



Katz Hillel Day School

Grades 1-5 Judaic & General Studies Curriculum Overview

First Grade Curriculum

First graders continue their passion for literacy in Hebrew and English and solidify the foundation that they have gained and hone those skills with the next level of our Superkids Program, Aleph Bet Champ, Migdal Ohr and apply it to gaining a confident level of fluency. Each student is given the opportunity to grow at his or her own pace through our Rotational Model. Children learn through small group instruction, in a group that meets their instructional needs in the areas of reading, Kriah, Ketivah Lashon, math and writing.

Judaics

The first grade Judaic curriculum consists of Tefillah, Hebrew reading, Hebrew language, Jewish laws and customs of the Chagim, Shabbat and daily life, Parshat Hashavua, Middot and Tsiyonut.

Tefillah:

Tefillah is a life-long skill, we teach our students to understand and to participate in Tefillah because it is the way we communicate with Hashem. Knowing how to pray will enable our students to participate in personal and communal Tefillot. Students receive Siddurim at the end of the year in Kindergarten but will learn how to follow in the Siddur in the first grade.

Ivrit:

In first grade, students continue their passion for literacy in Hebrew thereby solidifying their foundational skills for language proficiency. Focus is on learning how to read and write with accuracy and fluency. The reading program utilized for accuracy in reading is the Aleph Bet Champ. This program challenges each child as part of an individualized reading program. Each child is monitored according to his or her own progress while working towards very specific and reachable goals. Students will also build on vocabulary using the Migdalor program which utilizes thematic units of the cycle of the year, school life, and home life. Through games and activities, students begin to speak and write in Hebrew using short sentences and basic verb conjugations. Children learn through small group instruction using the Rotational Model, with the goal of ensuring that instructional needs are met in each group based on the needs of the children in areas of reading, writing and language acquisition.

Ivrit Skills:

- Decoding Hebrew alphabet, vowel sounds in print and in script
- Blending letters and vowels to form words
- Reading short sentences in Hebrew
- Conversing in Hebrew using short sentences
- Writing in cursive
- Expanding Hebrew vocabulary

Parshat Hashavua:

The goal is for students to discuss the content of each weekly Torah portion. The highlights are the Mitzvot, Middot and personalities of the Parshiot. Students learn the basic story and illustrate each week in their Parsha notebooks.

Chagim, Shabbat and Brachot:

Students learn about the practices, symbols and customs of each of the Chagim, Shabbat and Brachot.

Israel Curriculum-Tsiyonut:

Beginning in first grade, students study the history and landscape of Israel through Israel Curriculum developed by the Lookstein Center and sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Rafe Gross. The Bnot Sheirut cover the curriculum in weekly Zionism classes.

First Grade Highlights:

- Chanukah Chidon
- Shabbat Unit
- Brachot Bee
- Mesibat HaTorah where students receive their first Chumashim sponsored by Drs. Jeff and Naomi Gross.

General Studies

Reading:

- Use level appropriate elements of Phonetic analysis
- Use a variety of strategies to comprehend Text
- Recognize main idea of theme as well as supporting details
- Recognize various literary genres
- Recognize main character, setting, and simple plot

Writing:

- Generate ideas and make a plan for writing
- Generate an independent topic sentence with supporting details.
- Write stories about experiences, people, objects or events.

Math:

- Add and subtract two digit numbers without regrouping, pose and solve simple number problems by selecting the proper operation, write number sentences associated with addition and subtraction, use the language of approximation, estimate
- Understand and select appropriate units of measurement for length, weight, time, temperature, capacity and Monetary value.

Second Grade Curriculum

Now that children have established a strong level of fluency in both Hebrew and English, our second graders begin to apply those skills to more in depth study. Through the study of Chumash children begin to decode words and understand meaning through the instruction of Shorashim, Prefix and Suffix. They establish the ability to become independent textual learners of Torah. In English the children begin to “unpack” and critically evaluate stories, novels and non-fiction reading. At the end of the year the children do an in depth research study, with a culminating project which incorporates art, technology and writing.

Judaics

The second grade curriculum consists of Tefillah, Chumash, Kriah (Hebrew reading), Hebrew language, Jewish laws and customs, Parshat Hashavua, Musagim B’Yahadut (Jewish facts), and Tsiyonut.

