2026-27 PARENT CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

A year of Jewish learning, made visible.

31 Sundays of culture, identity, Hebrew, holidays, Israel, creativity and community, thoughtfully shaped for every stage of learning.

31 class Sundays
September to June

4 age pathways
one connected school

Hebrew literacy and Jewish culture, shaped by age.

In SK-1 and Grades 2-3, every Sunday begins with one Hebrew letter and a small family of useful words, followed by Jewish cultural learning. Older students encounter Hebrew through the people, places, stories and ideas they explore.

SK-1 Sha'arim | SK-Grade 1

Belonging through play, story, music and movement

Play, movement, song, sensory discovery and gentle story

2-3 Grades 2-3

Discovery through stories, making and shared traditions

Story, making, comparison, participation and growing vocabulary

4-6 Grades 4-6

Jewish literacy through inquiry, history and creative projects

History, source inquiry, perspective, ethics and creative response

7-9 TeenShemet | Grades 7-9

Identity, leadership, service and real-world Jewish learning

Identity, leadership, service, peer teaching and real-world learning

A Sunday at OMJS

School hours, break time and what students should bring

9:30 a.m.	**Classes begin**
10:45-11:05 a.m.	**20-minute break**
12:30 p.m.	**Classes end**

Items marked PROPOSED are subject to partner, permission, transportation and scheduling confirmation.

What to bring every Sunday

- Food or a snack and a drink.
- Weather-appropriate clothing for outdoor time.
- Winter: warm outdoor clothing, outdoor boots and clean indoor shoes to change into.
- Warmer weather: clothing suitable for outdoor activities.

September

2 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

SEP 6

LESSON 1

Welcome, Belonging and a New Jewish Year

First day of school; before Rosh Hashanah

SK-1

Hello, New Year!

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

aleph (א) | ani (אני) | or (אור) | aba (אבא)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children meet their class through name games, music, apples and honey, then add a hope to a shared artwork welcoming the Jewish new year.

2-3

Many Families, One New Year

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

aleph (א) | ani (אני) | or (אור) | aba (אבא)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students map the people and places that make them feel Jewish, explore Rosh Hashanah symbols and create a shared hope for their class community.

4-6

What Makes a Meaningful New Year?

Students examine the Jewish calendar, Rosh Hashanah's themes and how communities use shared time, memory and goals to begin again.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

shanah (שנה) | tapuach (תפוח) | dvash (דבש)

7-9

TeenShemet Leadership Launch

Teens identify strengths, set group norms and use the Jewish new year to define leadership intentions for service, peer teaching and community responsibility.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

shanah (שנה) | tapuach (תפוח) | dvash (דבש)

SEP 20

LESSON 2

Reflection, Repair and New Beginnings

Erev Yom Kippur

SK-1

Try Again, Make It Better

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

bet (ב) | bayit (בית) | boker (בקר) | barvaz (ברוז)

JEWISH CULTURE

Through a gentle story and role-play, children practise saying sorry, fixing a mistake and making a kind choice for a new year.

2-3

The Courage to Repair

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

bet (ב) | bayit (בית) | boker (בקר) | barvaz (ברוז)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students distinguish apology from repair and create a practical 'reset plan' for friendships, family and classroom life.

4-6

Accountability, Not Perfection

Students explore Yom Kippur as a Jewish cultural framework for reflection, responsibility and restoring trust, without assuming one form of observance.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

slicha (סליחה) | tov (טוב) | lev (לב)

7-9

Leading Through Accountability

Teens examine how credible leaders respond to mistakes and use a case study to practise apology, repair and renewed action.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

slicha (סליחה) | tov (טוב) | lev (לב)

October

2 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

OCT 18

LESSON 3

Home, Harvest and Shared Stories

Returning to Sukkot and Simchat Torah

SK-1

A Little Home Under the Sky

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

gimel (ג) | gan (גן) | geshem (גשם) | gadol (גדול)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children revisit Sukkot through building, touch and song, then discover how welcoming others can turn a space into a home.

