



Beth Israel
Congregation

Beth Israel Religious School

2018-2019

Kittah Dalet(4)/Hei(5)

Curriculum Overview
Kitah Dalet/Hei (4th/5th Grade)
2018-2019

JUDAICS: This year's curriculum will focus on—

Jewish Lifecycle events
Chumash/Creation to Exodus

Goals: Students will:

Identify Jewish lifecycle events and demonstrate comprehension of key concepts
Relate the lifecycle events content to their own lives and experiences
Study the Bible from Creation through Exodus from Egypt

Resources: *Explorer's Bible Vol 1; Etz Chayim Chumash; The Circle of Jewish Life*

Chumash

Students will study the text in *Etz Chayim* book to become familiar with that text, and also use the *Explorer's Bible* for additional context. Students will use the PARDESS study system to discuss how they interpret the Torah text, identify core Hebrew words or phrases in a text, and make connections between the stories and their lives/Jewish values.

First Semester will cover Creation through Chapter 9 in *Explorer's Bible* (Rebecca). Second semester will cover Chapter 10-Exodus.

Jewish Lifecycle:

FIRST SEMESTER: Bris/Simchat Bat and Bar/bat Mitzvah

Students will understand that Jews approach lifecycle events with themes, rituals and traditions that are unique to Jews, even though the event is common for all religions/people. Bris/Simchat Bat will address how a Jewish name can be different from an English one, and why the student has their Hebrew name.

Will discuss the concept of a bris/Simchat Bat as marking the parents' intention to commit their child to the Jewish people. What does that mean? What kinds of covenants/promises do parents make for us, and what promises do we make to fellow Jews?

Bar/Bat Mitzvah: Many people have coming-of-age ceremonies at different times of their life. Why do Jews do it now? What is included in becoming a bar/bat mitzvah? Teenagers are now responsible for the mitzvot, fasting on holidays, and being included in a minyan. What does that mean? How is it different for kids who aren't yet a bar/bat mitzvah?

Review concept of mitzvah as a commandment. Teach about tallit, t'fillin, Torah scroll. Field trip upstairs, possibly while Ron is meeting with a practicing bar/bat mitzvah student.

Make your own tzitzit?

<https://jwa.org/teach/golearn/mar09/youth> (origin of bat mitzvah)

SECOND SEMESTER: Wedding/starting a Jewish home. Burial and remembrance.

Students will understand that Jews approach lifecycle events with themes, rituals and traditions that are unique to Jews, even though the event is common for all religions/people.

Wedding/How to Make a Jewish Home: Review elements of a Jewish wedding (ketubah, breaking a glass, dancing and being happy with the married couple).

What things should a new couple discuss in starting a Jewish home? (Kashrut, holidays, mezuzah, how to celebrate Shabbat and holidays, what foods, books, music, art, etc could they have to make it feel more Jewish.) Have groups make their own Jewish homes.

Kashrut mini-unit (as part of making a Jewish home) – approximately 4 lessons (Melton Kashrut unit can be used as a base for lessons) One lesson should be in the BIC kitchen. Another can be a take home Kashrut symbols scavenger hunt.

End of Life/Burial: Students will understand that people will die; emphasize that Judaism believes strongly in remembering people after they are gone and honoring their *Yad Va'Shem*/legacy.

Are you named for a loved one? What memories are passed to you of ancestors who have died? Share stories, create a remembering project.

HEBREW: This year's curriculum will focus on—

Mastering decoding Hebrew reading

Practice using the BIRS 50 Word Challenge to help learn Tfillot (Carol will do this)

Learning t'fillot recitation (aural and oral, not decoded)

Goals: Students will:

Be able to comfortably/slowly decode Hebrew

Be able to identify and comprehend the meaning of 40-50 of the Word Challenge words correctly

Students will be able to recite/sing Barchu, Amidah/Kedusha, Aleinu, Ein Keloheyenu and Adon Olam

Resources:

Decoding book (*B'esser Dakot*)

Pirkei Tfillah Booklets

BIRS Fifty Words sheet

Hebrew reading/decoding (B'esor Dakot text)

By end of year, all students will be familiar with BIRS 50 sight words. Students will be comfortable decoders.

Tefillot:

Aleinu

Birkat Hamazon

Avot V'Imahot

Lecha Dodi (chorus)

V'shamru

Friday night kiddush

Students will review:

Netilat Yada'im

Havdallah

Shema and V'ahavta

Ein Keloheinu

Adon Olam

Barchu

Mi Chamocho

Etz Chayim Hi

Shalom Aleichem