

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Kitah Zayin (7th)

2018-2019

JUDAICS: This year will focus on—

Understanding the historical and moral context of Nevi'im (Books of Prophets)

How to be a Jewish Rebel—Jews relationship with God and Community (Second semester)

Goals: Students will be able to—

Identify Jewish prophets' mission/context and how they relate to contemporary issues

(Kids recognize that prophets are an idealized vision, not rooted in reality, but that we SHOULD have aspirations for being better.)

Prepare for their bar/bat mitzvah by studying the stories and contexts of Nevi'im

(Second semester) Identify famous Jewish rebellions, both against God and Community, and why they were approved or disapproved by God/Community (i.e. Korach, Daughters of Tzafchad, Talmudic debates, Baruch Spinoza, Warsaw Ghetto, Civil Rights movement, etc)

Resources: *Etz Hayim, The Prophets: Speaking Out for Justice, Prophets: Instant Lessons.*

HEBREW: This year's curriculum will focus on—

Mastery of Torah Service, blessings before/after Torah, blessings before/after Haftarah, mastery of Musaf service.

Advanced Hebrew will join with other middle schoolers to study Hebrew song lyrics, videos, and learn modern Hebrew culture.

PROPHETS TO COVER:

Moses: What is a prophet (i.e. talks to God, teaches the people, moral leader)

Joshua: Two tellings of the same story (i.e. What is the author/text trying to tell us, there were clearly non-Jewish populations in what is now Israel that Jews have always interacted with)

David/Samuel: Role of prophet (advisor, moral authority) vs political establishment/leadership

Isaiah: Kadosh Kadosh Kadosh. Multiple authors, idealized world, peace, utopia, holiness.

Jeremiah: Have kids write a jeremiad. Experience of being exiled and why that endures in Jewish prayers, concepts of where we want to be.

Elijah (last lessons, right before Passover): example of multiplicity of reactions that prophets had to impossible tasks. (Also Jonah). Elijah is ascribed miracles, we talk about him during Havdallah and Pesach, lots of Chassidic stories

(**Amos** for universality of tikum olam message)

Tfillah:

Students will learn--

Torah blessings

Haftarah blessings

Mourners Kaddish

Torah Service