

2021-
2022



Temple
Beth El

Religious School

Your partner in raising Jewish children.

OUR
CURRICULUM



Our Mission: To educate our children so that they grow to be literate and confident Jewish adults who find meaning in their identity and their tradition.

Big ideas that stretch over the entire school curriculum:

Chagim: Shabbat and Holidays - Shabbat and the Jewish holidays provide a framework to experience the holiness in the flow of time each year. The traditions and mitzvot of each holiday celebration connect me to God, the Jewish People, and Israel.

Am Yisrael and Tikkun Olam: My Jewish Identity - Each individual Jewish voice can find deep meaning and purpose through engagement in Jewish life and community. Jewish responsibility to make the world whole lies in each person's own talents, as it is written in the Torah that each person was created, b'tzelem elohim, in the image of God.

K'lal Yisrael: Jewish History and Community - The history of the Jewish people played a key role in the creation of Israel, Jewish life and the Jewish community as it exists today.

Talmud Torah: Jewish Literature - The Torah provides the origin story and purpose of the Jewish People and inspires the holiness of our connection with God. Lifelong learning of the Torah and Jewish texts fuel the Jewish People's mission to be partners with God through our deeds and actions.

Ivrit: Hebrew - Modern Hebrew connects me to the greater Jewish people as well as traditions in Judaism.

T'fillah: Prayer and Lifecycle - Prayer is the mode and language that can help deepen my relationship with God and my spiritual self while it connects me to the Jewish People.

Eretz Yisrael: Israel - Israel is the Jewish homeland and is a part of Judaism's history, past and present.

For any questions about the curriculum or our Religious School, please contact Heather Erez, Director of Youth Education and Engagement, at herez@tbeboca.org or call **561-391-9092**.

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Big ideas taught through these types of learning experiences in and out of the classroom:

Community Celebrations:

Building relationships in the Jewish community makes me feel connected and part of a people. Participation in services and community wide celebrations bring Judaism to life.

Family Education: Whole family learning fosters Jewish life in the home.

Hands-on Learning Experiences: Judaism in action shows me how Jewish values are enacted daily.

Youth Group Activities: Create a personal code of ethics incorporating Jewish values as a guide to ethical living.

Ivrit: Hebrew

KINDERGARTEN - BAR/BAT MITZVAH

Hebrew Through Movement:

Every year, small groups of students will work with a native Hebrew speaker to comprehend and speak Modern Hebrew. Listening and speaking builds a foundation of familiarity with the sound and flow of the language, making it an easier transition to reading Hebrew as they begin their more formal Bar/Bat Mitzvah training.

T'fillah:

Clergy will lead us through prayers in Hebrew, weekly as a community. Students gain familiarity with melodies, sanctuary behavior, and the general flow of a service while following along in Hebrew together on a large screen. Each of the Hebrew prayers we recite are included in their Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

Jewish Life Vocabulary:

Every week, new Hebrew or Yiddish phrases that are a part of our Jewish communal lexicon, will be introduced to our students. These phrases will enhance a student's experience within the Jewish community.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Coach:

About a year before the Bar/Bat Mitzvah date, students will be paired with a coach for one-on-one coaching to prepare for their ceremony. They will learn to decode Hebrew (be able to sound out and read words), perfect prayers, and chant their Torah and Haftarah portions.



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Kindergarten

Chagim: Shabbat and Holidays

Gain familiarity with and a knowledge of major Jewish holidays.

Am Yisrael and Tikkun Olam: My Jewish Identity

Explain various roles of people in the synagogue community. Know my name in Hebrew.

K'lal Yisrael: Jewish History and Community

Feel comfortable as a Religious School student and part of the Temple Beth El community.

Talmud Torah: Jewish Literature

Name key stories in the Torah from the book of Genesis, and identify the matriarch and patriarchs.

T'fillah: Prayer and Lifecycle

Identify names of prayers and become familiar with order of t'fillah service.

Eretz Yisrael: Israel

Celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut and connect to Israel as the first home of the Jewish People.

Chagim: Shabbat and Holidays

Be able to recount the stories and identify the symbols of each major Jewish holiday. Explain how holiness can enter our lives through Shabbat and the holidays. Experience a Havdalah ritual and the symbols of Havdalah.

Am Yisrael and Tikkun Olam: My Jewish Identity

Pinpoint my Jewish birthday on the Hebrew calendar. Begin to discuss ideas about God.

K'lal Yisrael: Jewish History and Community

Distinguish between the Jewish calendar and the secular calendar and where Jewish holidays fall. Be able to locate and identify key synagogue objects.

Talmud Torah: Jewish Literature

Express that the Torah is told/read in a cycle and relate how those stories matter to their lives.

T'fillah: Prayer and Lifecycle

Continue to recognize prayers and order of service in Hebrew through t'fillah. Follow along during the services.

