

# Shomrei Torah Wayne (NJ) Conservative Congregation Religious School Israel Curriculum 2016-17/5777

Developed by Judith Kuper Jaffe

Our program and our curriculum [are] all about process and little steps which we hope will prove productive in our Israel curriculum. Our goal is to foster a stronger connection and true relationship between our students and Israel.



## Initial Planning:

- I met with each teacher, individually and as a group.
- We discussed the introduction of an Israel curriculum on every level.
- We all brainstormed. By including them in the initial process, they are become inspired with the whole concept. They are very excited to add this Israel component, in their limited hours, to their already complete curriculum.
- Throughout the entire year, our classes will focus on different aspects of Israel. Our goal is for every student to advance to the next level, and the next level, gaining a stronger attachment and understand[ing] of Israel through an ongoing process.
- In our second year, the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders will share their aspect of our Israel Curriculum with a twin class in *Nahariya* via scheduled video conferencing. The students in Israel will mirror our focus and share with us.



- At our end-of-the-year Religious School Shabbat Service and Dinner, loosely coinciding with *Yom HaAtzmaut*, our students will demonstrate their understanding via a presentation gallery.

<u>Goals</u>	<u>Activities</u>
<p><b><u>Israel Experiential Learning</u></b> In every grade, our congregational school offers a variety of opportunities to engage in experiential and family parallel learning. Experiential learning happens through reflection on doing, focusing on the learning process, using practical application for the student. Many believe that without an experience and practice, there can be no true learning or real understanding of a concept or situation.</p>	
<p><b><u>Prayer</u></b> Children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recognize Israel in the prayers and liturgy.</li> <li>- Understand why Jews face Jerusalem.</li> <li>- Foster deeper attachment with Israel as our homeland through Jewish prayers recited regularly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scavenger Hunt</li> </ul>

<p><b><u>Music</u></b>  Children will:  - Grow in their appreciation and knowledge of Israeli music, traditional and contemporary.  - Express themselves through music as they explore Israel including:  <i>Am Yisrael • Chai/Carlebach • Artik • Ba shana Ha'baah • Color Song • David Melech • Eretz Yisrael Sheli • Eretz zavat halav u'd'vash • Esa Einai • HaTikvah • Od Yavo Shalom • Tzenah Tzenah • Zum Gali Gali • Haikvah • Dancing though the Decades</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poetry</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Hooray for Holidays (4s &amp; 5s)</u></b> <i>Program meets eight times a year and introduces Jewish holidays.</i>  Children will:  - Be introduced to <i>Yom HaAtzmaut</i>/Israel Independence Day in the May class session through books, music, crafts and food.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memory game</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Kindergarten/Gan - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade/Alef - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade/Bet Israel</u></b>  Children will:  - Begin to identify with Israel as our homeland.  - Learn important landmarks in Israel to be determined.  - Be introduced to <i>Yom HaAtzmaut</i>/Israel Independence Day in the May class session through books, music, craft and food.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memory game</li> <li>• Puzzle</li> <li>• Poster Activity</li> <li>• Collage</li> <li>• Gallery Presentation for <i>Yom HaAtzmaut</i></li> </ul>
<p><b><u>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade/Gimmel</u></b>  Children will:  - Learn geography, landmarks, and major cities of Israel: <i>Tel Aviv • Jerusalem • Haifa • Baer Sheva • Eilat • Galil • Tsfat • Golan • Mount Hermon</i>  - Begin to identify with Israel as our homeland.  - Demonstrate beginning knowledge of Biblical and modern history of Israel.  - Connect the stories from the Torah to Israel.  - Foster deeper attachment with Israel as our homeland.  - Be introduced to <i>Yom HaAtzmaut</i>/Israel Independence Day in the May class session through books, music, craft and food.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memory game</li> <li>• Puzzle</li> <li>• Poster Activity</li> <li>• Acrostic</li> <li>• Collage</li> <li>• Torah stories connected to map of Israel</li> <li>• Collaborating with the Golda Meir and the Remez School, Nahariya, to do video conferencing</li> <li>• Working with our community <i>Shaliach</i></li> <li>• Gallery Presentation for <i>Yom HaAtzmaut</i></li> </ul>
<p><b><u>4<sup>th</sup> Grade/Daled</u></b>  Children will:  - Foster deeper attachment with Israel as our homeland through the culture of Israel: food, music, sports of Israel, Jewish</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborating with the Golda Meir and the Remez School, Nahariya, to do</li> </ul>

