:** Find the highest point of land in Manhattan (Hint: look for the plaque by the big rocks)

**LISTEN:** “Candlelight 2020” by The Maccabeats

<https://youtu.be/u6PvoWmHiUs>

**LEARN:** Time travel back to today, with this song (yes, it mentions Zoom!). So many years later, we still light the menorah during Hanukkah to remember the miracle of light that lasted eight days.

**TRY IT:** Free dance to the music, and raise your arms up high, like a candle’s flame.

**ASK:** How can my family feel free to be ourselves, even when stuck indoors?

## Bonus Music

### On the Way Home

**LOOK:** As Laurie Berkner sings... “in the window, where you can see the glow of my menorah,” how many glowing menorahs can you see on your walk home?

**LISTEN:** “Candle Chase” by Laurie Berkner, <https://youtu.be/TlqmlBUEcVk>

### This Week with Grandparents

**LOOK:** As Peter, Paul, and Mary sing, “Don’t let the light go out...” Light candles with grandparents or special family this week, thanks to technology that brings us closer from a distance. Schedule a date!

**LISTEN:** “Light One Candle,” by Peter, Paul, and Mary, [https://youtu.be/StB\\_ehpZyN4](https://youtu.be/StB_ehpZyN4)

Questions? Want to find more Y community activities for your family? Email Mara Bragg at [mbragg@ywhi.org](mailto:mbragg@ywhi.org).

On Sunday, December 5, at 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., don’t miss **Share the Light**, a community-wide Hanukkah celebration with lantern parade, snacks, candle lighting, and more! R.S.V.P. [bit.ly/ShareTheLightHanukkah](https://bit.ly/ShareTheLightHanukkah)

