

JEWISH LIFE








AND

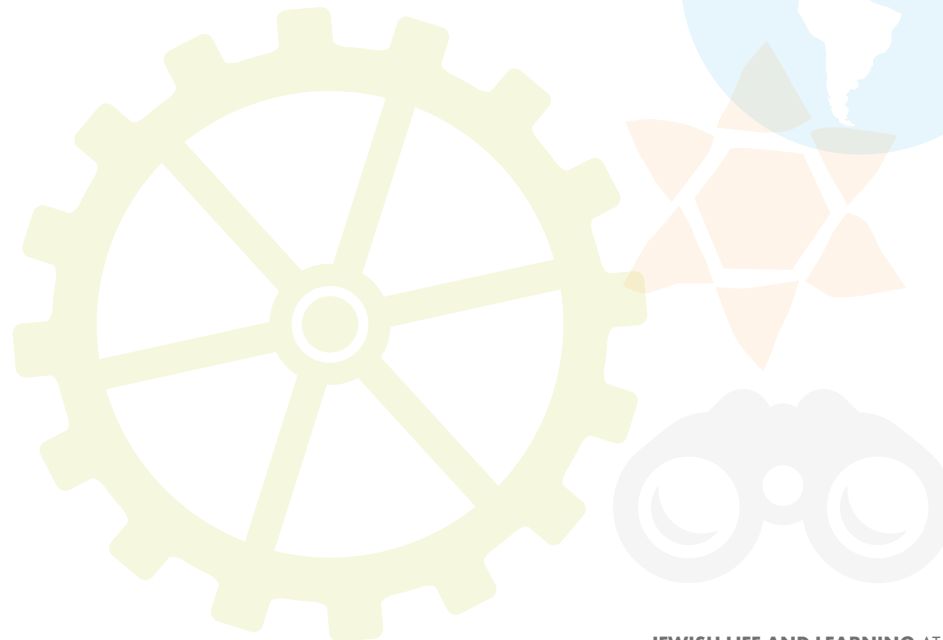
LEARNING

OBJECTIVES FOR JEWISH LIFE AND LEARNING AT JDS

1. Find joy and connection in Judaism, as one's identity or as a Jewish ally
2. Participate meaningfully in Jewish life events and know and meet one's responsibility as a Jewish community member
3. Understand Jewish traditions and make choices that are personally relevant
4. Apply Jewish values as a guide for how to live in the world and treat everything in it
5. Understand the Jewish roots of action through values & mitzvot and apply them to one's personal life
6. Engage in the learning of Torah and Text as a narrative and connector for Judaism, and a resource for personal inspiration and connection
7. Have a foundation in Jewish history by understanding, finding connection, and seeing the impact of the Jewish story through time
8. Have knowledge of ancient and modern Israel and feel connected to modern Israel and Jews around the world
9. Understand how Judaism fits into the historical and present context of the world and connects to other cultures and religions

JEWISH VALUES

-  **Lilmod U'Lelemed** – Learning & Teaching
-  **Kehillah Kedoshah** – Nurturing our Community
-  **Derech Eretz** – Engaging as Global Citizens
-  **Tikkun Olam** – Repairing the World
-  **Tzedek Tirdof** – Pursuing Justice
-  **Elu V'Elu** – Honoring Multiple Perspectives
-  **Ometz Lev** – Having Courage of the Heart





APPROACH –

HOW WE PRACTICE JEWISH LIFE & LEARNING AT JDS

At JDS we take an integrated approach to Jewish Life and Learning. Just as Judaism is an integrated approach to living, Jewish Life and Learning is integrated into the educational program at JDS.

It begins with our mission: exceptional education, confident, wise & compassionate upstanders, community stewardship. This is the model that guides our school. Jewish Life and Learning informs each part of the JDS school model.

Our JDS Core Values are Jewish values which guide who we want our students to become. The Core Values and other Jewish values are integrated into the day and taught by all teachers of all subjects.

