



Brauser Maimonides Academy

Academic Excellence • Religious Commitment
Character Development

GENERAL & JUDAIC STUDIES CURRICULUM GUIDE GRADES K – 8

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The Leon and Leona Brauser Maimonides Academy (BMA) is a Modern Orthodox Jewish Day School committed to academic excellence in both Judaic and General Studies, while maintaining a warm, nurturing, learning environment in which our students thrive intellectually, socially and spiritually.

BMA strives to empower our students with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed to their full potential. The school seeks to instill within each child a lifelong love of Torah with adherence to Halacha; love and respect for Klal Yisrael and Medinat Yisrael; commitment to mitzvot; development of positive middot, and proficiency in modern Hebrew.

The uniqueness of a BMA education is its child-centered approach, which focuses on each student's individual character and personality. The cultivation of responsibility, discipline, self-esteem, confidence and genuine love and respect for all people is the hallmark of our education.

Through growth in character, spirituality and Torah knowledge, BMA strives to produce graduates that are uplifted by their education and motivated to become contributing members of the Jewish community and the world at large.

Our care for the whole child is built upon three core values:

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

We encourage our students to excel academically in an atmosphere that encourages curiosity, creativity, critical thinking and integrity.

RELIGIOUS COMMITMENT

We strive to provide our students with a firm foundation in Torah and Jewish law, a desire for a meaningful relationship with God, and a love for Jewish learning and practice. We cultivate an enduring love for the people of Israel, and the State of Israel.

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

We emphasize the highest standard of *derech eretz* (**personal conduct**) and seek to instill in our students sensitivity towards others in all of their words and actions.

We promote a deep sense of **אחריות (responsibility)** for ourselves, for each other, for the Jewish community, for Israel, America and for people around the world.



The BMA Graduate Profile is an aspirational representation of what we strive to instill and imbue in each student as they graduate from our school. As on any great journey, we start with the destination in mind and work our way backwards to design each aspect of the path. Hence, the Graduate Profile is the destination, and in the pages that follow, you will discover each step of the students' journey, by grade level and discipline, that all lead up to the ideal BMA graduate.

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

- Exemplifies understanding, compassion, empathy and acceptance of self and others.
- Embraces diversity and individual differences while respectfully sharing his/her own personal opinions, beliefs and values.
- Engages in self-reflection, takes responsibility for actions and decisions, and proactively creates opportunities for self-growth.
- Takes an active interest and responsibility in social, communal and global issues.
- Exhibits modesty and humility in speech, demeanor and appearance.
- Takes personal responsibility to give back to society through tzedaka and community service.
- Understands and applies appropriate middot and *derech erez* in everyday interactions and situations.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

- Takes the initiative to learn and think independently.
- Exercises critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Comprehends and analyzes texts in both English and Hebrew.
- Demonstrates proper writing skills in a variety of formats.
- Synthesizes different forms of texts, literature and media.
- Applies learned information to his/her understanding of the world.
- Takes academic risks to test his or her own hypotheses, opinions and beliefs.
- Appreciates and values the arts as a critical form of personal and communal culture and expression.
- Consistently tackles challenging intellectual tasks.
- Embraces, celebrates, and learns from, mistakes.
- Creates and utilizes effective self-organization systems.

RELIGIOUS COMMITMENT

- Demonstrates a knowledge and understanding of mitzvot and a commitment to observance of the mitzvot.
- Develops a personal relationship with Hashem through meaningful Tefilla and ongoing service of Hashem.
- Upholds him/herself and others as a "*tzelem elokim*".
- Demonstrates a love of learning Torah.
- Understands, synthesizes, and analyzes Tanach, Talmud and other Judaic texts.
- Gleans life lessons from Tanach, Talmud and other Judaic texts.
- Understands, appreciates and observes Jewish holidays and life cycle events, along with their halachot and minhagim.
- Understands Jewish history and its impact on one's Jewish future.
- Understands and appreciates the centrality of Israel to our lives.
- Embraces and masters Hebrew as the language of the Jewish people.
- Displays Jewish identity with pride.



Art

Students learn how to work in a variety of media to express themselves as Jews and as individuals. They receive exposure to outstanding artists and their work and develop skills with which to understand and appreciate art as it is expressed in Jewish tradition and in the modern world.

