

Overarching Goals:

- Students should be confident and proud in their recitation of the Aleph-Bet, Prayers, Jewish Holidays and Basic Hebrew phrases
- Through art projects and role play, students should have a basic understanding of the concept of Derech Eretz, Mitzvot and how to act with kindness and respect.

Challenge of the year: Be able to recite the Ma Nishtana (4 questions) on Passover- Practice at home!

Unit Goals: *By the end of first grade (with regular attendance and participation) students will be able to:*

Hebrew:

- Recognize some Hebrew consonants (letters) and their sounds, as well as the sounds of some vowels.
- Recite basic Hebrew phrases, including *Ani yeled/yaldah, Yesh Li, Todah Rabbah, Boker Tov, Mi Bakitah Hayom, Ani Po, Ani Rotzeh,* and *Ani Ohev*, and recognize basic Hebrew words like *Ema, Abba, Shabbat, Baruch, Shalom, and Lashevet.*
- Identify themselves with their Jewish name.
- Recognize the Hebrew Aleph-Bet and be able to associate vocabulary words with each letter.
- Identify numbers and colors in Hebrew.

T'filah:

- Use props and associative cues to create a fun and exciting experience with prayer
- Sing the Morning Blessings with a basic idea of meaning, melody, and choreography (focusing on specific prayers: Modeh Ani Halleluyah, and, Baruch Ata formula)

Music:

- We focus on prayers we sing in the Shabbat service; Ldor V'dor, Oseh Shalom. We sing songs that show our love for Israel: The Hope/Im Tirtzu/Am Yisrael Chai. We celebrate holidays through the joy of music. Some of the songs we sing: Etz Chaim He / Artik Menta / Ozi / Adama V'Shamayim / David Melech / Vahavienu / Ufaratzta / Yismechu

Holidays:

- Take on an active role in holiday celebrations and traditions by singing, doing art projects, and dramatizations:
 - Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur:** Recognize the symbolism of apples and honey, Shofar, and Shana Tovah cards
 - Sukkot:** The tradition of building a sukkah and its role in ancient times and now, the significance of the Lulav and Etrog, the mitzvah of reciting the blessing when one eats in the sukkah
 - Simchat Torah:** Understand the significance of the Torah celebration and Flags (degel)
 - Chanukah:** The importance of Nerot (candles) and the Shamash, the S'vivon/Dreidel game and how it symbolizes Chanukah, the letters on the Dreidel, the art of the Chanukah.
 - Tu B'Shevat:** Understand the responsibility of taking care of the great gift of Nature and Etzim (trees)
 - Purim:** Reenact the story and learn how the characters serve as role models. Identify the mitzvot and customs of Purim.
 - Passover:** Engage in Passover activities, the story, the Seder, singing the Four Questions and the importance of questions.
 - Yom Ha Atzma'ut:** Yom Yerushalayim (kotel); Israeli Flag; how old is Israel?
 - Shavuot:** The Torah, Ten Commandments, was received by the Jewish People at Mt. Sinai

Bible:

- Be able to recall and tell a few biblical stories
- Use Biblical figures to emulate positive behavior

Jewish Life:

- Strengthen and build our community, embodying the value of *K'lal Yisrael* by giving tzedakah and helping others
- Define/Identify/Observe Shabbat Rituals, Shabbat objects, Shabbat Blessings, and Shabbat as a "Day of Rest"
- Connect with the concept of one God
- Havdallah Service: Recognize the three instruments of blessing in the service (candle, wine, spices)

Jewish Values:

- Define *Kavod* as respect for one another. Practice being kind and sharing with classmates, teachers, and parents.

Israel:

- Recognize the importance and connection with Eretz Yisrael (the land of Israel)
- Know when Israel became a state (in 1948) and that the capital of Israel is Jerusalem
- Learn about one important person in relation to Israel
- Learn about the *Shivat Haminim*, the 7 species of the Land of Israel.