Tefillah:

We teach our students to understand and participate in Tefillah because this is how we communicate with Hashem. Knowing how to pray properly will help the students develop a love for Tefillah and enable them to participate in communal prayer. Students use the Siddur and are taught to pronounce each word of the Tefillot accurately and clearly.

Chumash:

Chumash, Hashem’s word to man, is a fundamental part of our Judaic curriculum. In second grade, the students are introduced to the text as they learn to decode the text so that they will become independent learners as they grow. The students begin with Parshat Lech-Lecha. Skills emphasized are accurate reading, accurate translation, and the breakdown of selected words into root, prefix, and suffix.

Chumash Skills:

- Reading accurately and fluently
- Finding the Parsha, Perek and Possuk in the Chumash
- Decoding selected words by recognizing the root, prefix and suffix
- Sequencing textual content

Ivrit:

Students continue to build their language proficiency skills. Fluent and correct Hebrew reading are crucial skills in our students' education. To maximize the reading period, students are divided into small groups where reading and language comprehension are monitored constantly. Language is acquired through speaking, reading and writing in Hebrew. Students practice correct grammar and spelling.

Ivrit Skills:

- Developing vocabulary
- Proficiency in usage of nouns, verbs and adjectives with male and female forms
- Conjugating verbs in present tense
- Spelling
- Reading accurately and fluently
- Composing simple sentences

Dinim:

Students learn the various laws and customs of the Chagim, Shabbat and daily life. Students experience the lessons with stories, games and other interactive activities.

Parshat Hashavua:

During the course of the year, the students learn the stories and lessons relevant to their lives from the weekly Torah portion. Discussions take place with emphasis on the values and how they pertain to the daily lives of the students.

Musagim B'Yahadut:

Students cover a curriculum of Jewish facts using the Chayeinu workbook.

Israel Curriculum-Tsiyonut:

Students continue to build on the history and landscape of Israel through the Israel Curriculum developed by the Lookstein Center and sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Rafe Gross. The curriculum is covered through the Bnot Sheirut in their weekly Tsiyonut class.

Highlights:

Chanukah Performance

General Studies

Reading:

- Read aloud with fluency and expression from level appropriate material.
- Develop vocabulary by reading independently and discussing both familiar and conceptually challenging selections
- Use resources and references to build upon word meanings
- Summarize information in texts
- Use specific ideas, details, and information from text to answer literal questions
- Make connections and inferences based on text and prior knowledge
- Know basic characteristics of a variety of genres
- Extend previously learned knowledge and skills acquired in 1st grade with increasingly complex texts

Writing:

- Generate ideas before writing on self-selected topics and assigned tasks.
- Use paragraphs to focus on separate ideas
- Write a story that includes most story elements (character, setting, etc.)
- Evaluate own work, revise and edit

Math:

- Add and subtract two digit numbers with or without regrouping, solve problems involving addition and subtraction using a variety of strategies and explain the solution strategy, write number sentences associated with addition and subtraction, make predications and estimate, represent, compare and explain halves, thirds, quarters, and eighths as part of a whole and part of a set.
- Pose questions and collect data to answer questions with two, three or more categories or choices, collect data for two or more categories and create a line graph, pictograph or chart to display results, use appropriate methods to display and interpret information.

Science:

Students learn:

- Physical science – matter
- Earth science- energy
- Life science – plants
- Able to measure, observe and compare observations and results made by different people/groups.
- Distinguish between empirical observations and ideas and inferences.

Third Grade Curriculum

In third grade, the transition from learning to read to reading to learn becomes a critical part of the curriculum. In both Judaic and General studies, children learn to unpack the text of Chumash, a novel, Halacha or a current event and apply it to their life experiences. Students have the opportunity to meet with the authors or novels they have read as a class. With continued emphasis on social emotional growth, teachers facilitate through small group instruction, the value of both collaborative and independent work.

Judaics

The third grade curriculum consists of the following subject areas: Tefillah, Chumash, Rashi, Hebrew Language, Dinim, Parshat Hashavua, Muslim B'Yahadut, and Tsiyonut.