2-3

Welcome Is Something We Do

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

gimel (ג) | gan (גן) | geshem (גשם) | gadol (גדול)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students compare temporary and permanent homes and design a welcoming sukkah for real and imagined guests.

4-6

Portable Traditions

Students examine how Sukkot and Simchat Torah helped Jewish communities carry memory, stories and identity across changing places.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

sukkah (סכה) | bayit (בית) | yachad (יחד)

7-9

Who Gets Welcomed In?

Teens use the sukkah's open-door ideal to examine inclusion, barriers and the leadership choices that make a community genuinely welcoming.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

sukkah (סכה) | bayit (בית) | yachad (יחד)

OCT 25

LESSON 4

Jewish Time: Shabbat, Rest and Renewal

SK-1

A Special Time to Pause

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

dalet (ד) | dag (דג) | delet (דלת) | dvash (דבש)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children explore Shabbat through familiar sounds, tastes, objects and family routines, with room for every family's way of marking time.

2-3

Making Time Feel Special

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

dalet (ד) | dag (דג) | delet (דלת) | dvash (דבש)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students discover how songs, food and repeated rituals can separate ordinary time from special time and strengthen connection.

4-6

The Radical Idea of Rest

Students consider Shabbat as an ancient Jewish contribution to human dignity, boundaries and rest in a constantly connected world.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Shabbat (שבת) | ner (נר) | shir (שיר)

7-9

Attention Is a Leadership Choice

Teens debate digital boundaries and design a realistic weekly pause that protects attention, relationships and personal wellbeing.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Shabbat (שבת) | ner (נר) | shir (שיר)

November

5 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

NOV 1

LESSON 5

Stories, Questions and Jewish Curiosity

SK-1

Big Questions Are Welcome

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

heh (ה) | har (הר) | horeh (הורה) | hineh (הנה)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children use a Jewish folktale, puppets and wonder questions to discover that asking can be as important as answering.

2-3

A Story With More Than One Answer

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

heh (ה) | har (הר) | horeh (הורה) | hineh (הנה)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students interpret a short Jewish tale from different viewpoints and practise respectful disagreement.

4-6

The Jewish Art of Argument

Students encounter paired interpretation and learn how evidence, questioning and disagreement can deepen rather than weaken a community.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

mah (מה) | sefer (ספר) | sipur (ספור)

7-9

Dialogue Across Difference

Teens practise facilitation techniques for difficult conversations and learn to separate disagreement, disrespect and harm.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

mah (מה) | sefer (ספר) | sipur (ספור)

NOV 8

LESSON 6

One Jewish People, Many Communities

Sigd and Ethiopian Jewish heritage

SK-1

Jewish Families Around the World

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

vav (ו) | vered (ורד) | varod (ורוד) | vilon (וילון)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children travel through pictures, rhythm and story to meet Jewish families in different places and notice what is shared and unique.

2-3

The Journey to Jerusalem

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

vav (ו) | vered (ורד) | varod (ורוד) | vilon (וילון)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students learn the story of Ethiopian Jewry and Sigd through maps, music and the themes of longing, community and return.

4-6

Ethiopian Jewish Voices

Students examine Beta Israel history and Sigd, asking whose stories are centred when Jewish history is told.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Yisrael (ישראל) | bayit (בית) | Yehudi (יהודי)

7-9

Representation and Jewish Peoplehood

Teens explore Ethiopian Israeli voices and consider how leaders can broaden representation without reducing a community to one story.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Yisrael (ישראל) | bayit (בית) | Yehudi (יהודי)

November

5 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

NOV 15

LESSON 7

Israel: People, Places and Everyday Life

Ben-Gurion Day

SK-1

A Day in Israel

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

zayin (ז) | zeh (זה) | zayit (זית) | zman (זמן)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children encounter Israel through a playful day of Hebrew greetings, markets, music, foods and landscapes.

2-3

From Desert to City

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

zayin (ז) | zeh (זה) | zayit (זית) | zman (זמן)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students explore Israel's regions and communities, connecting geography to food, work, language and daily life.