Grades K – 2:

The goals of the Kindergarten through 2nd grade art program is to foster visual awareness, aesthetic appreciation, creative expression, and imaginative thinking. Students learn technical skills while they create unique and personal works of art. They learn the language of visual design (line, shape, color, etc.) to help them develop fluency of expression. The art classes implicitly and explicitly promote awareness of the natural world as a source of imagery and inspiration, establishing a bridge to issues of environmental protection.

Grades 3 – 5:

The emphasis is on aesthetics, composition and technique. Students will continue to be inspired by famous artists and cultural art. We will expand upon art theory and techniques, and create a balanced art program rich with creative expression and disciplined art activities.

Grades 6 – 8:

Students will continue to develop knowledge of artists and genres of art. We will continue to expand upon different art forms, media and complex methodologies. Students will learn an art vocabulary and how to analyze and critique artwork.

Physical Education

The Physical Education program offers a variety of activities and programs to meet each child's physical, emotional and cognitive development. Ultimately, the goal of the program is to identify, address and support the individual health and fitness needs of all children while developing each child's self-confidence and self-esteem.

The Kindergarten-8th grade classes focus on building individual skills, including physical fitness, locomotive and rhythmic challenges, as well as cooperation through non-competitive movement games and a variety of sports games.

All children participate in activities focused on building individual skills while also stressing teamwork, cooperation and encouragement for others. Our younger students strengthen motor skills by learning new games and activities aimed at discovering the joy of movement.

The introduction to new kinds of PE and sports equipment develops gross and fine motor skills as well as spatial awareness. The PE staff stresses safety, support for emerging and experienced athletes, and a balance between competition and good sportsmanship. PE skills and concepts are reinforced during each grade level's recess breaks. BMA is well equipped and fortunate to have many learning spaces for physical education both inside our building and out on the playgrounds.

Fundamentals of soccer, basketball, gymnastics, volleyball and other team sports are taught in PE classes and reinforced throughout the school year in the interscholastic sports league in the upper elementary and middle schools.

The school celebrates fitness and sportsmanship during BMA's Olympics, a school-wide culminating athletics event in the late spring.

At BMA, we believe that:

- A developmentally appropriate and comprehensive experience in health and physical education is essential for meeting the diverse needs of all students revolving around movement;
- A quality health and physical education program will foster the development of motor-skills, physical fitness, emotional strength, maturity, values, healthful decision-making and the pursuit of lifelong health and fitness;
- Participation in a daily health and physical education is an integral and inseparable part of the total K-8 educational experience.
- Our physical education specialists will continue to search for the best physical education materials and experiences, including lesson plans, equipment, ideas, and experienced, professional mentors to assist in making the program outstanding.

Program Description: Interscholastic Sports Athletic Program

The BMA Athletic Program serves boys and girls in an elementary school league. The program offers a combination of intramural and interscholastic play between schools in the sports of basketball, football, tennis, soccer and baseball for, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students.

The program is guided by three main goals:

1. Identify, develop and support positive character traits within each student-athlete
2. Develop sound fundamentals in each individual sport
3. Maximize participation of all student-athletes



Technology

Mastering Tools and Techniques

An education in technology is an essential component of a curriculum for the development of 21st century skills. The benefits of collaboration, problem solving, critical thinking, and creativity inherent in a technology education program are crucial to prepare students to function in school and society.

From Kindergarten through 8th grades, BMA students engage in a curriculum rich with technology integration. A well-equipped computer lab, which includes both desktop and mobile devices, gives students the skills required in a world in which technology supports learning, creativity, science and business management.

The K-5 technology program builds from year to year to provide a sound platform of knowledge and enable timely progress. Each grade level provides developmental practice in each of the curricular areas of Technology Operations and Concepts and Digital Citizenship. In the early grades, students begin with the basics such as using computer components and becoming comfortable with the keyboard while engaging in word processing and graphics programs. As they progress, students learn standard applications such as Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint, as well as online research skills. Students integrate Internet research into their core curriculum. The students' ability to understand and navigate the Internet enables them to expand their scholastic, personal and Jewish interests.

Our students also use various cutting edge digital presentation and publication tools utilizing a variety of digital media resources. In addition, students in grades 5-8 use Google Apps for Education to collaborate online with their peers and teachers.

All students will be challenged to use technology and information resources responsibly and to think critically and creatively to solve problems effectively and efficiently.

