

**Sinai Temple Religious School - Curriculum Overview**

**5th Grade - Kitah Hay כיתה ה**

**2025-2026 / 5785-5786**

**Theme of the Year: Seeking Holiness**

**Enduring Understanding:**

 Judaism gives us the tools to seek, experience and create holiness in our everyday lives. Specifically, the Torah gives us the holiness

code in Leviticus, Chapter 19: קדושים תהיו "The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to the whole Israelite community and say to

them: You shall be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy."

**Essential Questions:** (Lifelong questions that students will explore throughout the year) What is holiness as expressed in Leviticus 19? To me? To my family? To my friends? How does Judaism give me the means to seek and experience holiness in everyday life?

**Knowledge and Skills:**

* Articulate a definition of holiness for contemporary times.
* Identify and practice the behaviors listed in Leviticus 19 / the Holiness Code
* Know and recognize the roots of Hebrew words (קדש ,ברך ,עלה) in key words in Jewish vocabulary
* Seek and experience holiness through the five senses
* Identify and explain the holiness found in themselves and others, in time, in space (land / Israel)
* Apply the principles of holiness to the aspiration of building a holy community
* Explore and reflect on holiness in nature, holidays, family, Hebrew and moments

**Tefillah (תפילה):**

* Every Sunday Morning, we gather in community to do a Shacharit Morning Service as well as sing new songs and prayers

**Hebrew, Torah Experience, B’nai Mitzvah Practice, & Israel:**

Through the Hineni curriculum, students will practice Hebrew reading skills using prayers, with regular attendance & participation,

students will be able to:

* Chant & understand: choreography, key vocabulary, grammar and major themes of the Amidah.
* Accurately identify and pronounce all letter-vowel blends, and divide syllables appropriately, smoothly, visually and orally.
* Read simple and complex words smoothly and accurately, as well as read a sentence accurately (even with some pauses).
* Learn about events in the Torah and our ancestors, and applying them to the Halakhot (Jewish Laws) we teach
* Choose an organization to give Tzedakah (charity) to.
* Each month, learn about and ‘live’ a Jewish value.
* Learn about and ‘live’ the B.E.N. Initiative (Bullying Ends Now)
* Chaver bracelets (*Chesed* - Kindness, *Bracha* - Blessing, *Rachamim* - Compassion) -- Be a good Chaver! (friend)
* Learn about Israel w/ our Shinshinit (an Israeli volunteer who will join Sinai Temple)
* Visit to the STARS Israeli Shuk

**Trope:** Students will be able to:

* Recognize, understand and take part in the main prayers in a Shacharit service.
* Lead / sing the following prayers with the basic idea of the meaning, melody and choreography: Friday night Kiddush, Mizmor L'David, Lecha Dodi, Aleinu and V'shamru.
* Recognize and sing all basic Torah trope phrases, with trope names and words.

**Chuggim (חוגים) Electives (Once a month):** Students choose topics based on their interests to achieve deeper understandings of particular aspects of Judaism. **Family Project:** Students and parents participate in “My Family Story,” a personal family history research project. **Books Used:** Hineni: The New Hebrew Through Prayer, #2, Aleph-Bet Champ (Purple Aleph) **Practice at Home:** Hatikva and Kiddish; and for Dog Tag Hebrew Tests