4-6

Building a Country

Students use Ben-Gurion and the Negev as a case study in vision, nation-building, compromise and unintended consequences.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Yisrael (ישראל) | ir (עיר) | yam (ים)

7-9

Vision, Power and Tradeoffs

Teens evaluate a nation-building decision and distinguish inspiring leadership from simplified hero stories.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Yisrael (ישראל) | ir (עיר) | yam (ים)

NOV 22

LESSON 8

Responsibility in Action

SK-1

Small Hands Can Help

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

chet (ח) | chaver (חבר) | challah (חלה) | chag (חג)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children identify helpful actions at home, school and in the community, then contribute to a simple class kindness project.

2-3

From Kind Idea to Kind Action

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

chet (ח) | chaver (חבר) | challah (חלה) | chag (חג)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students learn how to notice a need, choose a useful response and work together on a small community-care project.

4-6

Tzedakah, Justice and Need

Students compare charity and justice, then make evidence-based choices about time, money and community support.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

la'azor (לעזר) | latet (לתת) | tov (טוב)

7-9 PROPOSED

Proposed Community Service Lab

Teens work with a local Jewish community partner on a practical service need, then document what responsible volunteering requires.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

la'azor (לעזר) | latet (לתת) | tov (טוב)

November

5 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

NOV 29

LESSON 9

Light, Courage and Preparing to Teach

Preparing for Hanukkah

SK-1

Finding Light

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

tet (ט) | tov (טוב) | tiyul (טיול) | ta'am (טעם)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children explore light and darkness through sensory play, music and a first retelling of the Hanukkah story.

2-3

Brave in Different Ways

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

tet (ט) | tov (טוב) | tiyul (טיול) | ta'am (טעם)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students meet several figures in the Hanukkah story and discover that courage can mean acting, persisting or protecting identity.

4-6

History, Legend and Living Memory

Students compare historical and later Hanukkah narratives and ask why communities tell the same event in different ways.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

or (אור) | ner (נר) | chag (חג)

7-9

Peer Lesson Studio: Hanukkah

Teens design and rehearse a short, interactive Hanukkah lesson for younger students, including a clear idea, activity and Hebrew in context.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

or (אור) | ner (נר) | chag (חג)

One connected year

The curriculum follows the rhythm of the Jewish and Canadian calendars while leaving room for teachers to respond to the students in front of them.

December

2 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

DEC 6

LESSON 10

Hanukkah: Culture, Courage and Celebration

During Hanukkah

SK-1

Light, Spin, Sing

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

yod (י) | yad (יד) | yeled (ילד) | yom (יום)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children celebrate through Hanukkah songs, movement, dreidel play and a hands-on exploration of how one light can grow.

2-3

Symbols Tell a Story

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

yod (י) | yad (יד) | yeled (ילד) | yom (יום)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students decode the hanukkiah and dreidel as cultural objects and create a symbol for courage in their own lives.

4-6

Whose Freedom? Which Story?

Students discuss religious freedom, cultural survival and the tensions inside the Hanukkah story through age-appropriate source excerpts.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Chanukah (חנכה) | ner (נר) | sevivon (סביבון)

7-9

Peer Teaching Day 1: Hanukkah

Teens lead their prepared mini-lessons for younger classes, gather feedback and reflect on clarity, inclusion and classroom leadership.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Chanukah (חנכה) | ner (נר) | sevivon (סביבון)

DEC 13

LESSON 11

The Light We Bring

Hanukkah reflection and winter break send-off

SK-1

I Can Be a Light

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

kaf (כ) | kelev (כלב) | kova (כובע) | kochav (כוכב)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children name ways they bring warmth and kindness to others and create a class display of bright actions.

2-3

Eight Ways to Add Light

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

kaf (כ) | kelev (כלב) | kova (כובע) | kochav (כוכב)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students turn Hanukkah's light metaphor into realistic acts of courage, care and welcome during the winter break.

