

Beth El Religious School

What to Expect in Your Child's Kittah Gimmel (3rd Grade)

Curriculum:

ETGAR YESODI – HOLIDAYS AND MITZVOT/ETHICS & VALUES/TORAH

Etgar Yesodi is a curriculum, developed by the Jewish Theological Seminary that links Jewish values, moral development and spirituality with experiential learning, technology and family involvement. The curriculum seeks to connect children with the textual, ritual and artistic sources of Jewish life, while encouraging their curiosity, imagination and expression. The goal is for children to emerge with a "vocabulary" of Jewish life that goes beyond words, and which informs their sense of what Judaism contributes to their lives, and what they can contribute to the world around them.

HEBREW

The third grader reviews phonetic decoding skills previously learned and practices reading fluency. *Kittah Gimmel* students learn the themes of key prayers and how to recognize simple Hebrew roots, prefixes and suffixes.

PRAYER & THEOLOGY

Your child will be guided and encouraged to think and talk about God and to find a higher meaning for the things and creatures that inhabit our world. He/she will learn what it means to be created in God's image.

CHAG HASIDDUR

The *Gimmel* year will prepare the students to take their rightful place in *K'lal Yisrael* (the community of Israel) by formally introducing the students to the Saturday morning service and preparing them to receive their first *Siddur*, (prayer book) in a special ceremony called Consecration or *Chag HaSiddur*.

PRAYER GOALS

Your child will be learning many new prayers this year. These prayers will be routinely reviewed each and every week, so not to worry. The prayers are learned through familiar melodies and by rote. A list is provided below.

T'FILLOT (PRAYERS)

Modeh Ani, Mah tovu, Hallelu, Shema & V'ahavta, Vayehi Binsoa Haaron, Ein Kamocha, Shema, Echad, Gadlu, Beh Ana rachetz, Aliya, Eitz Chayim Hi, Mizmor L'david

BERACHOT (BLESSINGS)

*Bread - Ha'Motzih
Wine - Ha-'Gafen
Cake - Mezonot
Candy, other - Sh'Hakol
Fruit - Ha'etz
Vegetables - Ha'Adama
Shabbat Candles - L'hadlik Ner Shel Shabbat,
Chanukah, Pesach: Ma Nishtanah, Matzah, Maror*

MUSIC

Your child will learn many new songs in Hebrew and/or English each week with Cantor Leon Sher.

CHUGIM

Every Sunday all grades will participate in *chugim* (clubs). Each grade will rotate every week to a different activity such as Jewish art, Jewish cooking, Jewish nature, and more.