

Daled Class Syllabus
Rabbi Ruth Smith, Teacher

Text: Jewish Heroes, Jewish Value

<https://store.behrmanhouse.com/index.php/catalogsearch/result/?q=Jewish+hero>

1. Sept. 13 Who am I/ What Is the Jewish foundational story

Understanding the Jewish story by embracing Passover as the foundation of Jewish identity: what that means for core values of Jewish life

2. Oct. 4 Exile: comparing to COVID

Exploration of the first Diaspora and how that relates to the student's experience. We will use their recent experience with the fundamental changes that occurred on their everyday life to express how fundamental the change for the Jewish people was to go from one living in the land of Israel to living outside of the land as a community for the first time.

3. Oct. 18 Purim story in historical context

Exploration of the concepts of myth and history. How does Purim help understand the historical aspects of the life of the Jews in Babylon? How does this story show the use of story as a tool to address oppression?

4. Nov. 8 Hanukkah in historical context

Continuing on the theme of history and myth, we will explore the holiday Hanukkah from a historical perspective. The 7 yr. War that freed the Jews of the Greeks will be compared to the Revolutionary war in America

5. Nov. 22 Romans in historical context

As we continue to look at Judaism's contact with the major ancient empires, we will explore the Roman occupation and the impact that still has on Jewish life. We will begin the study of Jewish values through a Jewish historical figure. We will also discuss the development of Christianity and its relationship to Judaism.

6. Dec. 6 Beginning of Rabbinic Judaism/ Hanukkah

We will continue to explore the Roman period, and how that has impacted the development of the celebration of Hanukkah. Now that we have a full historical perspective on Hanukkah, we will examine how Hanukkah has been celebrated by the student's family, what values they want to express in their celebration of the holiday, and how they would like to celebrate it in the future.

7. Dec. 20 Jews of Spain

An exploration of the beginning of the Sephardic tradition in Judaism as well as an exploration of the relationship between the Spanish expulsion and Columbus' voyage to the Americas. This lesson will explore the relationship between Judaism and both Christianity and Islam

8. Jan 10 MLK Ari/Abraham Joshua Heschel healing the world

We will continue to explore the Value of Tikun Olam: Healing the World. As we prepare for MLK day, we will look at a specific person who addressed issues of racial inequality in the 1960's.

9. Jan. 24 Fiddler on the Roof: as documenting Jews in the Shtetl

Through clips from Fiddler on the Roof, we will examine life in the Pale of Russia and see how that culture is reflected in our own Jewish culture as well as recognize that it is only one expression of Jewish life

10. Feb. 10 Fiddler on the Roof as documenting the end of the Shtetl and the move to America and other parts of the world

Through clips from the Fiddler on the Roof, we will explore the exile that is the most significant to our identities as American Jews and be familiar with the factors that led people to choose to leave their homes and go to other parts of the world

Feb. 21 Parents tell how their families came to America/ PrePurim

11. We will invite Parents of the students (both Jewish and parents who do not identify as Jewish) to tell the story of where their family came and why to the United States.

12. March 7 Albert Einstein and Tzedakah

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FO5zvicUrP4> did he believe in God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KyjQJBDD5V4> (biography)

Using the text book, we will explore Albert Einstein's life and thought. It will connect to the value of Tzedakah

13. March 21 Passover : Jewish ritual in context

We will come back to the story of Passover, the foundational story of the Jewish people and look more closely at how it is celebrated and why. We will incorporate the students' family rituals as well as explore what this ritual is and how it expresses Jewish values. Students will look what values they want to express through their seders.

14. April 11 Jewish organizing of workers- Tikkun Olam

We will look at the Lower East Side and the role of labor organizing, through the Shirt Wasit fire and how that shows a commitment to Tikun Olam (repair of the world).

15. April 18 Golda Meir and Tzionut

Using the text book, we will examine the story of Golda Meir, a young woman from Milwaukee, and her impact on the new state of Israel as well as exploring the value of Zionism.

16. May 2 Remembrance and Steven Spielberg/Saving a life and Yonatan Netanyahu

Using the textbook, we will look at two different people and two different values.

17. May 16 Justice and rbg

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VabScgirlPw/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ScRpcNcR0SY>

Using the textbook, we will look at RBG's life and examine the value of Tzekek'

18. May 23 closing day: review program/ Graduation for 6th graders