Library

Kindergarten

- Seasonal books: holidays and seasons
- Book care review
- Authors and illustrators
- Special Interest Units: Animals of the Night such as bats, owls, and skunks and Animals that hibernate

First Grade

- Parts of a Book (title page, spine, call number)
- Introduction to Caldecott Award Books

Second Grade

- Seasonal books
- Review of title page info and table of contents
- Introduction to chapter books
- Authors and illustrators

Third Grade

- Research Projects
- Books on Presidents
- Finding information on States
- Authors: Roald Dahl, Beverly Cleary

General Studies

Language Arts

- Reading: Concepts about print, phonemic connection between letters and sounds, phonemic awareness, explicit systematic phonics and blending, fluent recognition of all the letters in the alphabet and their sounds, print awareness, sight words, rhyming words, opposites and reading simple pre-decodable and decodable books.
- Vocabulary: (Robust and sight words), listening, predicting, comprehension and inferring.
- Writing: Penmanship, upper and lower case printing (Zaner-Bloser style), journaling and writing using pictures, writing prompts and phonetic spelling.
- Listening/speaking: Following directions, speaking clearly and in complete thoughts.

Math

- Position and location
- Sorting and classifying
- Introduction to place value system
- Graphing
- Understanding, extending, creating and labeling patterns
- Number concepts 0-50
- Measurement: length, weight, temperature
- Time: calendar time, telling time to the hour
- Money: Pennies, nickels and dimes
- Geometry: Simple fractions, solid shapes, plane shapes
- Simple addition

Science

Introduce the scientific process and develop language concepts and vocabulary related to science.

Life Science:

- Seasons: Characteristics of the four seasons and how to dress
- Body & Senses: Investigate the five senses, body parts and functions
- Health & Nutrition: Explore healthy foods and eating habits
- Animals: Common land and water animals, spiders

Earth Science:

- Water Cycle: Investigate the water cycle of the earth
- Oceans: Discover animals of the ocean, salinity and icebergs
- Awareness of South Florida's unique ecosystem: Everglades / Reefs

Social Studies

- Meeting Our Class
- We Are Special - recognizing individuality
- Our Busy Classroom
- Basic map skills/geography: N, S, E, W
- Land forms-mountains hills, plains, rivers, lakes
- Families, homes, neighborhoods
- Our country, our world – land and water



Judaic and Hebrew Studies

Hebrew Language

- Letter/sound identification and recognition
- Ability to form letters correctly
- Accumulation of a sight word and object vocabulary
- Ability to write words for each letter
- Understanding the purpose of nekudot (vowels)
- Blend letters with vowel sounds
- Blend letters and vowels into words
- Differentiate between male and female tense
- Speak in simple sentences

Israel

- Degel Yisrael (Israeli Flag)
- Centrality of Israel to the Jewish People (Ahavat Yisrael)
- Israel on the map
- Jerusalem
- Hatikvah

Jewish Life

- Brachot (Blessings) over food and after meals
- Shabbat: Meanings, brachot
- Basic mitzvot and minhagim (customs)
- Tzedaka
- Holidays and cycles of the Jewish year

Middot

- **חשון – זריזות** - The *midah* of being quick, responsive and enthusiastic to perform a mitzvah.
- **כסלו – אמת** - The *midah* of honesty and sincerity.
- **טבת – סבלנות** - The *midah* of being calm and patient.
- **שבט – חסד** - The *midah* of loving kindness and generosity.
- **כבוד הורים/מורים – אדר א'** - The *midah* of honoring one's parents and teachers.
- **שמחה – אדר ב' & ניסן** - The *midah* of being joyous and seeing the good in everyone and everything.
- **נושא בעול – אייר** - The *midah* of being sensitive to the challenges of others and helping them whenever you can.
- **הכרת הטוב – סיון** - The *midah* of being grateful to Hashem and to others.

Text Study

- Parshat Hashavuah (weekly Torah portion)

Tefilla (Prayer)

- Modeh Ani with Reshit Chachma
- Torah Tzivah
- Tzitzit
- Ma Tovu
- Adon Olam
- Asher Yatzar
- Morning Brachot
- Shema with first paragraph
- Ki MiTzion and Etz Chayim (Mondays and Thursdays)
- Parts of Hallel (on appropriate days)
- Ein K'Elokeinu (Fridays)

