

# Jack Frost

## A Holiday Musical!

### Study Guide

#### **Pre Performance Activities**

##### ***About the Show...***

It's Holiday Time and it's going to snow! Jan, Ben and Eddie, three best friends from Brooklyn, are excited about the up coming holidays... Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa. Little do they know that a sly inventor names Fredrick F. Flambe, who lives in the old Triple Scoop Café, has decided to stop the holidays with his Marvelous Mean Weather Machine. With this invention Mr. Flambe can make the weather warmer a hundred miles all around!

In the meantime, Jack Frost is on his way to Brooklyn bringing the first snowstorm of the season. Suddenly, the cold winter weather becomes warmer... and warmer... and warmer! Jack Frost goes to Brooklyn to see what's going on. With the help of Jan, Ben and Eddie, Jack Frost saves the day and we are reminded of what the holidays are all about in the first place.

Packed with holiday sing-a-longs and lots of audience participation, Jack Frost, A Holiday Musical! Is sure to delight multi-cultural audiences of all ages!

##### ***Sing-a-Longs***

Practice singing some multi-cultural holiday songs. *Jingle Bells, The Dreidle Song and This Little Light of Mine* will all be sing-a-longs in the Show!

***Vocabulary List...Choose the Vocabulary Words appropriate for your class.***

Christmas	Kwanzaa	Hanukkah	Holiday
Chill	Bell	Creep	News
Air	Dreidle	Come	Life
Shine	Star	On	Hide
Time	Spin	Hear	Pizza
Ice	Light	Heat	Sky
Snow	Candle	Weather	Glow
Frost	Song	Hot	Holy
Mad	Lunch	Cold	Night
Lab	Mom	Storm	Long
Mean	Sled	Fall	Ago
Stop	Joy	Fine	Oil
Off	Glad	Magic	Pray
Family	No	Year	Together
Tree	More	Land	Way
Song	Sing	Off	Say

***About Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and Christmas...***

**Kwanzaa** is a relatively new African-American celebration, yet it is based on ancient African festivals and customs. Maulana Karenga established the celebration of Kwanzaa in 1966. The word, "Kwanzaa" comes from the Swahili phrase, "Matunda Ya Kwanzaa" which means "First Fruits." An extra "a" was added to the end of Kwanzaa so the word would have seven letters to go with the seven principles of the holiday. The seven principles of Kwanzaa are: Umoja (Unity), Kujichagulia (Self-Determination), Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility), Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics), Nia, (Purpose), Kuumba (Creativity), Imani (Faith). The seven days of Kwanzaa are celebrated from December 26<sup>th</sup> through January 1<sup>st</sup>. Each day a candle representing a symbol is lit and one of the seven principles is discussed. Kwanzaa is a time to rejoice. It is a time for families and friends to come together and celebrate their heritage through stories, songs and lots of good food!

**Hanukkah** is the celebration of a miracle that took place more than two thousand years ago. A powerful ruler named Antiochus IV held the Jews prisoners in their own land for three years. Antiochus brought a huge army from Syria to destroy the Jewish religion and force the Jews to worship Greek gods. He took over Jerusalem and ruined the Holy Temple. The Jews were greatly outnumbered. But a great man named Judah Maccabee and his four brothers led a small, brave army against the Syrian forces. The Maccabees used their brains to fight the troops of Antiochus. They built a fake camp and hid away from it during the night. When the enemy came to attack the camp, the Jewish soldiers sneaked in from behind and defeated them. Judah Maccabee and his troupes won back the city of Jerusalem and freed the Jews, but the Temple was badly damaged. The Maccabees cleaned up the Temple and made it pure again. They had to light a special Menorah; a seven-branched oil lamp that was supposed to remain lit all the time. There was only enough oil left to burn in the Menorah for one day, but somehow it lasted for

eight days, just long enough for a new supply to be made. The Temple was Rededicated” or made holy again. Judah Maccabee declared the day a holiday. Hanukkah is the Hebrew word for “rededication.” The eight days of Hanukkah honor the eight days during which the oil burned in the holy lamp. A special eight-branched menorah (with one branch in the center for the Shamash) contains the candles. One is lit each night to celebrate. This special menorah is called a Hanukkiyah. The Hanukkah celebration is filled with music, gift giving, dreidle playing story telling, games and of course, lots of good food!

