

**Sinai Temple Religious School - Curriculum Overview**

**6th Grade - Kitah Vav כיתה ו**

**2025-2026 / 5785-5786**

**Theme of the Year: Tefillah (Prayer)**

**Enduring Understanding:** Personal connections with traditional prayers and blessings enable us the opportunity to embrace the Jewish community, G-d, nature, our tradition, and history.

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

* Why do we pray?
* Why are traditional prayers important in Jewish life?
* How can I make a personal connection to a prayer that I do not completely understand or relate to?

**Knowledge and Skills:** Students will be able to:

* Identify three reasons why prayer can be an important part of Jewish life
* Explain the order of the daily prayer service and the main theme of the following prayers: Barchu, Yotzer Or, Shema, V'ahavta, Mi Chamocha, Brachot, Amidah, Aleinu, Prayer for the State of Israel, Birkat Hamazon, Prayers of the Haggadah and Kaddish.
* Differentiate between prayers’ different purposes (i.e. to give thanks, request, etc.)
* Express their personal connection with prayers by creating a class Siddur

**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, and Israel:**

Through the Hineni curriculum, students will practice Hebrew reading with prayers, and with regular attendance & participation, students will be able to:

* Chant & understand: key vocabulary, grammar and major themes of Barchu, Yotzer Or, Shema, V'ahavta, Mi Chamocha, Brachot, Aleinu, Avot v’Imahot, Gevurot and Kedusha.
* Accurately identify and pronounce all letter-vowel blends, and divide syllables appropriately, smoothly, visually and orally.
* Read Hebrew words smoothly and accurately and read a sentence accurately (with some pauses).
* 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)
* Learn about Israel w/ our Shinshinit (Israeli volunteer who will join Sinai Temple for the year)
* Visit to the STARS Israeli Shuk
* Chaver bracelets (*Chesed* - Kindness, *Bracha* - Blessing, *Rachamim* - Compassion) -- Be a good Chaver! (friend)

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

* Sing all Friday night B'nai Mitzvah prayers
* Recognize Haftarah trope and sing the blessings before and after Haftarah smoothly and accurately.

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

**Project:** Students and parents attend a mandatory Beit Midrash program and Tefillin Workshop. Students are required to do a Mitzvah Project prior to their Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

**Books Used:** Hineni: the New Hebrew Through Prayer, #1

**Practice at Home:** Hatikva and Kiddish; and for Dog Tag Hebrew Tests