General Studies

Language Arts

- Begin to read independently
- Phonemic awareness decoding and word recognition, reading decodable books
- Learn sight words
- Retell a story
- Read familiar material aloud with accuracy and fluency
- Develop comprehension skills and strategies
- Identify character, setting plot and problem of story
- Share many genres of literature: fiction, nonfiction, poetry
- Respond to literature
- Write stories which contain beginning, middle and end, and all other story elements
- Write weekly journal entries
- Develop familiarity with nouns, verbs and adjectives
- Spell high frequency words correctly
- Employ vowel patterns when spelling words
- Speaking and listening – listen and respond to a variety of text
- Respond using prediction
- Relate text to similar experiences
- Retell stories in sequence
- Participate in group discussions

Math

- Number sense: Fluency in counting, adding and subtracting to 20, place value to 100, estimating, fractions
- Mathematical Vocabulary
- Measurement: Standard and metric units, time, money, temperature
- Simple Statistics: data organization, simple graphs/charts, probability
- Problem solving skills and strategies
- Read and use a calendar
- Recognize, order, compare, and write whole numbers to 100 including skip counting
- Add and subtract two-digit numbers without regrouping
- Geometry: Geometric shapes in terms of their properties

Science

- Understanding the scientific process and developing the vocabulary related to science
- Use 5 senses to make observations and comparisons

- Classify objects that are alike and distinguish objects that are different
- Make predictions based on available information
- Create simple charts using collected data

Physical Science

- Solids and Liquids: Heighten awareness of physical world, introduce states of matter, recognize, observe, and describe the differences between solids and liquids
- Magnets: Discover the properties of magnets, earth's magnetic field, observe a magnetic field, discover uses, construct a magnet, and a compass as a magnet

Earth Science

- Air and Weather: Develop an awareness and interest in air and weather patterns, compare monthly and seasonal weather conditions
- Plants

Life Science

- Recognize the difference between living and nonliving things
- Understand what animals need in order to live and grow

Social Studies

- Citizenship: Everyday life in different times and places in the United States, Americans' varied backgrounds, basic economics
- American symbols, landmarks, national holidays and traditions
- Simple Map Skills: Continents, oceans, map reading skills
- Current events
- Areas of study integrated in reading programs



Judaic and Hebrew Studies

Hebrew

- Review letters
- Develop reading skills
- Vocabulary based on home, school and classroom environments
- Cursive writing
- Present/Infinitive Tense

Israel

- Geography
- Israel through the Holidays & the Holidays through Israel

Jewish Life

- Shabbat: Preparation, brachot (blessings), Kabbalat Shabbat, minhagim (traditions), Havdalah
- Rosh Hashanah: Symbols
- Yom Kippur: Reason for fasting, machzor (special prayer book), wearing white
- Sukkot: The Sukkah, ushpizin (special guests), four species, brachot for netilat lulav
- Simchat Torah: Concluding the Torah cycle
- Chanukah: The story, Chanukah and brachot (blessings) for lighting, dreidel
- Tu B'Shvat: Seven species – reasons
- Purim: Megillat Esther and Mitzvot
- Pesach: Story and characters, slavery, chametz, seder table and order, Sefirat Ha'Omer (counting the Omer)
- Lag B'Omer
- Shavuot: Getting ready for Shavuot, Z'man Matan Torateinu

Middot

- **חַשׁוֹן** – זריזות - The *midah* of being quick, responsive and enthusiastic to perform a mitzvah.
- **כֶּסֶל** – אמת - The *midah* of honesty and sincerity.
- **טִבְת** – סבלנות - The *midah* of being calm and patient.
- **שֶׁבֶט** – חסד - The *midah* of loving kindness and generosity.
- **אֲדָרָא** – כבוד הורים/מורים - The *midah* of honoring one's parents and teachers.
- **נִסְחָא** – שמחה - The *midah* of being joyous and seeing the good in everyone and everything.
- **עֵינָא** – נושא בעול - The *midah* of being sensitive to the challenges of others and helping them whenever you can.
- **סִינָא** – הכרת הטוב - The *midah* of being grateful to Hashem and to others.

