



*New York* | HEBREW

AT THE CHABAD CENTER FOR JEWISH DISCOVERY



# CURRICULUM GUIDE 2019/20

# OUR 8 JEWISH EDUCATIONAL LEVELS

**Supplementing the yearly Jewish festivals curriculum**

## **KITAH GAN - PRE-K/KINDERGARTEN:** **Mitzvot We Can Do/ Jewish Ethics and Values.**

This program is designed to open the soul of a young child and inspire a lifelong love of Torah and its Mitzvot. We introduce the fundamentals of Judaism and the importance it places on kindness, sharing, friendship and a positive attitude through exploring all the Mitzvot different parts of our bodies can do. Mitzvot like Bikur Cholim- Visiting the sick, making Challah for Shabbat, and giving Tzedakah-Charity, are just a few examples.

## **ALEPH BET TRAIN/** **Introduction to the letters of the Aleph Bet**

By introducing the Hebrew alphabet early and using a fully integrated curriculum of songs, stories and art, our students leave the classroom recognizing and identifying the letters and sounds of the Aleph Bet.

Mezuzah with the Shema prayer enclosed is hung on the doorpost, how Kosher food and a charity box is found in the kitchen.

Students learn through visuals, games, stories and collate their thoughts on the fundamentals that comprise Jewish life and living.

## **KITAH ALEPH - FIRST GRADE:** **Journey Through Torah:** **The Book of Bereishit/Genesis**

Over the course of the year, students journey through the stories and lessons of the first book of the Torah, Bereishit (Genesis).

From the creation of the world to the flood, and from our forefather Avraham to Joseph and his colored coat, the Torah and its lessons are brought to life every week. The students learn through visuals, games, stories and songs, and each create a beautiful Torah scroll scrapbook that will be theirs to keep.



### **KITAH BET - SECOND GRADE: THE BOOK OF SHMOT/ A Journey through the story of the Exodus**

Over the course of the year, students journey through the stories and lessons of the second book of the Torah, Shmot (Exodus). From slavery in Egypt to the splitting of the sea, and from receiving the Torah on Mount Sinai to the building of the tabernacle in the desert, the Torah and its lessons are brought to life every week. The students learn through visuals, games, stories, and songs, and each create a beautiful photo book, documenting their art and writing, that will be theirs to keep.

## **KITAH GIMMEL – THIRD GRADE: BUILD A JEWISH HOME / Fundamental Jewish traditions and customs**

Through the course of the year students discover the Jewish items and lifestyle that enhances a Jewish home. How a Mezuzah with the Shema prayer enclosed is hung on the doorpost, how Kosher food and a charity box is found in the kitchen. Students learn through visuals, games, stories and collate their thoughts on the fundamentals that comprise Jewish life and living.

## **THE BOOK OF BAMIDBAR/ The Story of the Jewish People in the Desert**

During the first semester, students will journey through the stories and lessons of the fourth book of the Torah, Bamidbar (Numbers) which includes life for the Jewish people in the desert. From the story of the Spies to Bilam and the talking donkey, to the appointing of Joshua, the Torah and its lessons are brought to life every week.

## **KITAH DALED – FOURTH GRADE: JEWISH HEROES / Portraits in Jewish Leadership from the tanach/Bible**

It is imperative for our youth to have role models with integrity, moral values and strong conviction. Thus, our curriculum on Jewish Heroes was launched to inspire our students with tales and lessons from famous leaders throughout our history from from Moshe (Moses) the first Jewish Leader to the prophet Daniel. Students learn through audio-visuals, flashcard storytelling, drama presentations and a hero workbook illustrating how the lessons learned can assist them in making decisions today.

## **KITAH HEI – FIFTH GRADE: JEWISH DAYS/ A Journey Through the Jewish Calendar**

This program takes the students on a journey around the Jewish year as well as teaches them how to navigate a Jewish calendar.

From learning the names of the Jewish months, to discovering their joyous holidays and not-so-joyous days of mourning, the students gain insight into Jewish time. A weekly highlight includes collecting “Jewish Days” cards corresponding to dates on the Jewish calendar and storing them in their very own “Jewish Days” card albums.

### **JEWQ: Jewish Knowledge Competition**

JewQ is a new addition to New York Hebrew. Students have the opportunity to partake in an international competition mastering the fundamentals of Judaism and our traditions. Students convene weekly to study as a group and take three tests throughout the duration of the competition. The grand finale takes place in Crown Heights with a Game Show and Awards Ceremony.

## **BNEI MITZVAH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

Our Bar and Bar Mitzvah Enrichment Program is designed to prepare 11-year-old girls and 12-year-old boys for these significant milestones.

### **KITAH VOV – SIXTH GRADE Lifecycles/ A Journey of Jewish Milestones**

The ‘Lifecycles’ curriculum takes the students on a journey of Jewish milestones from birth through afterlife.

Beginning with exploring the concept of neshamot-souls, the students learned about ceremonies such as a brit milah, baby naming service, bar/bat mitzvah, marriage, and Jewish burial. Through enacting some of these ceremonies, the students truly learn and understand the meaning behind our Jewish traditions in a practical way. As a preparation for their Bar and Bat Mitzvah these classes will be accompanied by various field trips throughout the year discovering their Jewish life in a hands on way.



## KITAH ZAYIN - SEVENTH GRADE: **Jewish Experience in the 21st Century**

Students will have the once in a lifetime opportunity to be experiencing the world of Judaism through trips, workshops, activities and projects of living as a Jew in the 21st century and will have the chance to hear from the movers and shakers in the Jewish Scene.

Our classes have been divided in three categories:

1. Torah, Science, & Technology
2. The 3 pillars on which the world stands: Torah, Prayer, and Acts of Kindness
3. The Chosen Nation and our role in Tikkun Olam

With these themes in mind our workshops and trips will include:

- An opportunity to meet our Jewgloors at Google Headquarters
- A Round-table discussion about evolution and dinosaurs with Jewish Scientist Joshua A. Krusch, Science Editor @FatherlyHQ



- A workshop on Technology and Judaism with Rabbi Mordechai Lightstone, Founder of Tech Tribe
- Help prepare hundreds of meals for the needy at the Masbia soup kitchen, The launch of a 6 week tzedakah fundraiser project
- A special talk by a Hatzalah EMT volunteer member sharing the story of saving a life
- A Historic Evening with Holocaust Survivor Eva Schloss
- A surprise Guest speaker - Being a proud Jew in the world of blogging, social media, and journalism and prepare care packages for American soldiers abroad.

## **My Family Story Project**

Our Bar and Bat Mitzvah class will be joining the My Family Story project, an incredible program in which close to 20,000 students, from 28 countries, representing 155 global Jewish institutions participate.

My Family Story goes beyond the typical family tree. It marks a defining moment in the lives of Jewish youth around the world to find their own, personal and unique story that emphasizes Jewish identity. Our students will create fun, artistic installations that capture the essence of their Jewish traditions heirlooms, language and stories.

The highlight of My Family Story will be a community exhibit of our art projects, while joining the Beit Hatfutsot International Competition where, every year, a number of these special creations are chosen and displayed in an international exhibition in Tel Aviv, when dozens of students, participants and their families gather from across the Jewish world.



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