

PRE-K CURRICULUM

Jewish Holidays

Students will learn what the Jewish Holidays are about by listening to stories, examining symbols, cooking food connected to the holidays, art, play and many more modalities.

- Fall Holidays: Rosh Hashana/Yom Kippur, Sukkot & Simchat Torah
- Shabbat, Hanukkah & TuB'Shevat
- Spring Holidays: Purim, Passover, Yom Ha'atzmaut & Shavuot

Hebrew Readiness

Students will be introduced to the Hebrew language. They will be exposed to the letters of the Hebrew Aleph-Bet, their shapes and sounds. They will also connect the Hebrew language to Jewish holidays, Jewish music, and T'filah.

Pre-Kindergartners will participate in Hebrew Through Movement (HTM). HTM focuses on foundational Hebrew vocabulary through a language acquisition strategy in which students learn Hebrew by hearing and responding to Hebrew commands.

Prayer and Blessings

Students will practice the blessings over challah and wine (juice) when they have snack. They will begin participating in age appropriate, weekly T'filah services led by the clergy and song leader.

Jewish Values

Students will learn that behaving with consideration and respect towards others is an important Jewish value and it helps them become menschs (good people). They will learn ways to help the environment, by learning that every creature has a purpose and we need to help care for them. Children will learn that they are capable of caring for the world they live in.

Torah

Students will meet our Avot and Imaot, fathers and mothers from the Torah stories. The stories will be read, told and/or told via a puppet show, and reinforced through art projects, and games. Children will begin to feel a connection to the stories from the Torah by getting to know the stories of these individuals, told in a language that they will understand.

Torah and the First Family

1

“Bein adam l’atzmo” - Self

Question:

- Who are the first people I met in the Torah stories?
- How do I get to know the first people from the Torah stories?

Action:

- Reading stories about the characters we meet in the Torah stories.
- Creating individual art projects that review the content of the stories.

2

“Bein adam l’chavero” - Community

Question:

- When does the Temple community learn stories from the Torah?
- Where do the students hear the names of the characters from the Torah?

Action:

- Listen to stories from the Torah during services and in sermons from the clergy.
- Enjoy holiday celebrations as a community and learn about the origins of the holidays.
- Beginning to pray with the school community during t’fillah.

3

“Bein adam l’Makom” - God

Question:

- What do we learn about God as we learn Torah stories?

Action:

- Understanding that saying prayers and blessings is a way of speaking to God.
- Recognizing new feelings while participating in t’fillah.
- Learning the stories of the first family of the Torah and how God was involved.