The Jewish Studies curriculum is presented through Units of Study based in the Inquiry or Project Based Learning models. Through the

integration of Jewish Values & Mitzvot, Jewish History & Social Studies, Torah and Jewish Text, Theology, and T'fillah, students are provided with historical context, modern connection, and the inspiration to be Upstanders and engage in Tikkun Olam. Each Unit of Study includes a mix of Jewish texts connected to the learning goals. The activities highlight the Jewish values taught in these texts and the history or topic being studied. Instilling a desire to perform mitzvot and live by Jewish values occurs alongside the other learning in the unit – factual lessons and value lessons are inextricable. Our ultimate goal is to provide students with a personal lens through which they view the world and make choices informed by Jewish values. Jewish Studies and General Studies are integrated by yearly themes, connected PBL units, and a focus on Israel.

The Jewish calendar is the thread that weaves through the school year, giving purpose to school gatherings and celebrations, and content for Jewish Studies, Hebrew, and other subjects. The Jewish holidays provide opportunities for our students to put Jewish Values into action through Tikkun Olam.

The study of T'fillah (prayer) connects students in community and mindfulness. Prayer allows students to participate in and lead different services and rituals. Students engage in a conversation with prior generations and themselves through prayer, which helps them to understand Jewish thought and values and form their unique identity and personal relationship with the Divine. T'fillah is both practiced at dedicated times and explored in Units of Study.

HOLIDAY LEARNING & CELEBRATION

- Rosh Hashanah
- Yom Kippur
- Sukkot
- Simchat Torah
- Hanukkah
- Tu B'Shevat
- Purim
- Pesach
- Yom HaShoah
- Yom Ha'Atzmaut & Yom HaZikaron
- Shavuot
- Shabbat



JEWISH STUDIES: HISTORY & SOCIAL STUDIES, VALUES & MITZVOT, TORAH & TEXT, THEOLOGY

- Identity, diversity & community
- Personal family history
- Notable Jewish people around the world
- Israel geography, civics, economics & innovation, founding of State
- Jewish communities around the world: Ashkenazi, Sephardic, Middle Eastern, North African
- History of Judaism and world religions: pantheism, monotheism and Abrahamic religions
- Government systems, democratic values & human rights
- Ancient history: Ancient Egypt, Maccabees, destruction of Temple, birth of rabbinic Judaism
- Diaspora & immigration, Inquisition & expulsion, Middle Ages, Enlightenment and rights in Europe
- The Holocaust
- Current events and perspectives on Israel and Jewish topics* (To be added for FY22)





JEWISH STUDIES SCOPE & SEQUENCE

HISTORICAL CONTEXT & MODERN CONNECTION

- Identify, find connection, and see the impact of the Jewish story through time
- Recognize how Judaism fits into the historical and present context of the world and connects to other cultures and religions
- Connect to the experiences of Jews in the past to understand one's place in the Jewish story, and to further the story
- Recognize how Jewish history informs Jewish culture and religion today
- Use Jewish history as inspiration to make a more just and fair world for all people
- Know about influential Jewish change makers throughout history

LOWER ELEMENTARY

- Know the difference between story and fact.
- Know that there are Jews all over the world and that there are cultural similarities and differences.
- Listen to stories of Jewish people who affected history.
- Understand the concept of a family tree through their own family tree and the biblical family tree.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