Tefilla (Prayer)

- Continue practice and recitation of all previously learned Tefillot plus...
- Yigdal
- Yevarechecha
- Elu Dvarim
- Elokai Neshama
- Birchot Hashachar
- Yehi Ratzon
- Ashrei
- 2nd and 3rd Paragraph of the Shema
- Aleinu

Text Study

- Parshat Hashavuah (weekly Torah portion)
- Chagigat Siddur (Students receive their first Siddur)



General Studies

Language Arts

- Reading: Continued word analysis, phonemic awareness, reading fluency and vocabulary building, comprehension, literacy response and analysis, cause and effect, fact and opinion, predicting, sequencing
- Writing: Coherent sentences and paragraphs, beginning writing process, drafting/editing, penmanship, spelling practice, spelling in writing using more conventional spelling and some creative spelling, research and dictionary skills
- Grammar: Language mechanics and punctuation
- Listening and speaking – verbal presentations
- Writing: Write narrative and informational pieces stories, poems, descriptions, and reports
- Research: Locate and use simple research tools for reports

Math

- Number Sense: Problem solving, mathematical reasoning and math vocabulary, place value to 1,000, addition/subtraction of two and three digit numbers, beginning multiplication/division, fractions, data and graphs, money, time and temperature, estimation and measurement standard and metric
- Algebra and functions
- Geometry: Plane, congruent figures and lines of symmetry
- Probability

Science

- Understanding the scientific process and developing language concepts and vocabulary related to science
- Ask questions about the natural world
- Distinguish between empirical observations and inferences

Life Sciences:

- Plants: Heighten awareness of diversity of life in the plant kingdom, discover needs of plants, observe growth and development, observe structures of flowering plants
- Study of Insects: how they change and grow

Social Studies

- Units: “People We Know”, “Governing the People”, “The World Around Us”, “Using Our Resources”, “People Long Ago”, “A World of Many People”, “People in the Marketplace: goods and services from near and far”
- Map Skills
- Current Events



Judaic and Hebrew Studies

Hebrew

- Intertwined with Judaic curriculum
- Vocabulary: Based on home/school environments, holidays, Jewish calendar
- Grammar: Past/present tenses, masculine/feminine, singular/plural

Israel

- Geography
- Israel through the Holidays and the Holidays through Israel
- Music

Jewish Life & Minhagim

- Rosh Hashanah: Teshuva, mitzvot between person and person, person and G-d, sound of the shofar, relevant Torah portions
- Yom Kippur: Mitzvot of the holiday, forgiveness
- Sukkot: Origin, preparation, eating in a sukkah and relating to nature
- Simchat Torah: Ending and beginning the Torah Cycle
- Purim: Megillat Esther – character's emotions and motivations, concept of nahafochu
- Pesach: Seder steps, symbols and storytelling
- Shavuot: Giving of Torah, mitzvah of learning torah
- Chanukah: Leaders and heroes, the Maccabees, miracle and pirsum ha'ness (publicizing the miracle of Chanukah)

Middot

- Caring for each other
- Respecting each other
- Valuing each other (Hakarat HaTov)

Tefilla (Prayer)

- Continue practice and recitation of all previously learned Tefillot plus...
- Baruch She'amar
- Be'ur Tefila -- Brachot and Shemone Esrei
- Hallel (when appropriate)

Text Study

- Chagigat Chumash: Students receive the first Book of the Torah – Bereshit
- Study of parshiot Bereshit, Noach and Lech Lecha
- Developing reading fluency and comprehension with minimum English translation

- Parshat Hashavuah: Explore main story line in Hebrew
- Personalities in the Torah

General Studies

Language Arts Reading

- Continued word analysis and decoding multi-syllabic words
- Use of before, during and after reading strategies for word identification, comprehension and fluency of narrative and expository texts
- Retelling, summarizing, inferencing and making connections
- Identifying cause and effect, fact and opinion
- Literary response and analysis of short novels

Writing

- Writing process
- Using graphic organizers
- Descriptive paragraph
- Personal narrative
- Expository writing
- Grammar, Usage and Mechanics
- Nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives
- Subject/verb agreement
- Punctuation
- Sentence structure
- Word usage
- Spelling: Correct spelling in daily writing and weekly assignments
- Vocabulary: Words found in weekly reading assignments and trade books

Math

- Number sense: Place value of whole numbers to six digits
- Addition/subtractions/multiplication/division, relationships of whole numbers, simple fractions and decimals
- Measurement and Geometry: Quantification of properties of objects, attributes of plane and solid geometric figures
- Statistics: Simple probability experiments
- Reasoning: Approaching problems and finding solutions, generalizing and estimating

Science

- Understanding the scientific processes and developing language concepts and vocabulary related to science
- Understand that science is a process of observing, studying and thinking in order to solve problems and answer questions about the universe

Physical Science:

- Study the importance of conserving our environment through recycling and conservation
- Relate these themes to the local ecosystem and the impact that man's use of the land has had on the Everglades

Earth Science:

- Sand Pebbles and Silt: Introduce concepts in Earth Science, develop an interest in the physical world, heighten awareness of rocks as Earth's materials and resources, and observe, describe, and sort Earth's materials based on properties.

