



Grade 6 Curriculum

שורשים – *Shorashim* - Roots

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
- תורה תלמוד - *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

Sixth grade students will spend the year exploring the question, "What does it mean to be a Jew, and what are my obligations?" Students will spend some time studying Reform Judaism and gain an understanding of what we, as Reform Jews, believe. Students will also look at ethical puzzles and real life situations and learn how Judaism responds to such situations. Students will explore the place of Israel in the life of the Jewish people. A portion of the sixth grade curriculum will also focus upon our obligation to remember, as the students learn about the Holocaust. The study of the Hebrew language and prayer continues and intensifies in this grade. Students' reading skills will increase and expand, as they encounter new prayers from our liturgy. Students will work to achieve their prayer goals for *B'nai Mitzvah*. Focus in this grade will be upon bringing the entire service together, ensuring that students have a comfort and familiarity with all key prayers of our worship service. Class time is complimented by family learning during our Torah study program.

Key Goals of the Sixth Grade Curriculum:

- ✧ To continue to build upon the Hebrew language skills of students.
- ✧ To increase the students' Hebrew reading fluency and comfort level with the Hebrew language.
- ✧ To explore the prayer service and gain an understanding for its meaning, order, key prayers and place in our world.
- ✧ To study the key beliefs and practices of Reform Jews.
- ✧ To introduce students to critical thinking and encourage them to explore different tough questions as a Jew.
- ✧ To introduce students to the concept of *zachor*, remembrance, through a study of the Holocaust.
- ✧ To develop a community amongst the 6th grade class through participation in shared learning experiences & Torah Study.