



Our overarching curricular goals for a graduate of Beth El Religious School are:

- the ability to decode Hebrew texts, with emphasis on tefillot/prayers, brachot/blessings, and Torah texts
- to feel comfortable participating in Shabbat services, both singing and reading tefillot
- an understanding and appreciation of Chagim (Holidays)
- connection to the larger Jewish community and to Israel

ה Hei 5th

Overview - Learning Objectives/Goals

Hei 5th students learn Jewish holidays, customs, and ceremonies with an age-appropriate level of knowledge, building upon knowledge gained in Dalet 4th. The students find the biblical sources for holidays (except Hanukkah, of course). An emphasis is placed on experiential learning, such as baking challah, blowing the shofar, shaking the lulav and etrog, making mishloah manot on Purim, and searching for chametz, as well as participating in a model seder before Pesach. The units follow the Jewish calendar. In the weeks between holidays, the curriculum focuses on topics such as Luach Ivrit, kashrut, Rosh Chodesh, and Shabbat.

Hebrew

Reading Skills

1. **Reading assessment at the beginning of the year**
 - a. Hebrew letter and vowel review (Flash Card Games)
 - b. Final letters
 - c. Ending letters
 - d. Family letters
2. **Full-gamut Hebrew Review – “Rules of the Road;” refine decoding skills (approximately 8 weeks depending on the needs of the students)**
3. **Use Classroom Techniques for Reading Drill (e.g. Voice and Echo, Finger Follow-Along, Odds and Evens)**
4. **Formal assessment plan completed for each student and monitored with assessment logs**

Goals and objectives: Refine decoding skills and eventually becoming proficient Hebrew readers that they can read anything (including Torah) fluently

Vocabulary

- Related to prayers/blessings, synagogue rituals, holidays, as below
- Taught by Federation Israeli Emissary, when available

Tefillah/Prayers & Skills and Rituals

Prayers and blessings

1. Avot V'Emahot
2. G'vurot
3. Kiddushah
4. Hodaah
5. Birkat Shalom/Shalom Rav/Sim Shalom
6. Oseh Shalom
7. L'chol David
8. V'shamiru
9. Shalom Aleichem
10. Sim Shalom
11. Shalom Rav
12. Ose Shalom
13. Amidah
14. Hatzi Kaddish
15. Aliya blessing (introduced)

Goals and objectives

- Meaning of prayer/blessing
- Translation and meaning of each word
- Place/significance of each prayer/blessing in the service; textual origin, if appropriate

Additional prayers and blessings (Text: *Siddur Lev Shalom*)

1. Ashrei
2. V'ahavtah
3. Birkat Ha-Mazon
4. Kaddish Shalem
5. Aleinu
6. Ayn Keloheinu
7. Adon Olam

Core Judaics

Bible Studies

Textbooks

A Child's Introduction to the Early Prophets (Newman)

An Introduction to Kings, Later Prophets and Writings (Newman)

JPS Tanach

Chumash Eytz Hayim

Mahzor Lev Shalem

Goals and objectives: Hei 5th students explore *Parashat Hashavuah* every Sunday morning. In Dalet 4th, the students studied selections from the Book of Judges, and in Hei 5th, they continue with selections from Samuel and Kings. Basic truths about human nature and power struggles are depicted in these bible stories. The main characters are Kings Shaul, David, and Shlomo, and the prophet Shmuel. The bible recalls the life stories of Jewish rulers with all their humanity, challenges, fears, successes, and failures.

- Chronicle the lives of Kings and Prophets
- Demonstrate the relationship between biblical heroes and God
- Learn about the evolving relationship between King Saul and David
- Understand the truth of the prophets, by seeing that the bible does not gloss over the failings and human weaknesses of biblical heroes
- When appropriate, show connection between the biblical heroes of the Early Prophet period and the Jewish holidays
- Draw connections between the Hebrew month, Jewish holiday/s, and Bible

Holidays, customs & ceremonies

Goals and objectives

- Review customs and ceremonies
- Review Hebrew prayers and Hebrew vocabulary associated with customs and ceremonies
- Review home customs
- Review synagogue customs

Milestone Moments

Class Shabbat

Class Havdalah