Eretz Yisrael: Israel

Connect the holidays to the Jewish calendar and the land of Israel. Explain the symbols of Israel.

First Grade

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Second Grade

Chagim: Shabbat and Holidays

Recognize stories and themes behind each Jewish holiday and connect major figures choices.

Am Yisrael and Tikkun Olam: My Jewish Identity

Explore Jewish value concepts and apply them to their own actions. Gain personal meaning from study of values, family, and holidays.

K'lal Yisrael: Jewish History and Community

Develop their own ways to enact *tikkun olam* in their lives.

Talmud Torah: Jewish Literature

Describe Torah from Creation to Exodus through the lens of midrash. Introduce students to Torah itself.

T'fillah: Prayer and Lifecycle

Begin to associate Hebrew words and sounds with the *t'fillah* during weekly services.

Eretz Yisrael: Israel

Identify differences between American and Israeli food through cooking traditional Israeli treats.

Chagim: Shabbat and Holidays

Connect Jewish holidays knowledge to individual personal spiritual and emotional practices. Explain God's role in holidays.

Am Yisrael and Tikkun Olam: My Jewish Identity

Articulate what Reform Jewish life looks like and how the community is built on its values.

K'lal Yisrael: Jewish History and Community

Demonstrate how Reform Jewish values influence my life and community.

Talmud Torah: Jewish Literature

Introduce the Hebrew Prophets and how the lessons that their stories teach us apply to our lives today.

T'fillah: Prayer and Lifecycle

Join in t'fillah and sing along with the service leaders.

Eretz Yisrael: Israel

Explain biblical significance of regions in Israel where the narratives of the ancient prophets take place. Locate them on a modern day map of Israel.

Third Grade

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4th Grade

Chagim: Shabbat and Holidays

Review the rituals and customs, including blessings, that correspond to each holiday.

Am Yisrael and Tikkun Olam: My Jewish Identity

Jewish history influenced how each family's Jewish identity was shaped. Where do I fit in the larger Jewish story?

K'lal Yisrael: Jewish History and Community

Explore the beginning of Jewish history during ancient and medieval times.

Talmud Torah: Jewish Literature

Jewish values are woven into our folk tales and biblical stories. Students will delve into our literature to explore how the values are applied to their daily lives.

T'fillah: Prayer and Lifecycle

Become familiar with Jewish lifecycle and explain Jewish milestones and their personal meaning.

Eretz Yisrael: Israel

Retell the story of the founding of Israel and explain its significance in their lives. Israel is also a holy people and place for Jews from all over to live.

Chagim: Shabbat and Holidays

Identify the connection between the Jewish holidays and history. How have the Jewish holidays sustained the Jewish People?

Am Yisrael and Tikkun Olam: My Jewish Identity

Examine ways to enact values of *tikkun olam* in our own lives.

K'lal Yisrael: Jewish History and Community

Explore the historical moments in Diaspora and early American Jewish history that changed the trajectory of the Jewish community.

Talmud Torah: Jewish Literature

Reconnect with the Hebrew Prophets and their messages. Evaluate the prophetic values that can be applied to Jewish life today.

T'fillah: Prayer and Lifecycle

Students will learn a variety of ways to engage in prayer beyond the prayerbook. (meditation, *hitbodedut*, music, visualization)

Eretz Yisrael: Israel

Learn about the beginnings of the modern state of Israel. Connect the biblical past of Israel to modern-day Israel.

5th Grade

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6th Grade

Chagim: Shabbat and Holidays

Hiddur Mitzvah- exploring Jewish holiday art.

Am Yisrael and Tikkun Olam: My Jewish Identity

What is my role in the Jewish community? What is my responsibility?

K'lal Yisrael: Jewish History and Community

Explore the effect on emancipation on the Jewish People and Judaism. Explain why Jews have continued to remain Jewish as freedom spread throughout the world.

Talmud Torah: Jewish Literature

Identify various prophets and their messages. Evaluate personal and societal actions regarding prophetic messages: what are we doing "right," what can we do better?

T'fillah: Prayer and Lifecycle

Shabbat liturgy: Keva and kavannah. (Prayers and the intention within the prayers.)

Eretz Yisrael: Israel

Connect with Israeli class partners through twinning program. Compare Jewish practices in the United States as compared to Israel. Gain personal perspective on life as an Israeli student.

Students will learn more about the Jewish Laws (*mitzvot*) and values (*middot*) and how they frame our lives as a Reform Jewish community.

Chagim: Shabbat and Holidays

Exploring the origins of our Jewish laws (*mitzvot*) and learning why we follow certain customs and rituals today.

Am Yisrael and Tikkun Olam: My Jewish Identity

Mitzvot and *middot* can shape the way I practice Judaism.