- Identify shared themes of creation in different creation stories.
- Understand that there is a history of religion and Judaism and know the difference between pantheism and monotheism.
- Identify geographically where Ashkenazi, Sephardic and Middle Eastern and North African Jews are from, and name examples of differences. Explore how different communities have different interpretations over time.
- Understand that there are Jews all over the world and begin to understand the Diaspora through historical and current examples.
- Research Israel's contributions to the world and the people involved.
- Learn about Jewish leaders in government who demonstrate Jewish and democratic values.
- Research one's personal family heritage, geography and Jewish journey.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Learn about the universals of culture using Jewish foundational texts to create a viable Early Israelite Culture.
- Learn about the early Kings of Israel as real people with strengths & weaknesses.
- Learn about the role of the Prophets in Biblical Israel and use as a lens to address modern problems.
- Learn about the creation of Rabbinic Judaism from the destruction of the Temple through Babylonian exile and the Rabbinic era.
- Learn how Jewish identity and practice were formed by the historical experiences of Sephardic and Ashkenazic Jews in the Middle Ages.
- Explore the history of Germany in the 1930s and identify what it looks like when the world goes wrong so you know when to take action.
- Learn about the Age of Enlightenment and the Emancipation of Jews by Napoleon.
- Research everyday examples of courageous people and how they make a difference.
- Learn about the Shoah through Jewish resistance and rescue by Gentiles.
- Research a personal family story and tell it through film.



JEWISH STUDIES SCOPE & SEQUENCE



TORAH & TEXT

- Understand Torah is the narrative and connector of Jewish people
- Engage in the interpretation of biblical text
- Use as a resource for values, personal inspiration and connection

LOWER ELEMENTARY

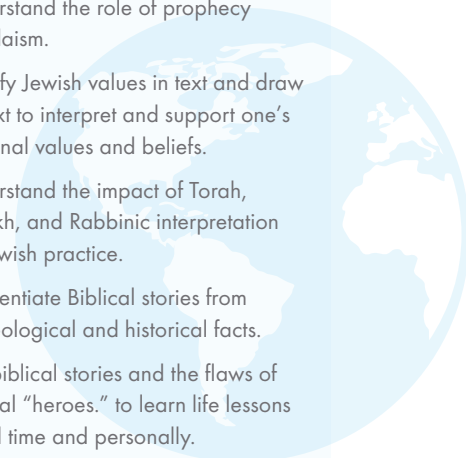
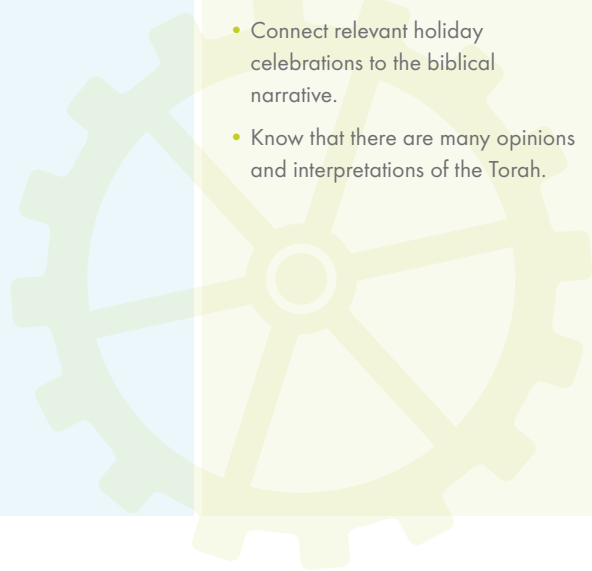
- Review patriarchs Avraham and Yitchak and matriarchs Sarah and Rivka using Chumash Bereshit.
- Know that the Torah is a Hebrew text divided into 5 books and is the “memory” story of the Jewish people.
- Identify, draw connections, contribute personal ideas, and apply values to the main characters, events, and themes of central Torah narratives.
- Read verses from the Torah in Hebrew and understand the weekly cycle.
- Know that rabbis, teachers, and other people help explain the Torah.
- Connect relevant holiday celebrations to the biblical narrative.
- Know that there are many opinions and interpretations of the Torah.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