4-6

Public Jewish Identity

Students consider when Jewish identity feels private, public, easy or complicated, and build respectful strategies for explaining Hanukkah.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

or (אור) | latet (לתת) | lev (לב)

7-9

Leadership Debrief and Winter Action

Teens review peer-teaching feedback, identify one leadership habit to strengthen and plan a small independent act of service over the break.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

or (אור) | latet (לתת) | lev (לב)

January

4 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

JAN 10

LESSON 12

Our Names, Our Stories, Our Identities

SK-1

My Name Has a Story

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

lamed (ל) | lev (לב) | lechem (לחם) | limon (לימון)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children explore the sounds and stories in their names and make a name artwork using Hebrew letters as cultural symbols.

2-3

Names Carry Stories

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

lamed (ל) | lev (לב) | lechem (לחם) | limon (לימון)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students investigate how names can connect people to family, language, place and memory without assuming every name has one origin.

4-6

Identity Has Many Layers

Students create identity maps and consider how Jewish, Canadian, family, language and personal identities overlap and change.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

ani (אני) | shem (שם) | bayit (בית)

7-9

Telling Your Jewish Story

Teens develop a concise personal narrative that communicates identity honestly, including complexity, uncertainty and multiple belongings.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

ani (אני) | shem (שם) | bayit (בית)

JAN 17

LESSON 13

Memory, Human Dignity and Moral Choice

Preparing for International Holocaust Remembrance Day

SK-1

Every Person Has a Name

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

mem (מ) | mayim (מים) | mishpachah (משפחה) | matok (מתוק)

JEWISH CULTURE

Using a gentle, non-graphic story, children learn that every person matters and that names help us remember real lives.

2-3

Remembering People, Not Numbers

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

mem (מ) | mayim (מים) | mishpachah (משפחה) | matok (מתוק)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students encounter one age-appropriate pre-war family story and focus on ordinary life, identity and the responsibility to remember.

4-6

How Prejudice Grows

Students trace an age-appropriate progression from stereotype to exclusion and identify choices that protect dignity and belonging.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Yehudi (יהודי) | chaver (חבר) | la'azor (לעזר)

7-9

Learning Before Commemorating

Teens establish historical foundations, distinguish antisemitism from general intolerance and begin preparing questions for survivor testimony and museum learning.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Yehudi (יהודי) | chaver (חבר) | la'azor (לעזר)

January

4 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

JAN 24

LESSON 14

International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Observed January 27

SK-1

Remembering With Kindness

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

nun (נ) | ner (נר) | na'al (נעל) | nechmad (נחמד)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children use names, family photographs and a memory-light activity to practise care for people and stories from long ago.

2-3

A Child's Life Before the War

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

nun (נ) | ner (נר) | na'al (נעל) | nechmad (נחמד)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students learn about one Jewish child's hobbies, home and hopes before the Holocaust, keeping remembrance centred on a full human life.

4-6

Witness, Evidence and Responsibility

Students examine how photographs, objects and testimony help preserve truth and why careful evidence matters when history is denied or distorted.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

lizkor (לזכר) | adam (אדם) | chayim (חיים)

7-9

From Memory to Civic Responsibility

Teens connect the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau to universal remembrance, examine the limits of easy comparisons and plan a respectful act of commemoration.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

lizkor (לזכר) | adam (אדם) | chayim (חיים)

JAN 31

LESSON 15

Tu BiShvat and Caring for the Earth

Tu BiShvat was January 23

SK-1

Meet a Tree

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

samech (ס) | sefer (ספר) | saba (סבא) | slicha (סליחה)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children explore trees through touch, movement, fruit tasting and a Hebrew song about growing.

2-3

A Birthday for Trees

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

samech (ס) | sefer (ספר) | saba (סבא) | slicha (סליחה)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students investigate what trees give communities and create a practical promise for caring for the living world.

4-6

Jewish Environmental Responsibility

Students connect Tu BiShvat, caring for nature and modern environmental choices through a local waste or biodiversity challenge.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

etz (עץ) | mayim (מים) | adamah (אדמה)

7-9

From Symbol to Sustainable Action

Teens audit one school practice, weigh impact against feasibility and propose a measurable environmental improvement.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

etz (עץ) | mayim (מים) | adamah (אדמה)

February

3 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

FEB 7

LESSON 16

Families, Care and Belonging

Before Ontario Family Day, February 15

SK-1

Every Family Has Its Shape

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

ayin (ע) | etz (עץ) | ayin (עין) | ugah (עוגה)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children celebrate the people who care for them and create an inclusive family circle with no single 'right' family structure.