**Christmas** is a religious holiday that occurs every year on December 25<sup>th</sup> when Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, who is believed to be the Savior of the world. In preparation for Christmas, four weeks in advance, an advent wreath with five candles, 3 purple, 1 pink and 1 white is prepared. One purple candle is lit each day of the first week, two the second week, the pink candle is added the third week, four are lit during the fourth week. On Christmas day the white candle is placed in the center of the Advent Wreath and is lit to celebrate the birth of Christ. Christmas day is filled with gift giving, music, stories, family & friends, and of course, lots of good food! In anticipation of Christmas, children await the arrival of Santa Claus who leaves presents under the Christmas tree for all the good little boys and girls. But above all, Christmas is a holy day of joy, thanks and prayer.

## **Post Performance Activities...**

### ***Discussion Questions...***

1. Who are the characters in the play?
2. How did Fred Flambe try to stop all the holidays?
3. What was the name of his invention?
4. What was the name of the ice cream shop that Mr. Flambe owned?
5. Why did the Triple Scoop Café close?
6. Why doesn't the weather matter when it comes to celebrating the holidays?
7. How do you celebrate the holidays?
8. Do you get together with family and friends?
9. What kind of food does your family prepare?
10. What are some of your family's holiday traditions?

## ***Holiday Crafts and Activities!***

### ***Make a dreidle and play the Dreidle Game!***

The dreidle has played an important part in Jewish history. There have been times when Jews were not allowed to practice their religion or study the Torah. They had to do these things in secret. Students would gather to study the religion but would keep a dreidle handy so they could pretend to be playing if soldiers came by. Here's how to make a dough dreidle.

What you need:

Dough (½ cup flour, ¼ cup salt, ¼ cup water), a mixing bowl, food coloring, a cookie sheet and a marker.

What to do:

1. Mix the flour, salt and water together to make the dough. Add a few drops of food coloring. Knead the mixture well until it is smooth. If it is too dry, add more water. Be careful not to make it too soft, however, or it will not hold its shape.
2. Roll the dough into a ball. (First tear off a small piece to save for the handle.) Shape the ball into a cube by flattening the sides. Then shape the bottom to a point.
3. Make a small knob out of the extra piece of dough that you saved and attach it to the top for the handle. Use water to make it stick.
4. Put your dreidle on the cookie sheet and have an adult help you bake it in the oven at 300 degrees for 30 minutes. After it cools, use a marker to write the Hebrew letters Nun, Gimel, Hay and Shin on each of the four sides of the dreidle. Here are the Hebrew letters:

*Nun* נ      *Gimel* ג      *Hay* ה      *Shin* ש

### ***How to Play the Dreidle Game:***

You play with pennies, nuts, candies or whatever you'd like. Let's play with pennies. We divide the pennies equally among the number of players. Each player puts a penny in the "pot" in the middle.

The first player spins the dreidle. The dreidle falls on *Nun*. In the dreidle game, nun means nothing. So nothing happens. Everyone puts another penny in the pot and the first player passes the dreidle to the person on the left.

The second player spins. The dreidle falls on *shin*. Shin means "put." The second player puts in a penny. Then everyone, including the second player puts another penny in the pot and the dreidle passes to the third player.

The third player spins. The dreidle falls on *Hay*. Hay means "half." The player takes half the pennies in the pot. Then everyone puts in a penny and the dreidle passes to the fourth player.

The fourth player spins. The dreidle falls on *Gimel*. Gimel means "all." The fourth player takes the whole pot. Then everyone puts a penny in and the game goes on. The game continues until one person wins all the pennies.