K'lal Yisrael: Jewish History and Community

Mitzvot and *middot* are the common thread that bind me together with the global Jewish community, today and throughout history.

Talmud Torah: Jewish Literature

Rabbinic and biblical texts studied alongside contemporary literature and commentary provides a current frame for traditional *mitzvot* and *middot*.

T'fillah: Prayer and Lifecycle

How Jews pray and experience lifecycle events are rooted in our *mitzvot* and *middot*.

Eretz Yisrael: Israel

Some *mitzvot* are embedded in Israel's state laws, with no separation of church and state.

7th - 8th Grade: Mitzvot & Middot

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Reform Judaism that we are familiar with today is uniquely American. This course will explore our experience while learning how we intersect with Christians, Muslims and Orthodox Jews in our community.

Chagim: Shabbat and Holidays

As Reform Jews, we have embraced American holidays and express them with a Jewish lens when possible.

Am Yisrael and Tikkun Olam: My Jewish Identity

Being an outspoken advocate for the world around us and to repair brokenness is a key tenant of Reform Judaism.

K'lal Yisrael: Jewish History and Community

Tension between the shared ideology/theology and the variety of experiences based on where you live.

T'fillah: Prayer and Lifecycle

We celebrate the similarities and differences of lifecycle rituals and how prayer fits into various faiths.

Eretz Yisrael: Israel

We support Israel and lend our voices to advocate for pluralism. We are a voice in America for support of Israel.

Meeting weekly, these students will delve into their own relationships with God, Israel and Judaism with Rabbi Dan Levin. This course culminates in a confirmation ceremony at the end of the year.

Chagim: Shabbat and Holidays

Jewish texts provide insight on how and why we celebrate. Building on the foundations we already know about Shabbat and holidays, we learn how they are connected throughout the year.

Am Yisrael and Tikkun Olam: My Jewish Identity

Reflecting on how life is lived daily informs how we prioritize values will keep our moral compass in view.

K'lal Yisrael: Jewish History and Community

Where we are today is rooted in events from Jewish history and how we connect to the Jewish community, small and large.

Ivrit: Hebrew

Reading Torah and texts in original form may explain interpretations or misunderstanding, it also elevates the experience.

Talmud Torah: Jewish Literature

Introduction to various types of Jewish literature, ancient and contemporary, provide insight that can enhance opinions and build bridges between various Jewish communities and time periods.

T'fillah: Prayer and Lifecycle

Spending time thinking about individual relationships with God can bring new meaning to prayer and how lifecycle events are observed.

Eretz Yisrael: Israel

A deeper dive into the history and narratives of Israel increase the appreciation of the complexity of the Holy Land.

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Matarot: Our Goals

A new 2 year looping curriculum created in partnership with March of the Living educators from South Palm Beach County, students will spend one year studying the rise of Anti-Semitism leading to the Holocaust until today and the second year they explore Israeli history from 1948 until today. Students who are enrolled in this course and attend the March of the Living trip will automatically receive a \$1000 stipend toward their trip.

Am Yisrael and Tikkun Olam: My Jewish Identity

An individual Jewish journey is intertwined with the experiences that shape and inform ones place within the community.

K'lal Yisrael: Jewish History and Community

Knowledge of our shared history and communal practices keep our Jewish values in the forefront, with a focus on preventing anti-Semitism and racism in the future.

Talmud Torah: Jewish Literature

Contemporary and ancient Jewish texts reflect on experiences the Jewish people went through during the Holocaust and in the establishment of the State of Israel.

T'fillah: Prayer and Lifecycle

Lifecycle events and prayer took on many forms during the Holocaust. Some of these influences are present in how we observe today.

Eretz Yisrael: Israel

Resilience is a strong force in Israel and has been throughout its statehood.

11th and 12th Grade -
Anti-Semitism Then and Now

High School Program:

At the end of the experience, students will:

- Have a chevre (social friend group) of other Jews.
- Feel a connection to Judaism.
- Develop a deeper understanding of a variety of topics including God, Torah, morals and ethics, history and Reform Judaism.
- Have a positive Jewish identity and be able to express their personal practice and beliefs.
- Explore their “core selves” as they relate to their Jewish world around them.

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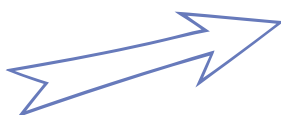


Matarot: Our Goals

Beyachad Teen

FOR 9TH-12TH GRADERS AND THEIR PARENTS

6 Sunday evening sessions throughout the year that teens attend with a parent. Each session delving into topics that affect our families with teens, such as substance abuse, suicide and depression, death, social pressure, and more. Taught by clergy, experts in the field and our education staff, thought provoking and relevant conversations will create a structure for parents and teens to have these tough conversations as they gain more tools not only to help their own family, but teens in our community.



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