

7th Grade (Kita Zayin) Bible Curriculum

Overview

In 7th grade students are exploring *Parashat Hashavuah* every Sunday morning, together with other grades' students at the sanctuary. In prior years, the students learned selections from the Books of Judges, Kings and Prophets. In Grades 6 and 7, students return to the study of Torah with a more mature eye, and glean at least one great idea from each Parasha.

Notes to Parents: This curriculum contains the knowledge, skills and attitude Jewish students are expected to learn. It provides the learning objectives that students are expected to meet; the units and lessons that teachers teach; the books, materials, technology and readings used in a course; and the assessments methods used to evaluate student learning.

Some units have a large amount of material that on a given year may be modified in consideration of the Jewish calendar, lost school days due to weather (snow days), and give greater flexibility to the teacher to accommodate students' pre-existing level of knowledge and skills.

Textbook

Parasha, Experience the Weekly Torah Portion
Web source provided in the textbook

Goals and Objectives

- Students will be able to tell the key words of the Parasha from the word cloud
- Students will understand the key story in the overview of the Parasha
- Students will be able to read a Torah text with and without vowels
- Students will explore the Torah text and find the meaning in the text
- Students will engage in an experiential learning activity which comes with a reflective question
- Students will learn the Mitzvah of the Week
- Students will reflect on the Mitzvah of the week
- Students will use electronic device to connect to an online resource and activity
- Students will be exposed to Project Based Learning using web tasks that are provided

Note to the Teacher

Each Parasha is provided as a 4 to 6-page workout in the student's textbook. There is much packed into these pages. Therefore, it is imperative to use the teacher's guide and get the full benefit from the rich material presented. The teacher's guide contains a thorough explanation of the portion, key words, terms and activities.

In 7th grade, the teacher has between 9 - 11 sessions for the Parasha study.

Therefore, the teacher will select the portions that are most relevant to the class; **most of the selections will be the students' Bar/Bat Mitzvah portions.**

The Goals and Objectives are unique to a portion (or sometimes to a group of 2-3 portions in a row); as are the Key Words, Key Concepts, Key Terms and activities.

The class focus would be on the students' Bar/Bat Mitzvah portions, and not on normal progression of the Torah text.

The book of Genesis

Teacher would select portions that are assigned to the students' Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

List of Torah Portions:

Beresheet
Noach
Lech Lecha
Vayera
Chaye Sarah
Toldot
Vayetze
Vayishlach
Vayeshev
Miketz
Vayigash
Vayechi

Goals and Objectives:

- Students will connect people's role in creation to care of the world
- Students will know that ecology is a Jewish concern
- Students will know the Hebrew terms and their meanings

Key Words: (vary and based on the portions selected)

- Garden Of Eden
- Cain and Abel
- God's image
- Be Fruitful and Multiply
- Noah
- Covenant
- Brit Mila
- Circumcision
- Patriarchs & Matriarchs
- Avraham, Yitzchak, Yaakov
- Sarah, Rivka, Rachel, Leah
- Bilha, Zilpah

- Laban
- Joseph and his brothers
- Binyamin

Key Concepts: (vary and based on the portions selected)

- People have responsibility as a result of having been created in God's image.
- The responsibility of being created is to care for creation.
- Caring for the environment is a Jewish responsibility.
- Jewish environmental action
- We can do a number of things (in our regular lives) to care for the environment
- Caring for animals is a Mitzvah
- Burying the dead is a mitzvah
- RAMBAM 13 articles of faith

Key Terms: (vary and based on the portions selected)

- Shmirat Hateva (ecology)
- bal tash_hit (waste not)
- tzar l'ba'alei _hayyim (cruelty to animals)
- Sheva-mitzvot-b'nai Noah_h (seven laws of Noah)
- Brit Milah (circumcision)
- Hachnasat Orchim (welcome guests)
- Mitzvat Met (bury the dead)
- Loving relationship
- Mitzvat Tefilah (prayer)
- Emunah (faith)
- Shalom Bayit (peace in the home)
- Mazon (feeding the hungry)
- Children's rights

Activities: (vary and based on the portions selected)

- Read the Torah text with and without vowels
- Go over the translation of the text
- Students will work in small groups and explore internet resources that are relevant to the biblical text
- Students will reflect on how kindness to animals make them more human
- Students will describe how they enjoy having guests come to the house
- Student who attended Shiva may share what s/he felt
- Students will find the best price for Tefillin online
- Students will share a special dream that they had
- Students will make Tzedakah collection to feed the hungry