2-3

What Families Pass On

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

ayin (ע) | etz (עץ) | ayin (עין) | ugah (עוגה)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students explore how families share stories, foods, values, languages and chosen traditions across generations.

4-6

Family History, Chosen Tradition

Students build a flexible heritage map that welcomes interfaith, adopted, converted, immigrant and chosen-family stories.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

mishpachah (משפחה) | bayit (בית) | yachad (יחד)

7-9

Intergenerational Leadership

Teens prepare thoughtful interview questions and explore how listening across generations preserves memory without freezing identity in the past.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

mishpachah (משפחה) | bayit (בית) | yachad (יחד)

FEB 21

LESSON 17

Jewish Music: Sound, Memory and Identity

SK-1

Move to Jewish Sounds

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

peh (פ) | pri (פרי) | perach (פרח) | panim (פנים)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children sing, clap and move through Hebrew and Jewish melodies, discovering how music can make a group feel connected.

2-3

Songs Travel With People

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

peh (פ) | pri (פרי) | perach (פרח) | panim (פנים)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students hear Jewish music from several communities and trace how rhythm, language and melody travel across places.

4-6

A Jewish Sound Map

Students compare Ashkenazi, Sephardi, Mizrahi and Israeli musical examples and question whether one 'Jewish sound' exists.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

shir (שיר) | kol (קול) | lirkod (לרקד)

7-9

Music as Identity and Protest

Teens analyze how Jewish and Israeli artists use language, genre and performance to express belonging, conflict and social change.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

shir (שיר) | kol (קול) | lirkod (לרקד)

February

3 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

FEB 28

LESSON 18

Community Connections Across Generations

SK-1

Friends of Every Age

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

tzadi (צ) | tzeva (צבע) | tzipor (צפור) | tzedakah (צדקה)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children prepare a song, artwork or question to share with an older community member and practise being a thoughtful visitor.

2-3

Listening Is a Gift

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

tzadi (צ) | tzeva (צבע) | tzipor (צפור) | tzedakah (צדקה)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students practise interviewing and active listening, then preserve one small story from another generation.

4-6

Oral History Workshop

Students learn consent, open questions and accurate note-taking before conducting an intergenerational mini-interview.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

saba (סבא) | savta (סבתא) | sipur (ספור)

7-9 PROPOSED

Proposed Hillel Lodge Service Visit

Teens facilitate respectful conversation or an activity with residents, focusing on reciprocity rather than treating service as a one-way gift.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

saba (סבא) | savta (סבתא) | sipur (ספור)

One connected year

The curriculum follows the rhythm of the Jewish and Canadian calendars while leaving room for teachers to respond to the students in front of them.

March

3 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

MAR 7

LESSON 19

Purim: Voice, Courage and Hidden Identity

SK-1

A Noisy Story of Courage

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

kuf (ק) | kol (קול) | kayitz (קיץ) | kehillah (קהלה)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children meet Esther through costume, movement and sound, noticing how a quiet person can find a brave voice.

2-3

Esther Finds Her Voice

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

kuf (ק) | kol (קול) | kayitz (קיץ) | kehillah (קהלה)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students retell the Purim story from different characters' viewpoints and identify moments when speaking up changes events.

4-6

Masks, Power and Perspective

Students examine concealment, courage and power in Megillat Esther while questioning simple heroes-and-villains readings.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Purim (פורים) | Esther (אסתר) | ra'ashan (רעשן)

7-9

When and How to Speak Up

Teens use Esther's choices to practise bystander-to-upstander decision-making, including risk, timing, allies and effective action.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Purim (פורים) | Esther (אסתר) | ra'ashan (רעשן)

MAR 21

LESSON 20

Purim: Joy, Giving and Community Care

Purim begins March 22 at sunset

SK-1

Share the Purim Joy

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

resh (ר) | rosh (ראש) | rimon (רמון) | ra'ashan (רעשן)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children celebrate with story, music and giving, assembling a simple gift while learning that joy grows when it is shared.

