

7th Grade (Kita Zayin) Curriculum
Rabbi Marcelo Kormis
30 Sessions

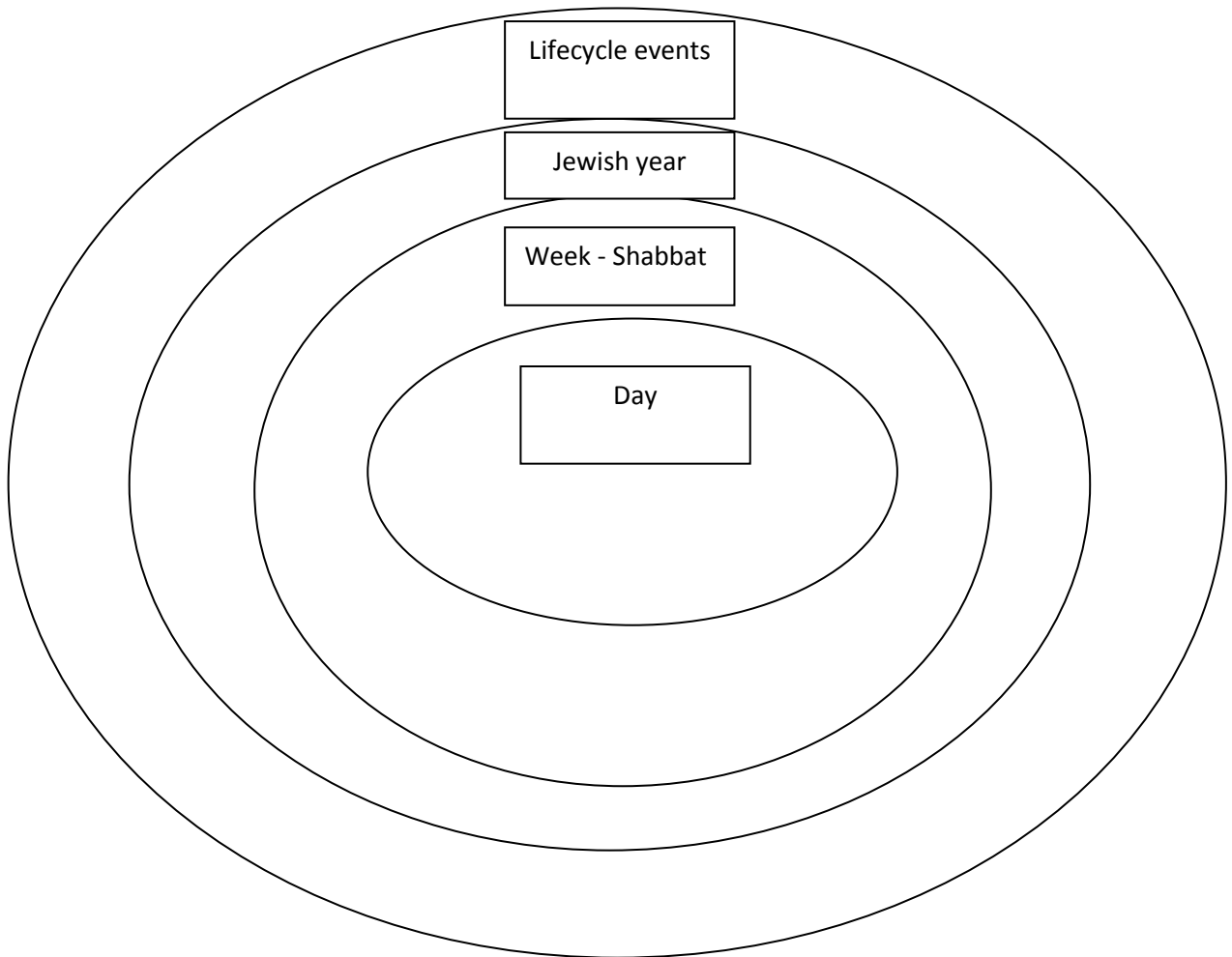
Notes to Parents: This curriculum contains the knowledge, skills and attitude Jewish students are expected to learn. It provides the learning objectives that students are expected to meet; the units and lessons that teachers teach; the books, materials, technology and readings used in a course; and the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

