The word Seder in Hebrew means "order." A Seder is a structured, home-based ritual that combines education, food, singing, and storytelling, all in a particular order. Designed to engage all ages, Seders are held on the first and often second night of Passover. Around the world, Seders include different items and rituals that reflect the diversity of Jewish cultures.

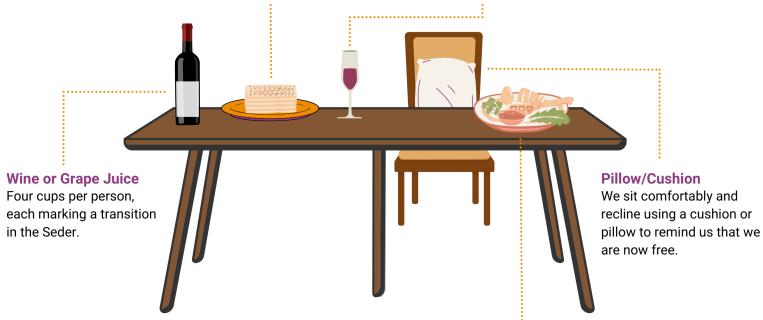
Seder Table: While every Seder is unique, here are a few classic ritual items you'll find.

# Matzah (Unleavened Bread)

Matzah represents the Israelites' unleavened bread as they fled from Egypt. We stack three pieces on a special plate; break the *afikomen*, or middle piece, in half and hide the larger piece to be found later.

# Elijah's Cup

The prophet Elijah is said to bring a time of redemption. We open the door to "welcome" this spirit of hope. Save a cup of wine or juice for Elijah!



**Seder Plate:** Each symbolic food tells a different part of the Passover story.

Consider a modern addition to your Seder plate to incorporate current issues in your discussion:

An orange, for LGBTQ+ equality • Fair trade chocolate, for labor issues • Miriam's Cup, to honor women • A banana, for refugees

#### Zaroa/Shank Bone

### **Maror/Bitter Herbs**

Many use horseradish to represent the bitterness of slavery, but fresh radish, ....... spicy peppers, or wasabi are options.

#### Karpas/Parsley

We dip parsley in salt water to remember the sting of tears from oppression.

#### Beytza/Roasted Egg

A spring symbol representing the renewal of life, it marks the birth of Israelites as a free people.

#### **Chazeret/Bitter Greens**

Romaine lettuce, endives, or chicory are used as a second symbol of bitterness.

# **Charoset/Fruit and Nut Mix**

Derived from the Hebrew word for clay, Charoset represents the mortar used by the Israelites in their enslavement.