Tefillah:

Students continue to practice reading from the Siddur and following along as they increase the Tefillot as the year progresses. As each new Tefillah is introduced, students are taught the meaning and significance of each Tefillah.

Chumash:

Students cover Parshiot Toldot, Vayetze and Vayishlach in the third grade. The students learn the historical events of Am Yisrael as they gain insight into the lives of the Avot and Imahot, learning important lessons of proper behavior and belief in Hashem through them. In third grade, students begin to learn how to read Rashi script and select certain Rashi commentaries. Emphasis in Rashi skills is to have the students begin to analyze text utilizing higher order thinking skills- "What is Rashi's question?" and "How did Rashi come to understand the text that way?"

Chumash Skills:

- Accurate and fluent reading of text
- Accurate translation of text
- Decoding of words- by root, prefix and suffix
- Knowledge of genealogy of the Avot and Imahot
- Identifying Rashi letters and reading Rashi

Ivrit:

Students will continue to develop strong verbal and comprehension skills.

Ivrit Skills:

- Students will extend vocabulary in Hebrew sentences and paragraph writing
- Students will demonstrate comprehension
- Students will use male, female, singular and plural nouns, verbs, adjectives, prepositions and pronouns
- Students will conjugate verbs in past and present tenses
- Students will extend skills in oral expression

Parshat Hashavua:

During the course of the year, the students learn the stories and lessons relevant to their lives from the weekly Torah portion. Discussions take place with emphasis on the values and how they pertain to the daily lives of the students.

Dinim:

Students learn the laws and customs of each holiday and special events in the Jewish calendar. They also add to the laws of daily life by covering the laws of Netillat Yadayim, Brachot Rishonot and Acharonot as well as Kedushat Beit Hakenesset (laws pertaining to the sanctity of the synagogue.)

Musagim B'Yahadut:

Students cover a curriculum of Jewish facts using the Chayeinu workbook.

Israel Curriculum-Tsiyonut:

Students continue to build on the history and landscape of Israel through the Israel Curriculum developed by the Lookstein Center and sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Rafe Gross. The curriculum is covered through the Bnot Sheirut in their weekly Tsiyonut class.

Highlights:

Brachot and Kosher Fair

General Studies

Reading:

- Use context clues to infer the meaning of new and unfamiliar words, including synonyms, antonyms and use a variety of strategies to determine meaning and increase vocabulary (for example, prefixes, understand the development of plot in a 3rd grade level or higher story)
- Understand the development of plot.
- Make inferences and draw conclusions regarding story elements of a 3rd grade or higher level text
- Use a variety of strategies to determine meaning and increase vocabulary (for example, prefixes, suffixes, root words, less common vowel patterns)

Writing:

- Use a variety of strategies to prepare for writing (mapping ideas, story webs, making lists).
- Focus on a central idea or topic.
- Use an organizational pattern having a beginning, middle and end.
- Understand the purpose of a first draft.

Math:

Solve real-world problems involving measurement using concrete and pictorial models for length, weight, time, capacity, temperature and angles, solve real-world problems involving perimeter, area, and volume using concrete materials or pictures, use schedules, calendars and elapsed time in hour intervals to solve real-world problems.

- Use appropriate geometric vocabulary to describe two- and three-dimensional figures, identify congruent and similar figures, explore tessellations, compare the concepts of area and perimeter through the use of concrete and graphic materials, apply the concepts of area and perimeter to solve real-world and mathematical problems
- Multiplication
- Division
- Identify different parts of a graph, interpret and compare information from picto – and bar graphs, identify the range, median and mode in a set of numerical data

Social Studies:

- Read and interpret a single timeline identifying the order of events, use maps and globes to locate and compare places and their environments.
- Understand the benefits of the development of government, understand the concept of personal and civic responsibility, understand how we find natural resources and their uses.
- One of the culminating projects that the children work on in school is there State Fair projects. Children integrate, art, technology, research and language arts as a vehicle to demonstrate what they have learned about as it relates to the State that they have researched.

Science:

- Children will be able to explore through hands on learning the importance of life science, physical science and earth science.
- Able to set up and carry out an experiment.
- Keeps appropriate records from observations.

