

## Sinai Temple Religious School - Curriculum Overview

7th grade - Kitah Zayin כיתה ז'

2023-2024 / 5783-5784

### Curriculum Overview: Experiential Programs, Pods, Chuggim

Class theme: Leadership

#### Enduring Understanding: What is the Big Picture?

As students become B'nai Mitzvot and are considered Jewish adults, they have the responsibility and the power to affect positive change in the world and their community.

#### Essential Questions: (Lifelong questions that students will explore throughout the year)

- What issues face the Jewish world today?
- What can be improved in my community?
- What do I have the power/influence to change?

#### Units

Students will experience two units with unique scopes taught by different teachers, which focus on a project requiring them to develop leadership skills, while incorporating Jewish values into their thoughts and actions. Students will have a leadership opportunity to teach the material to younger students, be assessed on their achievements and given incentives to succeed.

**Morah Elaine's Unit** – Students will engage directly with Holocaust Survivors, listen to their stories and document their stories (including Witness to Witness program)

**Morah Maggie's Unit** – Jewish and Israeli History. Students will study Israeli history including leadership, Zionism, geography, war (including Israellink program)

**T'filah (תפילה) Service** – Every Sunday Morning, we gather in community to do a Shacharit Morning Service as well as sing new songs and prayers.

#### Knowledge and Skills:

##### Pods – (Small group Hebrew reading and conversation)

##### Hebrew (עברית):

Students will be able to:

- Read simple and complex words accurately, and read a sentence smoothly (even with some pauses).
- Read and understand Hebrew vocabulary geared toward conversation and Israel.
- Use basic Hebrew vocabulary in conversation.

##### Judaic Studies:

- Students will gain a deeper understanding of the Jewish holidays, with a focus on how the concepts relate to us today.

##### T'filah (תפילה) /Trope

- Sing all Friday night B'nai Mitzvah prayers
- Recite the Tefillin brachot smoothly and accurately
- Recognize and sing Torah and Haftarah trope
- Practically apply Torah and Haftarah trope to texts
- Sing the blessings before and after Haftarah smoothly and accurately
- Sing the Urstein Shacharit

##### Siyum (סיום) (Culminating end of year experience)

- Students are assigned individual prayers and work with the Rabbi and Cantor to lead them during the Siyum and create an explanation of their meanings.

**Chuggim (חוגים) (Electives):** Students choose topics based on their interests to achieve deeper understandings of particular aspects of Judaism.

**Books Used:** Siddur, Tanakh, Blessings and Prayers for B'nai Mitzvah, Ulpan Alef and Ulpan Bet