### ***I Got Spirit! A Kwanzaa Game***

*I Got Spirit* is a Game of hand clapping, hip shaking and chanting. The game emphasizes the spirit of the 7 Kwanzaa principles. The players can make up their own chants to add to the spontaneity of the game. This game is for all ages and can be played with four or more. The more the merrier!

The players form a circle. One person stands in the middle and starts the rhythm by clapping. All join in. Everyone dances to the rhythm. The leader chants and the players in the circle respond. The person in the circle chooses a new "leader" by dancing in front of him or her. They exchange places and the game continues until everyone is exhausted! Here's the chant:

Leader: I got the spirit!  
 All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: I got the spirit!  
 All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: I got the spirit!  
 All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: I got the spirit!  
 All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: I got Umoja!  
 All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: I got Umoja!  
 All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: It's in my head!  
 All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: It's in my feet!  
 All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: It's in my back!  
 All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: It's in my heart!

All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: I got it!  
 All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: I got it!  
 All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: I got it!  
 All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: I got it!  
 All: Hey, Hey!  
 Leader: (Standing in front of a new leader) YOU TAKE IT!  
 All: Hey, Hey! (New leader enters the middle.)  
 Leader 2: I got the spirit!  
 All: Hey, Hey!

The hand clapping and chanting can be changed to faster or slower, louder or softer. Each new leader can change the words to the chant. Flexibility and creativity make the game fun and exciting. LET THE SPIRIT MOVE YOU!

### ***Pin the Tail on the Reindeer Game!***

Play the old favorite. "Pin the Tail on the Donkey" but use the enclosed coloring page to pin the tail on Santa's Reindeer! Cut out the appropriate number of tails for your class using the stencil, also found in the coloring pages. Have the children color or decorate their tails. Have fun!

### ***Holiday Recipes***

***Reindeer Trail Mix:*** In a large bowl mix together Chex cereal, nuts, coconut, chocolate chips, raisins, dried fruit and sunflower seeds. Enjoy!

***Tzimmes*** (Sim-iss) is a cooked dish of carrots and fruits such as pineapple or prunes. There is usually a sweet glaze that makes this dish taste better than it may sound! The carrots are cooked in oil, as are most Hanukkah foods. Tzimmes is usually served as one of the vegetable portions of the Hanukkah meal.

***Kumba Salad:*** (Red, Black and Green) Kumba means Creativity. Create your own salad by mixing together seven different vegetables and/or fruits that represent the Kwanza colors. For instance:

RED: Tomatoes, apples, strawberries, radishes, cherries, plums, red peppers, red cabbage, red onions, kidney beans.

BLACK: Olives, raisins, grapes, drained black beans, dates, prunes, black cherries, eggplant.

GREEN: Lettuce, Kiwi, honeydew melon, cucumbers, avocados, green peppers, green beans, peas, pears, green olives.