Fourth Grade Curriculum

Judaic Studies

The fourth grade curriculum consists of Tefillah, Chumash, Rashi, Navi, Mishna, Dinim, Parshat Hashavua, and Tsiyonut.

Tefillah:

Students read from the Siddur and increase the Tefillot as the year progresses. As each new Tefillah is introduced, the students practice reading and are also taught the meaning and significance of each Tefillah.

Chumash and Rashi commentary:

Students continue to see the foundation of Am Yisrael as they continue learning with the story of Yaakov and his sons and the emergence of the Jewish nation. The Parshiot covered this year are: Vayeshev, Miketz, Vayigash and Vayechi.

The focus on skill building will be with accuracy and fluency of text. Students are more independent and can decode most words of the Pesukim because of the foundational skills acquired in the second and third grades. Students will continue to decode words into root, prefix, suffix, tense and decipher masculine and feminine forms. Students will continue with proficiency in reading and understanding Rashi commentary. Higher order thinking skills are constantly a focus in the learning of Chumash. Students are constantly encouraged to ask questions and to engage in discussion.

Navi:

Students are introduced this year to Navi with the Sefer Yehoshua. Students will understand the origins of the Jewish life in Eretz Yisrael beginning with the conquest led by Yehoshua. Map skills and geography are related to the text being studied.

Mishna:

Introduction to Mishna is made by understanding the difference between the Oral and Written Torah. A brief biography of Rabbi Yehuda Hanasi, the historical events leading to the writing of the Mishna and the order of the Mishna is a prerequisite to getting started on actual learning of Mishna. Students learn Mishnayot Succah and become proficient in the reading and translating of the Mishnayot.

Dinim:

Students continue to learn in depth the laws and customs of the holidays and special events in the Jewish calendar. Students will also learn about Hachnassat Orchim, Kibbud Av V'Em, Mitzvat Tzedakah and Hashkamat Hoboker.

Parshat Hashavua:

The story of the weekly Torah portion and concepts are reviewed in class to familiarize the students with the details and sequence of events.

Ivrit:

Students continue to advance their vocabulary. Students will demonstrate comprehension when reading stories and text. Students use male, female, singular and plural nouns, verbs, adjectives; proper pronouns; possessive pronouns; conjugation of verbs in past, and present; make use of prepositions and identify synonyms, and antonyms. Students will compose short stories and continue to express themselves in oral and written expression.

Israel Curriculum-Tsiyonut:

Students continue to build on the history and landscape of Israel through the Israel Curriculum developed by the Lookstein Center and sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Rafe Gross. The curriculum is covered through the Bnot Sheirut in the weekly Tsiyonut class.

General Studies

Reading:

Students extend previously learned knowledge with more complex reading, assignments and tasks. Students develop skills for understanding and analyzing literature. Students will read a variety of literary and informational texts (fiction, drama, poetry, biography and historical fiction), they will understand the theme, and differentiate between explicit and implicit information. Students will make inferences and draw conclusions regarding story elements and compare and contrast characters, settings and events presented within the various texts.

The Basal Reader is from the Treasures series of Macmillan and students use two literary novels to develop the above skills. (*Number the Stars* and *Snow Treasure*).

Writing and Language:

Students develop greater responsibility and independence in their learning. Students will work collaboratively with their peers and will be encouraged to voice their own opinions. Long-term projects and reports will help our students develop necessary skills in organization and in problem-solving techniques to become mature, responsible and independent learners. Students will focus on organization of thoughts to apply to writing skills. Focus is on correct punctuation, capitalization, spelling and correct formation of five paragraph essays.

Skills:

- Learning how to outline in order to organize thoughts
- Topic Sentences, supporting details and conclusion
- Reasoning
- Revising

Mathematics:

The goal in fourth grade is for students to become problem solvers and true thinkers in Math. Moving forward to improve the skills, students use the newly created Envision Series (Pearson Publishing). Envision Math teaches all of the Standards for Mathematical Content appropriate for fourth grade. This program provides conceptual development by making problem-based interactive learning a core part of daily instruction and connects interactive learning with visual learning. Content is presented in many visual ways with follow up assessments as an integral part of instruction. Daily formative assessment is provided and connects to information for diagnosis and intervention. Differentiated instruction is used to meet the needs of students at all ability levels. Each lesson includes daily review and a small-group, problem based activity followed by guided and independent practice activities.