<p>holidays celebrated in Israel</p> <p>Learn the beliefs, practices, customs, concepts and significance of <i>Yom HaAtzmaut</i>/Israel Independence Day and other holidays and how they are celebrated in Israel:</p> <p><i>Shabbat – Havdallah • Rosh Chodesh • Rosh Hashanah • Yom Kippur • Sukkot • Shemini Atzeret • Simchat Torah • Chanukah • Tu B'Shevat • Purim • Pesach • Shavuot • Yom HaAtzmaut/ Israel Independence Day</i></p>	<p>video conferencing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with our community <i>Shaliach</i></li> <li>• Gallery Presentation for <i>Yom HaAtzmaut</i></li> </ul>
<p><b><u>5<sup>th</sup> Grade /Hey</u></b></p> <p>Children will:</p> <p>Learn about the heroes of Modern Israel; Who is a hero? Should these people be remembered? Shai Agnon – Amichai – Menachem Begin – David Ben-Gurion – Eliezer Ben Yehuda – Chaim Nachman Bialik – Moshe Dayan – Abba Eban –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theodor Herzl – Ze'ev Jabotinski – Golda Meir – Yoni Netanyahu – Yithak Rabin – Natan Scharansky – Hanna Senesh – Henrietta Szold – Ada Yonath – Zelda – Naomi Shemer – Rahel – Eli Cohen – Chaim Weitzman – and more</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborating with the Golda Meir and the Remez School, Nahariya, to do video conferencing</li> <li>• Working with our community <i>Shaliach</i></li> <li>• Gallery Presentation for <i>Yom HaAtzmaut</i></li> </ul>
<p><b><u>6<sup>th</sup> Grade/ Vav</u></b></p> <p>Children will focus on three parts of Israel education:</p> <p>1 - Gain a strong attachment to Israel and the people of Israel as Conservative Jews. Learn why there is a strong allegiance between Jews the world over to Israel. Learn to explore the relationship between Jews in the Diaspora and Israel.</p> <p>2 - Study the role of Israel throughout history. Study the land and the people. Survey Israel history through study of Early Zionism, the struggle for Independence, Early Zionism, and the struggle for Independence</p> <p>3 - Gain a strong attachment to the various demographic groups that make up the Modern State of Israel through a study of <i>the Faces of Israel/ the ethnic that make up Israel</i>:</p> <p>Secular/<i>Chiloni</i> – <i>Masorti/Reform</i> – <i>Haredi</i> – <i>Dati/Religious</i> – <i>Ashkenazi</i> – <i>Mizrachi</i> – <i>Sephardic</i> – Israeli Arabs – Muslim Arabs – Christian Arabs – Druze</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with our community <i>Shaliach</i></li> <li>• Gallery Presentation for <i>Yom HaAtzmaut</i></li> </ul>

## **7<sup>th</sup> Grade/Zayin**

Children will:

- Gain a strong attachment to Israel and the people of Israel as Conservative Jews.
- Gain an understanding of the current political and geographical situation.
- Gain an understanding of the various current positions of peace.
- Deepen knowledge of the Modern State of Israel.
- Learn why there is a strong allegiance to Israel.
- Learn to explore the relationship between Jews in the Diaspora and Israel.
- Gain an understanding of the Knesset and Parliamentary system of government and become familiar with some prominent political parties and figures.

- Working with our community *Shaliach*
- Gallery Presentation for *Yom HaAtzmaut*