Part 1**Musaguim – A Vocabulary of Jewish Life**

22 Sessions

The 7th grade curriculum will focus on basic musaguim of Jewish life. These musaguim cover the different aspects and levels of Jewish life. They can be divided into 4 concentric circles: inner circle – the day of a Jew, middle circle – the week of a Jew, middle outer circle – the year of a Jew, outer circle – the life of a Jew. The purpose of this course is to teach students about the different components of a Jewish day, the centrality of the Shabbat, the holidays and the stages of the life cycle. Focus will be placed on the Jewish traditions, rituals, ceremonies, and celebrations of each concept.



Unit 1: The day of a Jew: 6 sessions, 45 minute each.

Goals and objectives

- Students will identify the central concepts and daily mitzvot of a Jew.
- Students will gain an understanding of each concept.
- Students will learn the basic aspects of these concepts.
- Students will discuss how these concepts relate to their own lives.

Session 1: Tefilah – Prayer

Key concepts:

- Tefilah
- Shmone Esre
- Bracha

Musaguim:

- Siddur
- Machzor
- Amidah
- Kaddish (Hatzi, Shalem, Yatom)
- Kedusha
- Kiddush
- Shacharit
- Mincha
- Maariv

Session 2: Tefilah II – Tashmishei K'dusha

Key concepts:

- Beit Kneset
- Minyan

Musaguim:

- Beit Tefilah
- Beit Midrash
- Nusach
- Kippah
- Tallit
- Tzitzit
- Tefillin
- Kevah
- Kavanah

Session 3: Tefilah III – Worship

Key concepts:

- Bimah
- Aron Hakodesh
- Sheliach Tzibur

Musaguim:

- Parochet
- Keter Torah
- Rimonim
- Hoshen
- Yad
- Peticha
- Hagbaa
- Guelilah
- Ner Tamid

Session 4: Kashrut

Key concepts:

- Kashrut
- Shechita
- Shochet
- Basar veChalav

Musaguim:

- Cloven hooves
- Rumiants
- Fins
- Scales
- *Birds of prey; scavengers
- Gid Hanashe
- Dairy products
- Pareve

Session 5: Tzedakah

Key concepts:

- Tzedakah
- 8 levels of Tzedakah
- Gemilut Chasadim

Musaguim:

- Charity
- Maimonides
- Kuppah
- Maaser

Session 6: Talmud Torah

Key concepts:

- Tanach
- Parasha
- Aliyah
- Talmud

Musaguim:

- Bible
- Old Testament
- New Testament
- Torah, Chumash, Pentateuch
- Neviim
- Ketuvim
- Maftir
- Haftarah
- Hazak
- Mishna
- Guemara

Special Activities/Projects

- Visit from a Shochet
- Art project: make your own Tzedakah Box
- Experiential activity: unwrapping a Sefer torah

Assessments:

- Oral and written quizzes
- Oral review at the beginning and end of each session: What things did we learn last week/today
- Worksheets
- Games related to the concepts studied at class

Unit 2: The week of a Jew: 2 sessions, 45 minute each.

Goals and objectives

- Students will explore the importance and meaning of Shabbat in Jewish tradition.
- Students will understand the centrality of Shabbat in Jewish life.
- Students will discuss how these concepts relate to their lives.

Session 1: Shabbat 1

Key concepts:

- Shabbat
- Kiddush
- Hamotzi

- Birkat hamazon

Musaguim:

- Shabbat Shalom
- Kabbalat Shabbat
- Shalom Aleichem
- Eshet Chayil
- Birkat Habanim
- Netilat Yadaim
- Zemiroth
- Mezuman

Session 2: Shabbat II

Key concepts:

- *Menucha
- Melacha
- Havdalah

Musaguim:

- Muktze
- Musaf
- Seuda Shelishit
- Besamim
- Ner
- Shavua Tov

Special Activities:

- Friday night Shabbat dinner

Assessments:

- Oral and written quizzes
- Oral review at the beginning and end of each session: What things did we learn last week/today
- Worksheets
- Games related to the concepts studied at class

Unit 3: The year of a Jew: 10 sessions, 45 minute each.