Skills:

- Multiplication and Division: Meaning and Facts (Multiplication properties, factors, patterns, relating multiplication and division, using multiplication facts to find division facts, word problems)
- Generating and analyzing patterns (Input/Output tables with addition, subtraction, multiplication and division)
- Place value (Place value relationships, comparing numbers, and rounding whole numbers)
- Addition and Subtraction of Whole Numbers (Using mental math to add and subtract, estimating, sums and differences)
- Multiplying by 1 and 2 digit numbers (Multiplication patterns, distributive property, estimating, array and use expanded algorithm, multiplying 3 and 4 digit numbers by 2 digit numbers and identifying word problems with extra or missing information)
- Multi-step word problems
- Division (Estimating quotients, dividing with remainders, multiplication and division word problems, writing variable equations to write word problems)
- Fraction Equivalence and Ordering (Factors, prime and composite factors, equivalent fractions, number lines and equivalent fractions on number lines, graphs, comparing fractions, numerators and denominators, and ordering fractions)
- Addition and Subtraction of fractions and mixed numbers with like denominators.
- Improper fractions and mixed numbers (converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers and decomposing and composing fractions)
- Extending fraction concepts to multiply and divide
- Fractions and decimals (Converting decimals to fractions and mixed numbers, graphing them on number lines, equivalent fractions and decimals, decimal place value, and comparing and ordering decimals)
- Measurement units and conversions, units of capacity, units of weight, changing customary units, conversion tables, length, weight and volume, mass, metric unit and conversion)
- Perimeter and area, solving measurement problems, solving problems using money, interpreting in plots and tables.

Science:

- Life science – How living things grow and co-exist, cell structures, acid/bases (living vs. non-living, systems in the body, genetics, and plants)
- Physical science – Properties of the earth, patterns in nature, geology, solar system, how the different environmental factors and invasive species affect the earth.
- Earth science- The study of water, rocks, erosion, environmental cycles, gravity, & alternate sources of energy (solar, wind, hydro).

Learn to develop hypothesis, follow the scientific method independently, develop questions and plan experiments to test hypothesis. Learn to collect, organize, graph, and analyze data to answer hypotheses. Learn to modify variables, repeat experiments to ensure proper conclusions, and use a control in experiments and compare results.

Social Studies:

Students learn about the State of Florida. (Horizons by Harcourt Publishing)

Specials:

Students have specials in Music, Art, and Computers one time per week. Twice a week, students participate in Physical Education.

Highlights:

Biography presentations with Animotos
Science Fair

Fifth Grade Curriculum

Judaic Studies

The fifth grade curriculum consists of Tefillah, Chumash, Rashi, Navi, Mishna, Dinim, Parshat Hashavua, and Tsiyonut.

Tefillah:

Students continue to read from the Siddur in unison as the teacher introduces new Tefillot and explains their significance.

Chumash:

Students continue to see the development of the Jewish Nation as they grow in Egypt and emerge as a strong nation prepared to accept the Torah. The Parshiot covered in fifth grade are Shmot, Vaera, Bo, and Beshalach. Skills that are continued to be focused on are accurate and fluent reading, translation of the text, continued mastery of decoding skills, reading proficiency in Rashi commentary, higher order thinking skills of analysis and evaluation are applied.

Navi:

Students learn the Book of Shoftim (Judges). The goal is to relate the events and to understand the origins of Jewish life and the conquest of Eretz Yisrael. Map skills and geography are related to the text being studied.

Mishna:

Students continue to learn the foundations of Mishna, and the clarification of the Written and Oral Torah. Mishnayot Yuma is covered in the fifth grade with focus on reading, translating and critical thinking skills.

Dinim:

The laws and customs of each holiday and special events in the calendar are taught in greater and deeper depth. Students also focus on the Amidah and each of the blessings as they are preparing to take a more active role in Tefillah when they enter Middle School.

