



Hebrew: The Language of the Jewish People: Curriculum Goals, Expectations and Details

Why we teach Hebrew at Temple Beth-El

Language is a key component of cultural identity and Hebrew is the language of the Jewish People. Familiarity with Hebrew and mastery of key language skills enable us to identify with Jews everywhere and feel more comfortable participating in Jewish life experiences.

Goals of Temple Beth-El's Hebrew Language Program:

- * To spark an interest in Hebrew as a living language that connects Jews around the world, wherever they may live, including St. Petersburg, Florida
- * To introduce the Hebrew language as a valuable tool in exploring the wisdom and insights of Jewish tradition.
- * To enable our seekers to learn the Hebrew language as a useful component as part of their participation in Jewish rituals and learning.
- * To provide our students with a learning atmosphere that allows each to realize her or his Hebrew potential within the structure of the curriculum.
- * To support the eventual fluency of Hebrew reading, to maximize the feeling of comfort as a knowledgeable Jew.

What do we expect of those who have completed the TBE Hebrew program?

- * To have mastered some simple modern Hebrew vocabulary and phrases, resulting in a joyful enthusiasm for the language of the Jewish People
- * To recognize and know the names and sounds of the entire Hebrew alphabet, including both the letters and vowels
- * To be able to read a previously unseen line of Hebrew text
- * To be familiar and show competency with fundamental Hebrew prayers, blessings

and songs from the Jewish ritual life (home or personal rituals, communal prayer services, holiday observances and songs)

* To recognize and understand the meaning of some common Hebrew words found in prayers, blessings and scripture

What do we expect from the Hebrew faculty at Temple Beth-El?

* To understand the goals assigned to each Hebrew homeroom level

* To provide a creative, interactive, relational and safe atmosphere for students

* Utilize the age and level-appropriate resources for

their seekers, with support from the Director of Education, that focus on the appropriate letters, words, prayers and introductory modern Hebrew, including, but not limited to:

❖ Hebrew curriculum guides

❖ Books

❖ Games

❖ web-based learning tools

❖ smart phone apps

❖ creative arts

❖ interactions with native Hebrew speakers

* To be able to monitor and assess each seeker's progress towards these goals throughout the year, alerting the Director of Education of any language learning concerns that may emerge

* To use varying methodologies to meet the diverse needs of individual learners.

GRADE LEVEL GOALS AND RESOURCES

K-1

Goal: Seekers will establish a level of comfort with Hebrew as a language that is spoken, sung, used for special blessings or prayers, and primarily a vehicle for joy and fun. Goal: 80% mastery of the Alef-Bet.

Modern Hebrew: Basic colors, body parts, contemporary children's songs.

Synagogue Engagement: Class will lead a Shabbat during the school year

2nd-3rd

Goal: To be able to name all 22 letters and all of vowels and know their sounds,, be able to begin to blend basic syllables/sounds to have a solid foundation (letters and

vowels) for reading

Modern Hebrew: Parts of the Body, familiar people and objects words and simple Greetings

Synagogue Engagement: Class will lead a Shabbat during the school year

4th and 5th

Goal: To master the reading of the listed prayers for each level and understand what they are about, gaining knowledge of key vocabulary as well.

Modern Hebrew: Fun Hebrew: foods, drinks, directions, and maybe tech connections to Israel setting up a partnership with Israelis on Hebrew/English slang and basic Conversations.

Hebrew through Movement – (3rd)* (see below)

Ulpan Alef – (4th)

- ❖ Shalom
- ❖ Food
- ❖ Clothing
- ❖ Where? (places in the neighborhood)
- ❖ The Family at Home
- ❖ At School
- ❖ What Time Is It?
- ❖ In the Park (sports and nature)
- ❖ Other features include: "Hu/Hi" ("He/She") and popular Hebrew expressions.

Synagogue Engagement: Class will lead a Shabbat during the school year

Music: Incorporate Hebrew in Harmony supplemental curriculum to teach songs and blessings

6th and 7th

Goal: Full Mastery of all of Prayers on list (including new ones for Levels 5 and 6)

*Practice reading texts from Torah Scrolls, Haftarah

*For students who have mastered prayer and text reading skills, we will explore the teaching of **Trope (Cantillation)**

Modern Hebrew: Modern Everyday Language (6th) and Simple fun dialogues and conversation (7th) -- vocabulary expansion through available modern Hebrew resources, tech connections to Israel, etc.

Ulpan Alef – (6th)

- ❖ Colors
 - ❖ The Party
 - ❖ The Seasons
 - ❖ Occupations
 - ❖ Birthday
 - ❖ Countries and Languages
 - ❖ The Body
 - ❖ Israel
- Popular Hebrew Expressions*, which includes popular and practical Hebrew expressions, including: *Kol hakavod* ("Way to go!") and *Yesh!* ("Cool!")

Synagogue Engagement: Class will lead a Shabbat during the school year

Music: Incorporate Hebrew in Harmony supplemental curriculum to teach songs and blessings

Mastery Term List

4th Grade

1. Shabbat
Brachot
2. Shema &
V'ahavta (1st part)

5th Grade

1. Shema (rev)
2. V'ahavta (whole)
3. Avot v'Imahot

6th Grade

1. Amidah (beg)
2. Avot v'Imahot
(review)
3. G'vurot
4. Chatzi Kaddish

7th Grade

1. Birkhot ha-Torah
2. Torah Service

Additional to consider

Mi Khamokha

Barekhu (rev)

K'dushah

Haftarah Blessings

(3 lines)

Ma'ariv Aravim

Asher Yatzar

Birkhot ha-Shahar

& Yotzeir Or

& Elohai N'shamah

Birkat Hoda'ah

Oseh Shalom

Mi Khamokha

Birkhot ha-Shahar

Aleinu

Havdalah

Hashkiveinu

Mah Tovu

Kaddish

She-He'hyanu

Shalom Rav & Sim Shalom

Food Brachot

L'kha Dodi

Psalm 150

Birkat Hamazon

A note to parents: Ensuring that your seeker participates on all or most Sunday School program days is the best way to partner in the creation of a strong and vibrant Jewish future. Thanks in advance for all that you do.

On Remedial and Enrichment Tutoring:

* All enrolled seekers will have access to weekly one-on-one tutoring, in addition to in-class Hebrew Homeroom, regardless of their level of proficiency and fluency, as part of your investment

* These lessons will be either in-person at TBE or remote via our online Moodle platform

* Each weekly tutoring session are thirty (30) minutes. Please contact our Director of Education if you wish to schedule additional sessions.

* Once Tutoring appointments are made, we ask that families respect the time and commitment of our tutors by being ready and available at the scheduled time and/or place.