Goals and objectives

- Students will identify the central concepts and mitzvot related to Jewish holidays.
- Students will learn about the different components of the Jewish year.
- Students will explore the different Jewish holidays and their importance.
- Students will discuss how these concepts relate to their lives.

Session 1: Rosh Hashanah

Key concepts:

- Rosh Hashannah
- Yom Hadin
- Yom Hazikaron
- Yom Teruah
- Machzor

Musaguim:

- Elul
- Selichot
- L'shana Tova Tikatevu
- Shana Tova U'metuka
- Tekia
- Shevarim
- Truah
- Tekiah Guedolah

Session 2: Yom Kippur

Key concepts:

- Yom Kippur
- Teshuva
- Tefilah
- Tzedakah

Musaguim:

- Aseret Yemei Teshuva
- Kol Nidrei
- Neilah
- Avodah
- Al Het
- Ashamnu
- Shema Koleinu
- Unetane Tokef
- Tzom

Session 3: Sukkot

Key concepts:

- Sukkot
- Zman Simchateinu
- Hag He'asif

- Sukkah
- Arvaat Haminim

Musaguim:

- Shalosh Regalim
- Sechach
- Lulav
- Hadas
- Arava
- Etrog
- Pitom
- Hoshanot
- Hoshana Rabah

Session 4: Shemini Atzeret / Simchat Torah

Key concepts:

- Shemini Atzeret
- Simchat Torah

Musaguim:

- Etz Hayim
- Hakafot
- Geshem
- Hatan Torah
- Hatan Bereshit
- V'zot Haberacha
- Bereshit

Session 5: Hanukkah

Key concepts:

- Hanukkah
- Hanukkiah
- Maccabees
- Pirsumei nisa

Musaguim:

- Menorah
- Shamash
- Judah, Matityahu
- Seleucid, Greeks.
- Antiochus
- Modiin
- Dreidel, Nes gadol haya sham (po)

- Al Hanisim
- Kislev, kaf hei

Session 6: Purim

Key concepts:

- Arba parashiot
- Meguillah
- Mishloach Manot
- Matanot Laevionim

Musaguim:

- Shabbat Shekalim
- Shabbat Zachor
- Shabbat Parah
- Shabbat Hachodesh
- Amalek
- Shushan
- Taanit Esther

Session 7: Pesach

Key concepts:

- Pesach
- Chol Hamoed
- Chametz
- Matzah
- Haggadah

Musaguim:

- Shabbat Hagadol
- Siyum Bechor
- Hag Hamatzot
- Hag Haaviv
- Zman Cheruteinu
- Bedikat chametz
- Seder
- Maror
- Karpas
- Charoset
- Zeroah
- Beitza
- Afikoman

Session 8: Yom Hashoah/ Yom Hahatzmaut

Key concepts:

- Yom Hashoah V'hagevurah
- Zachor
- Zionism
- Yom Hazikaron
- Yom Hahatzmaut

Musaguim:

- Kaf-zayin Nisan
- Warsaw Ghetto
- Mordechai Anielewic
- Aushwitz
- Hey Iyar
- Nov. 2, 1917 - Balfour Declaration
- Nov.29, 1947 - UN partition
- May 14, 1948 - Independence
- Theodore Herzl
- Chaim Weitzmann
- David Ben-Gurion
- Golda Meir

Session 9: Shavuot

Key concepts:

- Omer
- Shavuot
- Tikkun Leyl Shavuot

Musaguim:

- Lag Baomer
- Hag Hakatzir
- Zman Matan Torateinu
- Hag HaBikurim
- Har Siani
- Chalav
- Meguilat Ruth

