

Grade 7 Siddur Curriculum

In preparation for Bar/Bat Mitzvah, the seventh grade siddur curriculum allows each student to work at his/her individual level to master the prayers of the Torah and Musaf Services. Emphasis is placed on reviewing the Torah Service that was studied in sixth grade and progressing onto the varying components of the Shabbat Musaf Service. It is critical for all seventh grade students to feel comfortable leading prayers from the Bimah as a group at weekly Shabbat morning services. In addition to mastering the chanting of the prayers in Hebrew, students will learn and discuss the meaning of the prayers.

Goals and Objectives:

1. Students will be able to accurately read the prayers of the Torah and Musaf Services with fluency.
2. Students will demonstrate an ability to read and chant with accuracy and fluency the Friday Night Kiddush.
3. Students will be able to chant the same prayers smoothly and will be comfortable leading the Torah and Musaf Services.
4. Students will gain understanding of the meaning of the prayers.

Text: Siddur Sim Shalom
The Beth El Cyber Siddur Program
Stories We Pray by Joel Lurie Grishaver

Unit I: Review and Mastery of the Torah Service and Friday Night Kiddush

1. The teacher will review the various components of the Torah Service and will individually test students for mastery.
2. The teacher will review the Friday Night Kiddush and will individually test students for mastery.
3. Those students who have demonstrated total mastery will proceed on to individually master component parts of the Musaf Service assisted by the Cyber Siddur Program.
4. Students not demonstrating mastery of various portions of the Torah Service will work individually on components of the Torah Service (assisted by the Cyber Siddur Program) and will be individually tested on each component part.
5. The teacher will discuss and demonstrate the choreography of various portions of the Torah Service with the entire class so that they develop a comfort level with the Torah Service.

Activities:

1. Walk-throughs of the Torah Service
2. Students will chant the Torah Service together at different intervals , pairing, individual assistance

3. Group recitation
4. Preparation for High Holidays by reviewing Ashrei prayer

Assessments:

1. Individual and group choral testing for mastery of individual prayers
2. Individual students will demonstrate the choreography associated with the Torah Service
3. Checks for: ability to sound out individual words phonetically, ability to read individually, one on one personal assessment

Unit 2: Review and Mastery of the Shabbat Musaf Service

1. Students will work individually and in pairs (with the assistance of the Cyber Siddur Program) to master the following components of the Shabbat Musaf Service:
 - a. Hatzi Kaddish
 - b. Musaf Amidah
 - c. Musaf Kidusha
 - d. Tikanta Shabbat
 - e. Eloheinu Veilohi Avoteinu
2. The teacher will discuss the meaning and interpretations of the above prayers utilizing the book "Stories We Pray" as a means of providing the students with a meaningful background for each of these prayers.
3. The teacher will review and demonstrate the choreography associated with the Musaf prayers
4. Students who demonstrate early mastery of the Musaf prayers will be assigned enrichment prayers to master as provided by the Cyber Siddur Program.

Activities:

1. The Rabbi will be invited in to discuss the meanings of various Musaf prayers
2. The class will chorally chant portions of the Musaf Service together
3. Students will write their own personal prayers to be added to the Amidah

Assessments:

1. Students will be individually tested to demonstrate mastery of various prayers
2. Group discussions on the meanings of various prayers
3. Individual student art work demonstrating their personal interpretations of various prayers.
4. Students will individually and in groups lead portions of the Shabbat Musaf Service