***Combine all the above holiday food and activities and have a Multi-Cultural Holiday Party!***

## ***Fun Pages!***

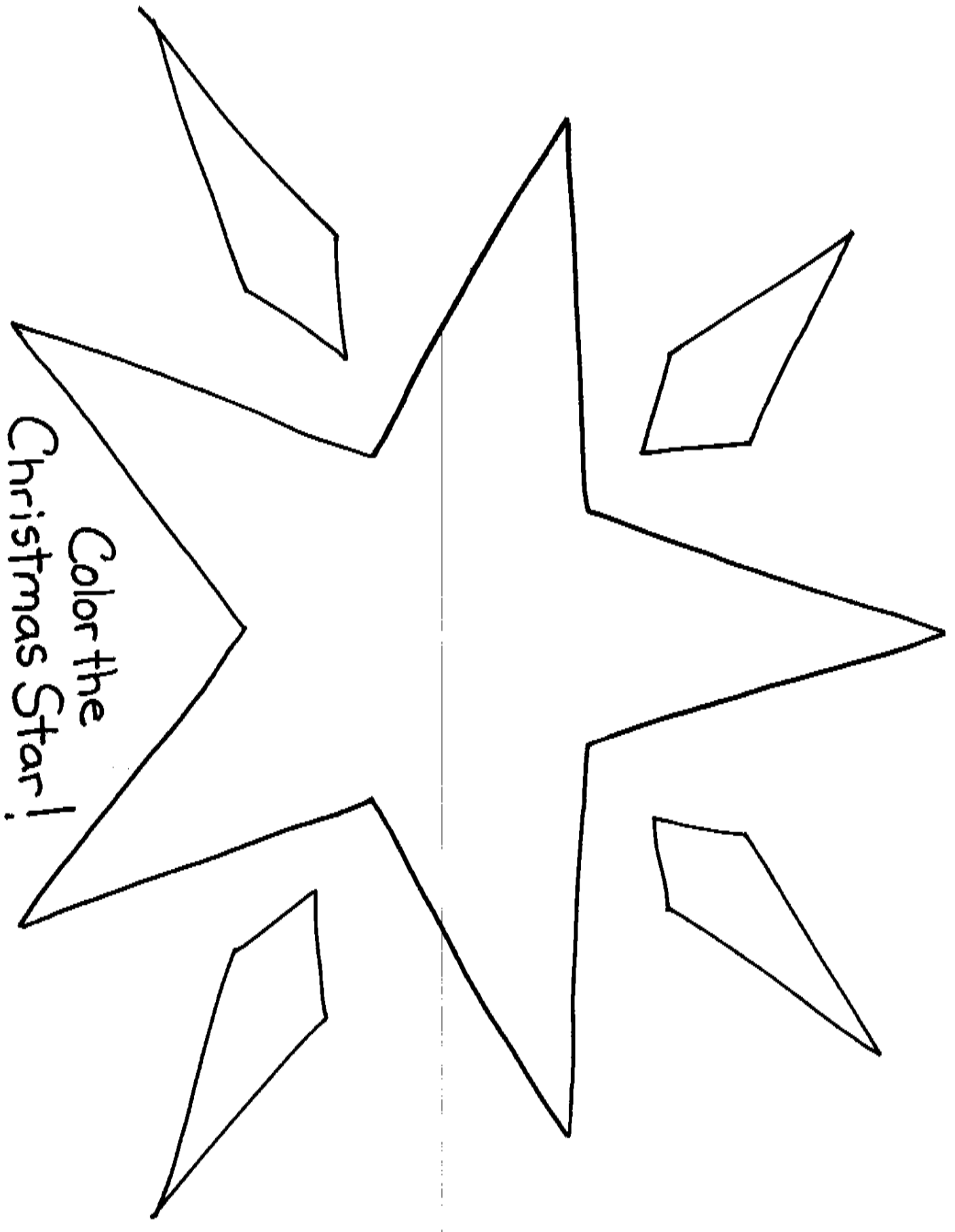
*On the following pages...*

**Color the Christmas Star!**

**Color the Hanukkah Dreidle!**

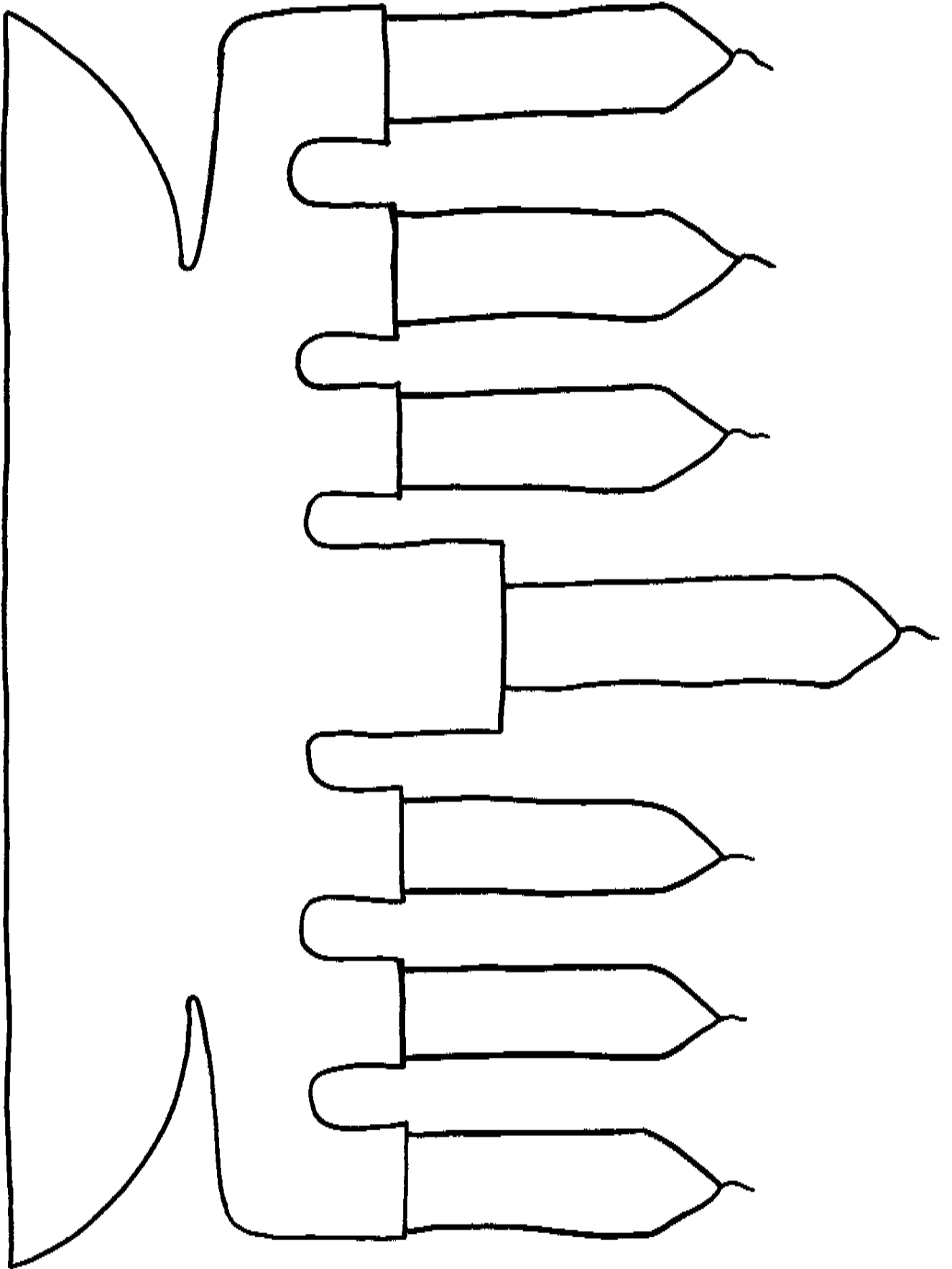
**Color the Kwanzaa Kinara!**

## ***HAPPY HOLIDAYS!***



Color the  
Christmas Star!





Color the Kwanzaa Kinara!

## Dreidel Rhyme

J. Patrick Lewis

Dreidel, dreidel, what's to eat?  
Show me something *very* sweet!

Put one candy in the middle,  
Spin the dreidel just a little—

If the dreidel comes up *shin* ש  
Put one piece of candy in.

If it's half—the letter *hey* ה—  
Take one half the pot away.

If the *gimel* ג should appear,  
You win everything, my dear!

But if *nun* נ should show its face,  
Someone else spins in your place.

Now before we spin again,  
Put another candy in.

Dreidel, dreidel, what's to eat?  
Show me something *very* sweet!

