

Bet Sefer Tutoring at Shaarei Shamayim

We currently use the following books:

- *Ot La-Ba'ot* – Hebrew primer (Torah Aura)
- *Sfatai Tiftach* vol. 1 (Torah Aura)
- *Sfatai Tiftach* vol. 2 (Torah Aura)
- *Sfatai Tiftach* vol. 3 (Torah Aura)

Every third grader begins with *Ot La-Ba'ot*. This teaches all of the Hebrew letters and vowels and how to form syllables and words. Our objective is for them to finish it over the third grade year.

Once the student finishes the primer, he or she begins the prayer book series. These books are numbered vol. 1, 2, and 3 but they can be used independently, so some students begin in vol. 1 while others begin in vol. 2 or 3. They also use the workbook for homework.

These books are designed to work with students as individual learners. They emphasize different components of learning Hebrew – letter recognition, reading fluency, grammar, and the meaning of the prayers.

Our objective for these books is that students will finish one per year. Therefore, by the end of sixth grade, students will have completed the primer and volumes 1, 2, and 3.

For students who are able to complete the primer by the end of third grade, they have some options. They can work on learning how to write Hebrew script with their tutor, and they can learn some conversational modern Hebrew. These are options that the tutors, parents, and students decide together. One book that is sometimes used to introduce students to modern Hebrew, as well as to practice reading, is *Yesh Lanu Llama*.

We ask that students do about 40 minutes of homework a week to help the students retain what they are learning. Please discuss your expectations concerning homework with your child's tutor.

In our tutoring program students enter at different ages and have varying levels of knowledge and ability. We modify the program accordingly and work with each student as an individual. Please discuss any concerns with your child's tutor or with Rabbi Laurie.