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Bet – Second Grade

Our overarching curricular goals for Hebrew are for a graduate of the Congregational School to be able to:

- Decode Hebrew texts, with emphasis on *tefillot* (prayers), *brakhot* (blessings), and Torah texts
- Participate in Shabbat services, both singing and reading *tefillot*
- Feel connected to the larger Jewish community and Israel

Zman Ivrit – Hebrew

The Bet Hebrew curriculum reviews the letter-sound correspondences of the Hebrew alphabet and introduces blending Hebrew letter and vowel sounds. The students create a book called *The Little Yud that Could*, illustrating how the letter *Yud* fits into each letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

Bet Hebrew goals:

- Review and solidify knowledge of the entire Alef-Bet with all the *n'kudot* (vowels)
- Begin blending Hebrew letter and vowel sounds
- Become familiar with aspects of Israeli culture
- Build a Hebrew vocabulary of basic modern Hebrew phrases

Tefillah – Curriculum

Bet students learn *tefillot* (prayers) both during the week and at family Shabbat programs with Principal Music Educator Josh Rosenberg. Their service includes the elements from *Gan/Kindergarten* and *Alef/Gr 1 tefillot* and adds the following:

- *Etz hayim*
- *V'shamru*
- *Mi-shebeirakh*
- *L'dor va-dor*
- *Aleinu*

Core Judaics

Bet students do an in-depth study of stories from the book of *B'reishit* seen through the lens of family relationships and personal values. Using Blumenthal's *Explorer's Bible*, students will become familiar with the life stories of Abraham, Sarah, Rebecca, Isaac, Jacob, and Esau. During class discussions, learners are encouraged to apply the text to experiences in their own lives to help the Torah come alive.

Milestone Moment

As a culmination of a unit of Torah study, Bet learners will be invited to sing and share a presentation of *V'Shamru* during Friday evening Shabbat programming. They will also share their *B'reishit* book creations!

Learning Objectives/Goals

Bet learners will . . .

- Become familiar with key stories and characters in the book of *B'reishit*.
- Explore personal connections, values, and role models from Torah stories.
- Create a dvar Torah and art to share what they have learned about a character from *B'reishit*.
- Blend Hebrew letter and vowel combinations.
- Learn to sing the prayers covered in their *tefillah* sessions.