2-3

Four Ways Purim Builds Community

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

resh (ר) | rosh (ראש) | rimon (רמון) | ra'ashan (רעשן)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students explore story, celebration, gifts to friends and support for people in need as connected parts of Purim.

4-6

Joy With Responsibility

Students investigate why Purim pairs celebration with generosity and design a giving practice that responds to an actual need.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

chag (חג) | simchah (שמחה) | latet (לתת)

7-9 PROPOSED

Proposed Purim Community Action

Teens organize and complete a small Purim service project, managing roles, partner needs, communication and follow-through.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

chag (חג) | simchah (שמחה) | latet (לתת)

March

3 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

MAR 28

LESSON 21

Freedom Begins With a Question

Beginning the Passover learning arc

SK-1

Why Is This Story Different?

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

shin (ש) | shalom (שלום) | shanah (שנה) | shemesh (שמש)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children enter the Passover story through water, movement and questions, discovering that curiosity helps a story come alive.

2-3

The Courage to Ask Why

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

shin (ש) | shalom (שלום) | shanah (שנה) | shemesh (שמש)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students connect the Four Questions to curiosity and explore how questions help each generation make the Exodus story its own.

4-6

Freedom From and Freedom To

Students distinguish escape from oppression from the harder work of building a responsible free community.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

mah (מה) | mayim (מים) | chofesh (חפש)

7-9

Leading Better Questions

Teens learn how strong questions open discussion and design a question set connecting Passover to contemporary freedom without forced comparisons.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

mah (מה) | mayim (מים) | chofesh (חפש)

One connected year

The curriculum follows the rhythm of the Jewish and Canadian calendars while leaving room for teachers to respond to the students in front of them.

April

3 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

APR 4

LESSON 22

Passover: Telling the Story

SK-1

Walk Through the Exodus

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

tav (ת) | todah (תודה) | Torah (תורה) | tapuach (תפוח)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children retell the journey from slavery to freedom through dramatic play, song and tactile seder symbols.

2-3

A Seder Is a Story You Can Touch

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

tav (ת) | todah (תודה) | Torah (תורה) | tapuach (תפוח)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students investigate how food, song, questions and movement turn family memory into a participatory story.

4-6

Who Is Missing From the Haggadah?

Students compare Haggadah voices and create a short addition that brings an overlooked perspective into the seder conversation.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Pesach (פסח) | matzah (מצה) | bayit (בית)

7-9

Memory in the Museum

Teens prepare for the proposed Montreal Holocaust Museum visit by learning museum ethics, object-based inquiry and respectful conduct around testimony.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Pesach (פסח) | matzah (מצה) | bayit (בית)

APR 11

LESSON 23

Memory, Objects and the Stories We Carry

SK-1

An Object Can Tell a Story

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (ח) | chefetz (חפץ) | chaver (חבר) | chai (חי)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children bring or choose a safe familiar object and practise telling the people, place and memory connected to it.

2-3

Family Objects, Family Journeys

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (ח) | chefetz (חפץ) | chaver (חבר) | chai (חי)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students examine how recipes, photographs and everyday objects carry family and Jewish stories across time and place.

4-6

Reading History Through Objects

Students practise source analysis with a museum object and distinguish observation, inference, context and unanswered questions.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

muze'on (מוזאון) | davar (דבר) | sipur (סיפור)

7-9 PROPOSED

Proposed Montreal Holocaust Museum Visit

A proposed extended-day learning visit focused on testimony, artefacts, Jewish life before the war, choices during persecution and responsible remembrance.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

muze'on (מוזאון) | davar (דבר) | sipur (סיפור)

April

3 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

APR 18

LESSON 24

Passover Across Generations

Passover begins April 21 at sunset

SK-1

My Place at the Seder

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (מ) | matzah (מצה) | mayim (מים) | mah (מה)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children rehearse songs, questions and seder actions so they can recognize and participate in family or community celebrations.

2-3

Passover Around the World

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (מ) | matzah (מצה) | mayim (מים) | mah (מה)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students compare foods, songs and seder customs from diverse Jewish communities while identifying the shared story underneath them.

