

Sinai Temple Religious School - Curriculum Overview

Fourth grade - Kitah Dalet פיתח ד'

2023-2024 / 5783-5784

Overarching Goals:

- To explore the connection of the Jewish People to the Land of Israel
- To demonstrate a deep commitment and love of Israel
- To understand the importance of Mitzvot in guiding our lives and to enrich the Jewish spirit of our heritage
- To enjoy and read basic Hebrew text smoothly and with accuracy

Challenge of the year: Be able to recite/sing Hatikvah - Practice at home!

Unit Goals: *By the end of 4th grade (with regular attendance and participation) students will be able to:*

Hebrew (עברית):

- Correctly name 22 Hebrew letters and produce sounds of all 22 Hebrew letters, and all 9 vowels
- Accurately identify and pronounce all letter-vowel blends, and divide syllables appropriate and smoothly, visually and orally
- Read simple words accurately and read a sentence accurately, even with some hesitation

T'filah (תפילה) /Trope:

- Learn prayers for Havdallah and Friday evening service
- Sing the Saturday Morning Musaf Service with a basic idea of the meaning, melody, and choreography (focusing on *specific prayers: Avot, Hatikvah*)
- Recognize and sing Torah trope and apply to *Shema and V'Ahavta* with Cantor.
- Learn Torah and Tallit blessings.

Music:

- We focus on the songs of Israel, new and modern, and the Friday night liturgy. The students lead Kabbalat Shabbat in an Israeli-themed service to conclude the year. Some of the songs we sing: Im Tirtzu, Yachad, One Day, Hashkiveinu and Ani V'atah

Holidays:

- Explore each holiday's connection to the Land of Israel and the Mitzvot performed on each holiday:
Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur: The book of Life, Returning to G-d and the notion of T'shuvah, Blowing of the Shofar, know holidays in order of how they occur during the year
Sukkot: Laws of building a kosher Sukkah, Mitzvot of Sukkot, harvest and pilgrimage of Jews in the desert
Simchat Torah: Why we finish reading the Torah and start reading it again, knowing the five books of Torah
Chanukah: The mitzvah/ritual of lighting the Chanukiah, historical background, the importance of being different
Tu B'Shevat: Biblical source, connection between trees and man's wisdom, the parable of *Honi Ha'meagel*, how humans are like trees
Purim: Megillat Esther, characters of Purim, the Mitzvot on Purim, the concept of topsy turvy during the month of Adar, Mishloah Manot, Purim Shpiel, Hamantashen
Passover: The Passover story, the mitzvah of giving tzedakah to the poor, the mitzvah of serving all at the Seder, Ten Plagues.
Yom Ha Atzma'ut: What does it mean to have independence? Learn about Yerushalayim
Shavuot: *Matan Torah*, the 10 Commandments, eating dairy foods and the land of milk and honey

Bible:

- Define TaNaKh as the Hebrew Bible and identify its sections as: Torah, *Nevi'im*, and *Ketuvim*
- Use the "Child Bible" book and "Bible Games" workbook to reinforce learning about Bible stories

Jewish Life:

- Strengthen and build our community, embodying the value of *K'lal Yisrael*
- Recognize the mitzvah of Kashrut as emblematic of Jewish identity and practice
- Experience the Matzah factory, as it relates to our study of Passover, the Kashrut laws and the mitzvot of eating Matzah on Passover
- Havdallah Service: Explore the ritual practices and symbolisms associated with the three Havdallah objects (candle, wine, spices)

Jewish Values:

- Define *Kavod* as respect for one another

Israel:

- Appreciate the importance of *Eretz Yisrael* (the land of Israel), *Medinat Yisrael* (the State of Israel) and the meaning of independence
- Learn about the cities in Israel