

Family Learning and Mitzvah Education

An initiative in family learning providing an alternate Religious School experience



What is the FLAME Program?

FLAME, which stands for Family Learning and Mitzvah Education, is an alternate experience for religious education offered to our 4th & 5th grade students and families. Families have the option of signing their child up for this program or for the traditional religious school program.

The FLAME Program offers a flexible learning model to families who are interested in making Jewish education a family affair. The FLAME Program will create a community of families who will learn together throughout the year. FLAME is based upon our current school curriculum and is enhanced by adding components of family learning and social action.

Key features of the FLAME Program:

- Students attend RS classes on Tuesday afternoon from 4-6pm.
- Students will NOT attend the regular Sunday session.
- In lieu of Sunday sessions, students and their families will take part in two different programs:
 - monthly Sunday morning Family Learning Sessions
 - Social Action Project
- FLAME Program follows school and grade level curriculum.
- The FLAME Program is OPTIONAL.



If you are interested in registering for **FLAME**, please contact: Shari Isserles, Director of Education, at 883-3144 x318 or shari@commsyn.org to discuss the program further.

Components of FLAME

COMPONENT 1: Tuesday Classes—Students Only

FLAME students attend regular Tuesday afternoon religious school class from 4-6pm. They are placed in class with other FLAME students in their grade, and they learn both Hebrew & Judaic content from their teacher. Tuesday classes will follow the curriculum plan for the grade level. On Tuesdays, the FLAME classes will take part in all school & grade level activities.

COMPONENT 2: Family Learning Mornings—Student & Parent(s)

Each month, we offer Family Learning Mornings on Sundays from 9-10:45pm. Families are required to attend 7 of the monthly Sunday sessions. Students can attend with either one or both parents. During these sessions, students and parents will join together for interactive learning experiences. During a typical morning, there are opportunities for the families to learn together as well as for parents and students to learn separately.

COMPONENT 3: Social Action in Action—Student & Parent(s)

An important piece of the FLAME Program is engagement in acts of *tikkum olam*, repairing our world. Participants will take an active role in the communal FLAME Social Action projects throughout the year. Families will be given numerous opportunities to attend and participate in a hands-on way in these projects, and each family will be expected to attend a set number of these Social Action Days.

COMPONENT 4: FLAME Communal Events—Student & Parent(s)

The FLAME Program seeks to build a community among the participant families that learns and celebrates Jewish life together. During the year, there will be various opportunities for FLAME families to take part in informal communal events which will enhance the formal learning piece of the program. Whether it be a potluck Shabbat dinner or a trip to a Jewish Museum in NYC, these events are great occasions to expand the learning. While all of the FLAME Communal Events will be OPTIONAL, we hope that families will take part in these events.