- Students will write a bill of rights for children

Assessments:

- Each group or team will share the area that they explored with the rest of the class
- Students will reflect on the Parasha and how it is relevant to their life
- Students will find an ethical dilemma that the Torah is dealing with and find equivalent dilemma in modern life
- Students will engage on debates

The book of Exodus

Teacher would select portions that are assigned to the students' Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

List of Torah Portions:

Shemot
Va'era
Bo
Beshalach
Yitro
Mishpatim
Terumah
Tetzaveh
Ki Tisa
Vayakhel
Pekude

Goals and Objectives:

- Students will connect with the story of the Jews in Egypt
- Students will reflect on slavery and freedom
- Students will know the Hebrew terms and their meanings

Key Words: (vary and based on the portions selected)

- Pharaoh
- Mitzrayim (Egypt)

- Moses
- Aaron
- Miriam
- Eretz Yisrael
- RAMBAN Nahamanides
- Mordechai Kaplan
- Abraham Joshua Heschel
- Mishkan
- Yitro
- Tziporah
- Ten commandments
- Neshech (interest)
- Aron
- Shulchan
- menorah
- Mishkan
- Sanctuary
- Meat and milk

Key Concepts: (vary and based on the portions selected)

- Hebrew names are important
- Let my people go
- Nefesh Benefesh
- The 15 parts of the Seder
- Shabbat
- Sanctification of time
- 39 classes of work
- Kashrut
- Eating Kosher food

Key Terms: (vary and based on the portions selected)

- Shem Ivri (Hebrew name)
- Aliya (living in Israel)
- Vehigadta Levincha (telling the story)
- Shemirat Shabbat
- Kaved et Avivha v'et Emeicha (honoring parents)
- Lending money without interest
- Asu li mikdash (making a sanctuary)
- Ner Tamid (eternal light)
- Do not cook a kid in its mother's milk
- Do not light fire on Shabbat

- Netilat Yadayim (washing hands)

Activities: (vary and based on the portions selected)

- Read the Torah text with and without vowels
- Go over the translation of the text
- Students will work in small groups and explore internet resources that are relevant to the biblical text
- Students will discuss how their summer camp or family make them feel special on Shabbat
- Students will participate in Shabbaton and Shabbat Kehillah
- Students will discuss their family's Shabbat rules
- Students will reflect on their feeling about going to Israel
- Students who went to Israel will share their unique experience with the class
- Students will compare freedom to slavery
- Students will reflect on situation when it is hard to honor the parents
- Students will practice washing hands with special cup and saying a bracha
- At the conclusion of the book of Exodus, students will celebrate with a small Siyyum party

Assessments:

- Each group or team will share the area that they explored with the rest of the class
- Students will reflect on the Parasha and how it is relevant to their life
- Students will find an ethical dilemma that the Torah is dealing with and find equivalent dilemma in modern life
- Students will engage on debates

The book of Leviticus

Teacher would select portions that are assigned to the students' Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

[Vayikra](#)

[Tzav](#)

[Shmini](#)

[Tazria](#)

[Metzora](#)

[Achrei Mot](#)

[Kedoshim](#)

[Emor](#)

[Behar](#)

[Bechukotai](#)

The book of Numbers

Teacher would select portions that are assigned to the students' Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

[Bamidbar](#)

[Nasso](#)

[Beha'alotcha](#)

[Sh'lach](#)

[Korach](#)

[Chukat](#)

[Balak](#)

[Pinchas](#)

[Matot](#)

[Masei](#)

The book of Deuteronomy

Teacher would select portions that are assigned to the students' Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

[Devarim](#)

[Vaetchanan](#)

[Eikev](#)

[Re'eh](#)

[Shoftim](#)

[Ki Teitzei](#)

[Ki Tavo](#)

[Nitzavim](#)

[Vayeilech](#)

[Ha'Azinu](#)

[Vezot Haberakhah](#)

Change Control

August 12, 2014

Notes to Parents

October 29, 2014

Clarification that the portions being studied in 7th grade reflecting the Bar/Bat Mitzvah portions. Added the names of the portion in the entire Torah. Added a parenthetical remark next to the Key Words, terms and concepts,(etc) because the terms that students will learn will depend on which portions are in the B-Mitzvah class in a given year.