



4 A

Name:..... Form:.....

See pages 10 and 11 of Jewish synagogue

Objects in the sanctuary

1. Write down a list of the things used in worship that you expect to see in the sanctuary.













2. On a separate sheet draw a plan of the sanctuary. Label all of the objects that you can.

3. Examine the Ark and describe it.





On a separate sheet draw the Ark. Label all the parts of the Ark that you can.

4. If your guide at the synagogue opens the Ark for you, examine the scrolls and describe them.





Who at the synagogue would open the Ark during worship?



On a separate sheet, sketch the Torah scrolls in the Ark.

5. What things did you see in the sanctuary that you did not list under question 1?











Activity objectives

- ▶ To examine the inside of the sanctuary.
- ▶ To examine the objects found inside the sanctuary.
- ▶ To examine the parts of the Ark and the Torah scrolls.

Preparation and resources

You may need to discuss with the people at the synagogue beforehand if it is all right for the children to draw all of the objects in the sanctuary. You should ask beforehand if the people at the synagogue would open the Ark for the students.

If you wish the children to take digital photographs instead of making drawings you should arrange for the digital camera to be available and for the children to have access to a computer to print off their pictures. You will need to get permission beforehand for taking photographs in the sanctuary. Be aware that some synagogues may not allow this.

Introducing the activity

The children should answer question 1 before they visit the synagogue or go on a virtual visit. You may wish to point out that they should include things like seats and windows in their list if they expect to see them.

Teaching notes

This activity is for use on a synagogue visit. It may be used by all the children or by one or more groups while other groups work on the activities for Units 2, 5 and 10.

In the sanctuary plan, look for the location of the Ark and bimah, the seats or pews, windows and candelabra. In the description of the Ark look for the doors of the Ark, the ten commandments, the eternal light, the

decoration of the Ark, the material it is made from. In the description of the Torah scrolls, look for the material they are covered in, the crowns on top, the plaque on the front of the scrolls, a curtain inside the Ark.

The children may also notice features which have not been mentioned, such as a second podium, candlesticks, and so on. These should be recorded in question 4.

Concluding the activity

Let the children report to the class on the things they noticed in the sanctuary. If there were any unusual objects or design elements of the sanctuary the children could investigate these by asking the rabbi or synagogue guide what they are for, and then reporting their findings to the class.

Activity outcomes

- ▶ The children can examine the design of the sanctuary.
- ▶ The children can examine objects in the sanctuary.
- ▶ The children can draw pictures of what they see in the sanctuary.

Complementary work

Individual children or groups of children could examine individual objects in the sanctuary in more detail and describe and draw what they see. For example, candelabra, bimah, seats, art and so on. They could report to the class what they have found and make a display.

Resources

Inside of the synagogue, pencils, pens, paper, rulers.