

**Sinai Temple Religious School - Curriculum Overview**

**2nd Grade - Kitah Bet כיתה ב**

**2025-2026 / 5785-5786**

**Overarching Goals**

* Our goal for our students is to guide them to recognize and appreciate their Jewish identity
* By experiencing the Jewish holidays and traditions, we will create a class that is constantly filled with celebration, joy, and happiness through songs and hands-on activities
* We will practice Hebrew letters and vowels to make sounds!

**Practice at Home:** Be able to recite the Ma Nishtana (4 questions) on Passover; Dog Tag Hebrew Tests

**Unit Goals:** By the end of 2nd grade (with regular attendance and participation) students will be able to:

**Hebrew**

* Recognize most Hebrew letters and sounds of the letters and most of the vowels
* Begin to put sounds together to form words and read simple words from our vocabulary words and holidays
* Learn Hebrew words and phrases

**Tefillah**

* Sing the morning blessings with a basic idea of meaning, melody and choreography (focusing on specific prayers: Modeh Ani, Mi Chamocha, Shema, and Mah Tovu
* Recognize the Hebrew and chant the blessings for different foods, including Hamotzi and food from the trees and from the ground, using the Baruch Ata formula

**Music:** Some songs we sing are: Hatikva, Am Yisrael Chai, L'dor Vador, and Artik Menta.

**Holiday:** Students will be able to learn about:

* Rosh Hashanah / Yom Kippur: The birthday of the world, Tapuach V’dvash (apples & honey), Shofar, Shana Tova, Yom Tov, Selicha and Tashlich
* Sukkot: guests in the sukkah, Lulav, Etrog, Sukkah and Schach
* Simchat Torah: Torah and weekly Torah portion
* Chanukah: The story of Chanukah, the miracle of the oil, Chanukiah, Shamash, S’vivon – letters Nun, Gimmel, Hey, Shin
* Tu Bishvat: Importance of trees (Etz) and fruit of the trees (Pri)—Blessings, 7 species of the Tu Bishvat, Seder
* Purim: the story of Esther, Hamantaschen, groggers and Megillah Reading
* Passover: The theme of four (four cups of wine, four questions), the Haggadah, Seder plate, plagues, interactive model seder, story of Exodus
* Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel’s birthday) & Yom Yerushalayim (Kotel), Israeli flag, and a visit to the STARS Israeli Shuk.
* Shavuot (when school is in session): Mt Sinai, Bikkurim (first fruits), The Torah, Ten Commandments, was received by the Jewish People at Mt Sinai

**Bible**

* Appreciate our ancestors’ lives and accomplishments through studying their stories in the Torah
* Identify the weekly Torah portion (Parashat hashavua), discuss characters and lessons from Genesis (Bereshit)

**Jewish Life & Values:**

* Strengthen and build our community, embodying the value of K’lal Yisrael (the Jewish collective of Israel) & Kehila Kedosha (Holy Community)
* Identify the purpose of the synagogue (Beit Knesset) as a place for prayer, learning, and community
* Havdalah Service: Recognize the three instruments of blessing in the service (candle, wine, spices)
* Bring Tzedakah (charity) each week and learn the importance of giving and sharing.
* Each month, learn about and ‘live’ a Jewish value.
* Learn about and ‘live’ the B.E.N. Initiative (Bullying Ends Now)
* Define Kavod as respect for one another
* Chaver bracelets (*Chesed* - Kindness, *Bracha* - Blessing, *Rachamim* - Compassion) -- Be a good Chaver! (friend)

**Israel**

* Appreciate and recognize the importance of and our connection with Eretz Yisrael (the land of Israel)
* Get to know Israel as the Jewish homeland
* Know that 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 and create an Israeli Shuk (open-air market).
* Learn about Israel through our Shinshinit (an Israeli volunteer who will join Sinai Temple for the year)

**Textbooks:** Journeys Through the Aleph Bet & Aleph-Bet Champ