4-6

Retelling Freedom Today

Students create a concise, responsible seder contribution connecting Jewish memory to a present-day responsibility.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

lizkor (לזכר) | sipur (ספור) | lev (לב)

7-9 PROPOSED

Museum Debrief and Ethical Memory

Teens process the proposed museum learning, correct misconceptions and decide how to translate knowledge into a dignified Yom HaShoah commemoration.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

lizkor (לזכר) | sipur (ספור) | lev (לב)

One connected year

The curriculum follows the rhythm of the Jewish and Canadian calendars while leaving room for teachers to respond to the students in front of them.

May

4 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

MAY 2

LESSON 25

Yom HaShoah: Memory and Jewish Continuity

Yom HaShoah begins May 3 at sunset

SK-1

Our Stories Continue

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (ז) | zachor (זכור) | zikaron (זכרון) | zeh (זה)

JEWISH CULTURE

In a gentle lesson centred on family, names and hope, children learn that remembering is one way communities care for their stories.

2-3

Remembering a Jewish Childhood

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (ז) | zachor (זכור) | zikaron (זכרון) | zeh (זה)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students revisit one child's life and connect remembrance to the survival of family stories, culture and community.

4-6

Why Jewish Memory Has Its Own Day

Students distinguish Yom HaShoah from international remembrance and explore testimony, resistance, loss and continuity in a Jewish frame.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Shoah (שואה) | lizkor (לזכר) | chayim (חיים)

7-9

Leading a Dignified Commemoration

Teens facilitate a brief age-appropriate school remembrance, centring names, testimony and Jewish life rather than graphic imagery or abstraction.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Shoah (שואה) | lizkor (לזכר) | chayim (חיים)

MAY 9

LESSON 26

Caregivers, Memory and the People Who Shape Us

Mother's Day in Canada; before Yom HaZikaron

SK-1

Thank You to Someone Who Cares for Me

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (א) | ima (אמא) | ahavah (אהבה) | ani (אני)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children celebrate a mother or another important caregiver through story, art and words of appreciation that include every family.

2-3

The People Who Help Us Grow

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (א) | ima (אמא) | ahavah (אהבה) | ani (אני)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students recognize mothers and other caregivers and connect gratitude to the everyday work of care.

4-6

Personal Memory and National Memory

Students compare how families and countries remember people, preparing carefully for Israel's Yom HaZikaron and Yom HaAtzmaut sequence.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

ima (אמא) | todah (תודה) | Yisrael (ישראל)

7-9

Peer Lesson Studio: Israel

Teens prepare a balanced, age-appropriate mini-lesson that introduces younger students to Israel through culture, people, Hebrew and honest complexity.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

ima (אמא) | todah (תודה) | Yisrael (ישראל)

May

4 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

MAY 16

LESSON 27

Yom HaAtzmaut: Israel at 79

Yom HaAtzmaut was May 12

SK-1

Celebrate Israel Through the Senses

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (י) | Yisrael (ישראל) | yom (יום) | yeled (ילד)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children experience Israeli music, dance, foods, colours and everyday Hebrew in a joyful cultural celebration.

2-3

Israel Is People and Places

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (י) | Yisrael (ישראל) | yom (יום) | yeled (ילד)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students build a lively map of landscapes, cities, communities, languages and inventions, moving beyond a single image of Israel.

4-6

Independence, Achievement and Challenge

Students mark Israeli independence while examining multiple communities, democratic ideals, achievements and continuing challenges at an age-appropriate level.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Yisrael (ישראל) | degel (דגל) | yom (יום)

7-9

Peer Teaching Day 2: Israel

Teens teach their Israel mini-lessons, respond thoughtfully to younger students' questions and evaluate whether they presented celebration and complexity responsibly.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Yisrael (ישראל) | degel (דגל) | yom (יום)

MAY 30

LESSON 28

Lag BaOmer, Community and Cooperation

Lag BaOmer was May 25

SK-1

We Make a Strong Team

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (ח) | chaver (חבר) | chag (חג) | cham (חם)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children use outdoor games, rhythm and cooperative challenges to practise helping, taking turns and celebrating as a group.

