



Grade 3 Curriculum

עץ חיים היא למחזיקים בה

Eitz Chaim Hi L'mahazikim Bah

It is a Tree of Life to Those Who Hold it Fast

The Community Synagogue's curriculum uses a value-based approach to Jewish education. In addition to the components of teaching Jewish festivals and Hebrew, Jewish studies are organized in order to enable our students to embrace seven key values that we see as central to Judaism. These key values are:

- קדשה - *Kedushah* - Holiness
- תלמוד תורה - *Talmud Torah* - Importance of Study
- קהילה - *Kehillah* - Community
- משפחה - *Mispacha* - Family
- תקון עולם - *Tikkun Olam* - Repairing our World
- אהבת עולם - *Ahavat Olam* - Love of Israel
- כלל ישראל - *Klal Yisrael* - Unity of the Jewish People
- עברית - *Ivrit* - Hebrew Language & Prayer

In third grade a new dimension is added to Torah study as students identify with the Jewish people as the People of the Book, bound by a common history, ideals and future. The familial link that we all have with our first ancestors will be emphasized through an exploration of the stories from Genesis and Exodus. Celebration and learning about holidays continue with stories and growing expertise in ritual. Hebrew studies in third grade will focus on our Hebrew Through Movement program which introduces Hebrew language in a playful and meaningful way, creating a positive link between our students and the Hebrew language.

Key Goals of the Third Grade Curriculum:

- ✧ To develop in students a foundation in the Hebrew language and knowledge of a core of vocabulary of Hebrew words.
- ✧ To familiarize students with key and meaningful Hebrew words, also known as Jewish Life Vocabulary.
- ✧ To study the stories of the Torah, their timeless moral and spiritual truths and apply them to the personal concerns of our lives today.
- ✧ To expand the students' understanding of each Jewish holiday and explore more deeply the rituals, liturgy and observance of our celebrations.