- Review patriarch Yakov and matriarch Leah and Rachel using Chumash Bereshit.
- Review Yosef and his 11 brothers using Chumash Bereshit.
- Review portions of Exodus.
- Understand, compare, interpret, and personally apply the moral questions and dilemmas of the Torah and Jewish Texts.
- Recognize special literary characteristics of the biblical text, navigate using Hebrew perek (chapter) and pasuk (verse), and locate a narrative sequentially.
- Increase specificity and detail of understanding, comparisons, and interpretation of personalities, themes, and events of Torah narratives.
- Know that there are commentaries that provide interpretations of the Torah.
- Connect observance of holidays and Shabbat to their origins in the Torah.
- Connect Modern Hebrew words to biblical verses containing those same words or roots.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- In 6th grade review major stories from the Exodus through the 40 years in the Wilderness in the Torah, and excerpts from all the books in Navi.
- In 7th grade focus on Rabbinic texts from earliest Midrash to modern responsa.
- In 8th grade use many texts from all areas of Jewish thought and writing in their study of Jewish theological concepts.
- Engage in close reading and interpretation to make a midrash.
- Understand the role of prophecy in Judaism.
- Identify Jewish values in text and draw on text to interpret and support one’s personal values and beliefs.
- Understand the impact of Torah, Tanakh, and Rabbinic interpretation on Jewish practice.
- Differentiate Biblical stories from archeological and historical facts.
- Use biblical stories and the flaws of Biblical “heroes.” to learn life lessons for all time and personally.





JEWISH STUDIES SCOPE & SEQUENCE

PERSONAL CONNECTION & ACTION

- Apply Jewish values as a guide for how to live in the world and treat everything in it
- Recognize the Jewish roots of action through values & mitzvot and apply them to one's personal life
- Link Jewish values to text, custom, and culture
- Identify and apply the Jewish lens on justice to restorative practices and problem solving

LOWER ELEMENTARY

- Identify Jewish values in stories, the Torah, and Torah characters.
- Participate in mitzvot through the Jewish holidays and other opportunities.
- Use Jewish values to frame social emotional learning in class community and personal interactions.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

- Recognize my responsibility to take action against injustice, even if I can't solve the problem entirely through ancient ancestors and modern examples.
- Understand how living Jewish values made an impact on global history through Soviet Jewry; Beta Yisrael – Ethiopia.
- Research people today who are living Jewish values and making change.
- Participate in mitzvot through the Jewish holidays and other opportunities.
- Use Jewish values to frame social-emotional learning in class community and personal interactions.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Recognize my responsibility to ensure that all people have the same rights in a Civil Society through a study of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Recognize the difference one person can make even when they appear powerless through the stories of Jewish partisans and Righteous Gentiles.
- Identify my strengths and weaknesses and recognize how they impact myself and others, and use that learning to evaluate leaders.
- Evaluate my actions and identify how to be an Upstander through the lessons of history.





