



## Talmud Torah Kindergarten (Gan) Curriculum Guide

### Hebrew & Tefillah

- In *Gan* (Kindergarten), students focus on learning foundational Hebrew vocabulary and prayers. Each student will be participating in *tefillah* (prayer) through weekly services where they will also learn select Shabbat morning prayers. Trained facilitators lead our weekly sessions of *Hebrew Through Movement* (HtM), and our students learn and practice modern Hebrew through HtM's aural and kinesthetic methods. In addition, the learning of key Hebrew words connected to *tefillah* and daily activities at Talmud Torah are integrated into the lessons and conversations.

### Hebrew & Tefillah Goals and Objectives

Each student will learn:

- Foundational modern Hebrew vocabulary. For example: *l'amod* – to stand, *l'shevet* – to sit, *likfotz* – to jump, *kiseh* – chair, *kador* – ball,
- Other key vocabulary used daily at Talmud Torah in prayer and in conversation. For example: *baruch* (blessed), *siddur* (prayer book), *shabbat* (sabbath), *bracha* (blessing), *mazal tov* (congratulations),
- Shabbat morning prayers and melodies through taking part in an age-appropriate weekly service led by our music teacher and clergy,
- Recitation of key Hebrew prayers, Shabbat blessings, blessings over bread (*hamotzi*), and more!

### Prayer List for Gan

Students will be able to sing each prayer and understand its meaning.

- *Modeh Ani*
- *Mah Tov*
- *Shema and Baruch Shem*

### Judaic Studies

Our Judaics curriculum, the Beverly Goldstick Curriculum for 21st Century Jewish Learning, is based on the principles of knowledge, flexibility, diversity, and community. It is a robust curriculum that is carefully designed to enable students to actively engage in their learning and increase their knowledge each year by building upon the understandings they gained in prior years.

Students will:

- Learn about the *Jewish Calendar* with a focus on the symbols and foods of each Jewish holiday.
- Explore *Sacred Text* by learning the stories of Creation, Adam and Eve, Noah, and the Tower of Babel.
- Discuss *Mitzvot and Values* and engage in ways to be a *mensch* (good person).
- Engage in *Contemporary Jewish Life* by learning about our synagogue, clergy, and the Sefer Torah.
- Learn about the modern land of *Israel* by experiencing Israeli food, symbols, and traditions.
- Develop a rich, personal relationship with *Prayer, God, and Spirituality* through learning and discussion.