



Grade 5 Curriculum

תלמוד תורה – *Talmud Torah* - The Study of Torah

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:

- קדושה - *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 fifth grade students expand their understanding of Torah and Jewish text. Students will delve into Torah study, as they use various inquiry techniques to find personal meaning in the Torah. We use a Torah/STEM curriculum to engage the students in interactive and exciting ways. Students will add the oral tradition to their understanding of Jewish text study, as they investigate how Torah and *midrash* have been transmitted from generation to generation. Through the study of Torah, students will also learn about history, values, and holidays. The study of the Hebrew language and prayer continues as student's fluency of reading and familiarity with key words is strengthened. Students' will continue to develop their Hebrew vocabulary and language ability, as they work on everyday conversational skills. In addition, prayer skills and comfort will be gained through our *tefillah* program.

Key Goals of the Fifth Grade Curriculum:

- ✧ To increase the students' Hebrew reading fluency and comfort level with the Hebrew language and with the prayer service.
- ✧ For students to continue to build their Hebrew vocabulary and learn basic conversational skills.
- ✧ To teach students about the structure of Torah, including an understanding of the TaNaKh.
- ✧ To expand the students' understanding of and connection to the Torah through an in-depth inquiry into weekly portions, their meaning, values taught and relation to Jewish history.
- ✧ To continue to develop students' understanding of the Jewish holidays by studying the textual basis for each holiday.