JEWISH STUDIES SCOPE & SEQUENCE

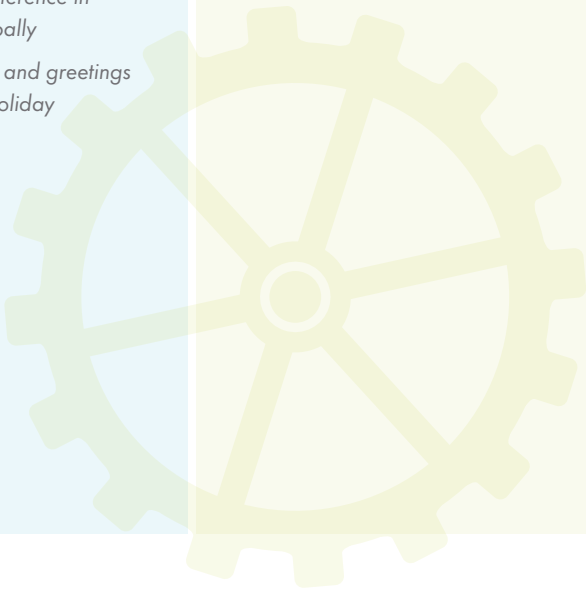
T'FILLAH & THEOLOGY	LOWER ELEMENTARY	UPPER ELEMENTARY	MIDDLE SCHOOL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find joy and connection in Judaism, as part of one's identity or as a Jewish ally • Recognize that living in gratitude is a core value in Judaism • Practice mindfulness and learn how to feed oneself spiritually • Understand traditions and make choices that are personally relevant • Understand the meaning and themes of certain prayers, find personal meaning, and internalize those prayers • Participate meaningfully in Jewish life events and know and meet one's responsibility as a Jewish community member • Understand the literal translation, intention, and chant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find joy and practice mindfulness in T'fillah. • Understand the general meaning and main themes of major T'fillot. • Learn the prayers and rituals of Kabbalat Shabbat and Havdallah. • Form a personal connection to Shabbat through leading Shabbat as Shabbat Child. • Learn blessings over food. • Be exposed to the text features of a Siddur. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find joy and practice mindfulness in T'fillah. • Understand and connect personally to the main themes of major T'fillot. • Become familiar with reciting and chanting T'fillot. • Expand on Kabbalat Shabbat to deepen connection, include more traditional elements, and take a leadership role. • Rotate responsibility of leading Shabbat and preparing a D'Var Torah. • Navigate a Siddur and participate in elements of a weekday service. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the range of Judaism from traditional belief through modern beliefs and how they connect. • Be exposed to multiple ways to practice mindfulness and spirituality. • Build one's personal belief system and spiritual practice drawing on the diversity of Jewish wisdom and spiritual practice. • Imbue the values of Jewish prayer to be a good person. • Participate in Jewish practice including Shabbat and Afternoon Service





JEWISH STUDIES SCOPE & SEQUENCE

HOLIDAYS	LOWER ELEMENTARY	UPPER ELEMENTARY	MIDDLE SCHOOL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find joy and connection in Judaism, as part of one's identity or as a Jewish ally • Celebrate the Jewish holidays as a community • Understand Jewish traditions and make choices that are personally relevant • Identify the historical context and modern practice • Know the mitzvot associated with the holiday and how they relate to what we do • Recognize the connections to and common themes with other holidays, cultures, traditions • Be exposed to the difference in Jewish traditions globally • Know Hebrew words and greetings associated with the holiday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know the name, meaning, and traditions. • Identify the symbols of the holiday and their meaning in Hebrew and in English. • Participate and identify different rituals and customs of the holiday (foods, music, etc.) • Know the customary greeting(s) associated with each holiday. • Learn the main blessings of the holiday. • Identify and participate in the mitzvot associated with the holiday. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know the mitzvot associated with the holiday and how they relate to what we do. • Use the Jewish holidays for personal reflection and growth. • Be exposed to the difference in Jewish traditions globally. • Identify the main themes and connect to common themes with other holidays, cultures, traditions. • Identify the mitzvot, lead them and apply personally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the historical context and modern practice and differentiate myth from historical fact. • Use the liturgy of Jewish holidays for personal reflection and growth. • Be exposed to the difference in Jewish traditions globally. • Take leadership with mitzvot for the school and also in personal life.





JEWISH STUDIES SCOPE & SEQUENCE

MODERN ISRAEL

- Have knowledge of ancient and modern Israel and feel connected to modern Israel and Jews around the world

LOWER ELEMENTARY

- Learn the holidays in Israel and how they are celebrated.
- Understand that Israel is a Jewish homeland and a country that has many places that are special to Jews, Christians and Muslims.
- Recognize that Hebrew is the official language of Israel, but there are many languages spoken there.
- Understand that Jewish time and space separate holy from secular.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

- Learn the holidays in Israel and compare how they are celebrated in the United States and other countries.
- Compare the government systems of Israel and US.
- Learn about the economics of and innovation in Israel.
- Recognize that throughout its history, various groups have immigrated to Israel for diverse reasons, making it a true melting pot.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Learn about the Founding of the State of Israel.
- Compare the government systems of Israel and US and learn how they relate to Jewish thought.*
- Create a personal connection to Israel and apply knowledge of Israel and Hebrew language through the 8th Grade Travel Experience.

*Not an annual course