2-3

A Day for Outdoor Community

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (ח) | chaver (חבר) | chag (חג) | cham (חם)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students explore Lag BaOmer customs and complete team challenges that reward cooperation rather than individual speed.

4-6

Tradition, Legend and Community

Students separate historical knowledge, later legend and modern Israeli customs while examining why communal traditions endure.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

yachad (יחד) | chaver (חבר) | chag (חג)

7-9

Team Leadership Challenge

Teens rotate through leading a cooperative challenge and receive structured feedback on communication, inclusion, adaptability and trust.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

yachad (יחד) | chaver (חבר) | chag (חג)

June

3 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

JUN 6

LESSON 29

Jerusalem: A City of Many Stories

Yom Yerushalayim was June 4

SK-1

Sounds and Stones of Jerusalem

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (י) | Yerushalayim (ירושלים) | yad (יד) | yachad (יחד)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children explore Jerusalem through a sensory city walk of music, markets, stone textures and the Hebrew word for peace.

2-3

A City With Many Neighbours

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (י) | Yerushalayim (ירושלים) | yad (יד) | yachad (יחד)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students map Jerusalem's communities and sacred places and practise describing why one city can matter to many peoples.

4-6

Jerusalem: History and Perspective

Students examine layers of Jewish connection alongside Christian and Muslim connections, distinguishing attachment from exclusive ownership claims.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Yerushalayim (ירושלים) | ir (עיר) | even (אבן)

7-9

Teaching a Contested City

Teens analyse how maps, photographs and word choice frame Jerusalem, then practise presenting deep Jewish connection with accuracy and respect for complexity.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

Yerushalayim (ירושלים) | ir (עיר) | even (אבן)

JUN 13

LESSON 30

Shavuot: Learning Across Generations

Shavuot ends June 12

SK-1

Learning Is Something We Grow

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (ל) | lilmod (ללמד) | lechem (לחם) | lev (לב)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children celebrate learning with first-fruits imagery, a story, music and a look back at what they can now do and understand.

2-3

Receiving and Sharing Wisdom

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (ל) | lilmod (ללמד) | lechem (לחם) | lev (לב)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students explore Shavuot as a celebration of learning and create a small piece of wisdom to pass to next year's class.

4-6

What Makes Learning Sacred?

Students compare receiving knowledge, questioning it and applying it, then curate one learning highlight from the year.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

lilmod (ללמד) | sefer (ספר) | chalav (חלב)

7-9

Leadership Portfolio Showcase

Teens select evidence from service, peer teaching and discussion to show how their leadership changed, where it did not and what comes next.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

lilmod (ללמד) | sefer (ספר) | chalav (חלב)

June

3 class Sundays | 2026-27 curriculum

JUN 20

LESSON 31

Gratitude, Milestones and What We Carry Forward

Father's Day, end-of-year celebration and B'nai Mitzvah ceremony

SK-1

Look How We Have Grown

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (א) | aba (אבא) | ahavah (אהבה) | ani (אני)

JEWISH CULTURE

Children thank a father or another caring adult, celebrate favourite moments and share Hebrew songs and words with the school community.

2-3

Gratitude and Growing Forward

HEBREW | LETTER & WORDS

review (א) | aba (אבא) | ahavah (אהבה) | ani (אני)

JEWISH CULTURE

Students recognize fathers and caregivers, revisit their year and choose one Jewish idea or practice to carry into summer.

4-6

Milestones in a Jewish Life

Students connect the B'nai Mitzvah celebration to responsibility, community recognition and their own next stage of Jewish learning.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

aba (אבא) | todah (תודה) | kayitz (קיץ)

7-9

Lead, Celebrate, Hand Forward

Teens support the school celebration, honour the B'nai Mitzvah students and offer practical advice to the next TeenShemet cohort.

HEBREW | SIMPLE WORDS

aba (אבא) | todah (תודה) | kayitz (קיץ)

One connected year

The curriculum follows the rhythm of the Jewish and Canadian calendars while leaving room for teachers to respond to the students in front of them.