



TBS Midrasha Hebrew school curriculum

The goals of Hebrew school are:

When students have completed Hebrew School, they will be able to:

- Read and chant the prayers in our siddur fluently
- Understand and translate key words and roots
- Discuss the theme of each prayer and the services as a whole
- Connect key prayers to Jewish values and concepts
- Identify prayers that come from the Torah and explain the story, event and message of it (ex: Mi Kamocha is the Song of the Sea from the Exodus story)
- Make connections between related prayers and their place in our services. (ex: Yotzer Or is the prayer for the morning because it is about creating light, while Ma'ariv Aravim is in the evening service because it is about bringing on the dusk)
- Understand the structure of the services and place prayers in the order in which they appear in the service
- Participate in the rituals and ceremonies of Jewish life and understand traditions connected with the service (ex: putting tallit, carrying the Torah, the word Amidah includes the root "to stand" and, therefore, it is traditional to stand for this prayer during the service)
- Feel a sense of comfort and familiarity in the synagogue and the sanctuary
- Feel connected to the congregation and its services
- When the students achieve all of the above, they will feel engaged and connected in services and the services will be meaningful and joyous to them.

KamatZ Katan class (2nd grade):

- The students are introduced to the Alef-Bet
- Students will gain familiarity with Alef Bet (i.e. Letters recognition) and vowels
- The students will focus on building beginning Hebrew reading skills and some Hebrew vocabulary
- The students will get familiar with the sanctuary includes: the Ark, Keter Torah, Yad, Ner Tamid, Yizkor Wall
- Introduce names of the Hebrew months

Services attendance requirements: 10 Friday night throughout the school year

Kita Alef (3rd grade):

- Introduce students to the siddur and the Torah. Teach understanding that most t'filot and the Torah are written in Hebrew
- Basic Hebrew word vocabulary will continue to grow
- Introduce names of the Hebrew months
- Prayers, which have been taught, should be used on all possible occasions in the classroom.
- The general meaning of each prayer should be taught along with the Hebrew words so that students begin to understand what it means to experience prayer to God
- Melodies used at Synagogue should be used when teaching

Services attendance requirements: 10 Friday night throughout the school year

Kita Beth (4th grade):

- Improving the fluency of the Hebrew reading
- Recognize different names and times of prayer services
- Review prayers learned previously
- Introduce new prayers from the Friday Night services
- Discuss reasons for praying
- Increase the vocabulary
- An introduction to language skills such as reading fluency, simple grammar forms: masculine, feminine, singular, plural
- Introducing the theme of the Friday night services
- Teaching the meaning of the prayers and the structure for the Friday night services

- Introducing the mezuzah and tefilin

Services attendance requirements: 10 Friday night services throughout the school year

Kita Gimmel (5th grade):

- Study the Torah service.
- Discuss communal nature and feeling of prayer services. Introduce the idea of Minyan.
- The history of the Torah services and its evolution
- The students will learn of the importance of the Torah services,
- Discussion of the importance of the Torah in our life
- Review of simple grammar forms: masculine, feminine, singular, plural
- The students will learn how to put tallit and its blessing.
- The students will learn about the technology of the Torah scroll
- The students will learn and practice how to hold the torah, and hagba'ah and gelila

Service attendance requirements: 10 Friday night and 10 Saturday morning services throughout the school year

Kita Dalet (6th grade):

- Students will show growth in reading fluency
- Explaining the source of the Musaf services and connection to the Temple in Jerusalem
- The sacrifices in the Temple in Jerusalem
- The Jewish “thanksgiving” services
- The tallit and the Tzizit – what are they symbolized and why we are wearing

Service attendance requirements: 15 Friday night and 15 Saturday morning services throughout the school year

Kita Hey (7th grade):

- The rite of passage for Bnei Mitzvah
- Introducing the Shaharit service
- Getting familiar with the different parts of that service
- Comparing the morning and the evening services – similarities and differences
- Better understanding of the Hebrew grammar – roots, prefix and suffix
- The student will expose for the idea of conversation with G-D and relationship with G-D

- What are the מלאכות (crafts – work) we shouldn't do on Shabbat
- Increase familiarity with Hebrew grammar – introducing the roots system of the Hebrew language and prefix and suffix
- Students will add to the Hebrew vocabulary they already know
- Improving their fluency in the Hebrew language
- The students will learn to put tefilin
- Introduction to the Pesuki De'Zimrah, Havdalah and Hallel services

Service requirements: two Friday and two Saturday services each month throughout the school year. During the last 3 months prior to their Bnei Mitzvah, they will come every Friday night and Every Shabbat morning services