Ivrit:

Students will demonstrate expanded vocabulary, reading comprehension, oral expression, use male and female forms of nouns, verbs, pronouns, adjectives, possessive pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, adverbs as well as singular and the plural forms. Students will use the infinitive verb in correct syntax and be able to conjugate in past, present and future tenses.

Parshat Hashavua:

Each week the teacher summarizes the weekly portion but focuses on one lesson in class in which to discuss at greater length and to relate the relevance to the daily lives of the students.

Israel Curriculum-Tsiyonut:

Students continue to build on the history and landscape of Israel through the Israel Curriculum developed by the Lookstein Center and sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Rafe Gross.

General Studies

Reading:

Word analysis and vocabulary development are a strong focus in the Language Arts of fifth grade. Students read and analyze text structure, organization and literary devices with the novels read in class. (*Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh, Tolver's Secret, Iron Thunder, Out of Mind and Old Yeller*) Students will also focus on folktales and various non-fiction sources to accompany the Social Studies curriculum.

Skills: (Literary Analysis)

- Students will summarize text in written form
- Identify the parts of the story (rising action, theme, climax, falling action and resolution)
- Recognize literary elements (setting, characters, conflicts...)
- Make predictions and develop questioning techniques
- Learn how to make use of graphic organizers and note taking techniques
- Draw inferences and conclusions by supporting with textual evidence
- Recognize comparisons, contrasts, cause and effects
- Peer editing and critiquing
- Analysis of text (imagery, metaphors, symbolism, personification, and similes)

Writing Strategies:

Students focus on writing clear and coherent essays- with a formal introduction, supporting evidence and a conclusion. Students will learn the drafting, rewriting, revising and editing process for clarity and efficacy. Students will write narrative, persuasive and descriptive essays and learn how figurative language enhances the writing.

Mathematics:

The goal in fifth grade is for students to become problem solvers and true thinkers in Math. Students use the Envisions Series (Pearson Publishing). Envision Math teaches all of the Standards for Mathematical Content appropriate for fifth grade. This program provides conceptual development by making problem-based interactive learning a core part of daily instruction and connects interactive learning with visual learning. Content is presented in many visual ways with follow up assessments as an integral part of instruction. Daily formative assessment is provided and connects to information for diagnosis and intervention. Differentiated instruction is used to meet the needs of students at all ability levels. Each lesson includes daily review and a small group problem based activity follow by guided and independent practice activities.

Skills:

- Place value
- Adding and subtracting decimals
- Multiplying whole numbers
- Multiplying by 2 digit numbers and Dividing by 1, and 2 digit divisors
- Fraction equivalence and ordering
- Adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers
- Patterns and writing rules
- Measurement units and conversions
- Algebraic thinking and order of operations
- Geometry(triangle, quadrilaterals, perimeter, area and determine lines of symmetry.
- Adding and subtracting fractions
- Adding and subtracting mixed numbers

Science:

Focus on lab safety, lab safety symbols, proper use of lab equipment and lab decorum.

- Life science – Experiment with different states of matter, collect and grow bacteria, learn to use microscopes, and create slides.
- Physical science – Properties of the earth, physics, buoyancy, displacement, and physical vs chemical change.

- Earth science- The study of the earth's cycles,

Learn and use formulas and arithmetic to understand concepts and develop understanding of the world and its traits. Complete experiments using the scientific method independently. Incorporate technology and the use of programming to collect, organize, graph, and analyze data to answer hypotheses. Continue to modify variables, repeat experiments to ensure proper conclusions, and use a control in experiments and compare results.

Social Studies:

Students learn American history pre-Columbus through the Civil War and a bit on Western Expansion. The American Revolution is examined in the Social Studies curriculum and in the Language Arts curriculum. Creative projects are implemented to analyze the events of the war and to help students understand the Constitution and the important of this document from a historical and contemporary standpoint. Great focus is made on the Underground Railroad and the Civil Rights movement. Students also focus on the Constitution and how a Bill is passed in Congress. (Textbook used: *Our Country* published by Silver Burdett Ginn)

Specials:

Students have specials in Music, Art, Computers, Science and Physical Education.

Highlights:

Daglanut

Writing a folktale

Quilt Making (in connection to slavery and the Underground Railroad)

Skits about famous explorers