Session 10: Minor holidays and Fast Days/ The Jewish calendar

Key concepts:

- Rosh Chodesh
- Solar year
- Hebrew calendar

Musaguim;

- Tu Bishvat

- Pesach Sheni
- Asara B'tevet
- 17 Tamuz
- Tisha B'av
- Eicha
- Lunar month
- Lunar year (12 months)
- Winter solstice
- Summer solstice
- Chodesh male
- Chodesh chaser

Special activity:

- Learn how to blow a Shofar
- Dinner in the Sukkah
- Tie your arbaat haminim
- Light the Hanukkiah
- Experiential activity: how to write a Meguillah
- Model Seder
- Plant a tree on TuBishvat

Assessments:

- Oral and written quizzes
- Oral review at the beginning and end of each session: What things did we learn last week/today
- Worksheets
- Games related to the concepts studied at class

Unit 4: The life of a Jew: 4 sessions, 45 minutes each.

Goals and objectives

- Students will identify the central lifecycle events in the life of a Jew and the mitzvot related to it.
- Students will learn the basic lifecycle rituals related to each ceremony.
- Students will learn about the various components of the different ceremonies.
- Students will discuss how these concepts relate to their lives.

Session 1: Birth

Key concepts:

- Brit
- Seudat Mitzvah
- Mohel

Musaguim:

- Brit Milah
- *Simchat Bat

- *Kvater, Kvateren
- Elijah
- Sandek
- *Pidyon Ha-Ben

Session 2: Bar/Bat Mitzvah

Key concepts:

- Bar and Bat Mitzvah
- Parshah
- D'var Torah
- Maftir

Musaguim:

- Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan
- Judith Kaplan
- Haftarah
- Minyan
- Mitzvah Project
- Tallit

Session 3: Marriage

Key concepts:

- Chatan
- Kallah
- Chuppah
- Kiddushin/Erusin

Musaguim:

- Mikvah
- Aufruf
- *Fasting
- Kabbalat Panim
- Bedeken
- Kittel
- Nissu'in
- Ketubah
- Sheva Brachot
- Breaking the Glass
- Get

Session 4: Death

Key concepts:

- Funeral

- Shiva
- Shloshim
- Unveiling
- Yahrtzeit
- Yizkor

Musaguim:

- Hevrah Kaddisha
- Kriah (Torn Black Ribbon)
- Plain Pine Box
- Eulogy
- El Malei Rachamim
- Mourner's Kaddish
- Yahrtzeit Candle

Special activities:

- Visit from a Mohel
- Tefillin workshop
- Bring parents' Ketuvot and wedding photos to share with class
- Guest speaker from Hevrah Kaddisha

Assessments:

- Oral and written quizzes
- Oral review at the beginning and end of each session: What things did we learn last week/today
- Worksheets
- Games related to the concepts studied at class

Part 2

Writing your D'var Torah

6 Sessions, 45 minutes each

Textbook: A guide on how to write your D'var Torah

Becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah is a process that involves preparation for initiation into a meaningful and responsible Jewish life. The Dvar Torah is a great chance for our students to learn about their Torah portion, reflect on how it relates to their lives, talk about the meaning of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony and thank the people who made this day possible. The purpose of this unit is to write and create a D'var Torah that will be delivered on the Friday morning service prior to the Bar/Bat mitzvah ceremony. The D'var Torah will give to our students the unique opportunity to share with their congregation their vision of the world, their values and their inner voice.

Goals and Objectives:

- Students will be able to create their own D'var torah
- Students will connect the text of the Torah with their own lives
- Students will identify the main topics and ideas in their Bar/Bat Mitzvah Torah portion

Assessment:

- Deliver a strong and meaningful D'var Torah on Friday morning.

Part 3
Shoah Seminar
6 Sessions, 45 minutes each
Mrs. Susan Cazary

Change Control

August 12, 2014 Notes to Parents