Social Studies

- Continuity and Change: Use of photos and charts to organize information about people, places and environments
- Rules and Laws in Daily Life
- American History – the role that leaders have played in our country's history
- Basic structure of US Government – Federal Government and the States
- Communities: near and far
- Current Events



Judaic and Hebrew Studies

Hebrew

- Past tense, possessive, prefixes, prepositions
- Exposure to creative writing, paraphrasing, summarizing
- Expand conventional Hebrew

Israel

- Geography
- Israel through the Holidays and the Holidays through Israel
- Israel through Israeli games

Jewish Life (Minhagim/Dinim)

- Preparation for Yamim Noraim (High Holidays)
- Aseret Yemei Teshuva (ten days of repentance): Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur laws and services, shofar, teshuva, tefilla, five prohibitions of Yom Kippur
- Sukkot/Shmini Atzeret: Sukkah, desert experience, the festival as it appears in the Chumash, mitzvot, names for the holiday and their significance
- Simchat Torah: Making a Sefer Torah, the sofer
- Chanukah: Story in Hebrew, aspects of the miracle, the Chanukah, Jewish life in the time of Chanukah and now
- Purim: Focus on four mitzvot and celebration of Shushan Purim
- Pesach: Yetziat Mitzraim (Exodus from Egypt), ten plagues, fifteen steps of Seder and Haggadah
- Sefirat Ha'Omer
- Shavuot: Names of holiday and significance, minhagim (customs), tikkun leil Shavuot (studying torah all night)

Middot

- **חשון – זריזות** - The *midah* of being quick, responsive and enthusiastic to perform a mitzvah.
- **כסלו – אמת** - The *midah* of honesty and sincerity.
- **טבת – סבלנות** - The *midah* of being calm and patient.
- **שבט – חסד** - The *midah* of loving kindness and generosity.
- **כבוד הורים/מורים – אדר א'** - The *midah* of honoring one's parents and teachers.
- **שמחה – אדר ב' & ניסן** - The *midah* of being joyous and seeing the good in everyone and everything.
- **נושא בעול – אייר** - The *midah* of being sensitive to the challenges of others and helping them whenever you can.

- **הכרת הטוב – סיון** - The *midah* of being grateful to Hashem and to others.

Tefilla (Prayer)

- Continue practice and recitation of all previously learned Tefillot plus...
- Birchot Kriat Shema (Blessings before Shema)
- Emet V'Yatziv
- Al HaRishonim
- Ezrat Avoteinu
- Tehillot I'Kel Elyon
- Hallel (when appropriate)
- Further Be'ur Tefilla on Shemone Esrei

Text Study

- Chumash: Chayei Sarah, Toldot, Vayetzei
- Rashi: Decode letters, reading interpret
- Parshat Hashavua

General Studies

Language Arts

- Reading: Fluency, comprehension of narrative and expository text, literary response and analysis of more complex text
- Non-fiction – Understand usage of text features and examine text for information
- Encourage students to read for learning and enjoyment
- Reading novels, as a group and individually, and analyzing the basic literary elements of character, plot, conflict and resolution
- Writing: Writing process, Six Traits of Writing
- Grammar: Parts of speech, subject/verb agreement, verb tenses, word usage, sentence structure, punctuation and proofreading
- Spelling: Correct spelling in daily and weekly assignments
- Vocabulary: Words found in weekly reading assignments
- Paragraph writing (i.e. descriptive, expository, functional, persuasive and compare/contrast)
- Essay Writing (3 paragraphs): Personal narrative and Persuasive
- Writing friendly, formal emails and letters
- Book reports and short research report

Math

- Number Sense: Understanding place value of whole numbers and how they relate to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- Compare, order, round, add and subtract fractions and decimals
- Measurement and Geometry: Customary measurements, perimeter and area, plane and solid geometric objects
- Statistics: Graphing – collecting, interpreting and displaying data and calculating probability
- Enrichment: Solving multi-step world problems

Science

- Understanding the scientific process and developing language concepts and vocabulary related to science
- Keeping a Science journal

Life Science:

- Human body systems: Introduction to the human body systems and how they work and interact

- Ecosystems – How parts of a system interact and characteristics of a system, understanding Florida habitats and how they relate to ecosystems (Everglades, Coral Reefs)

Earth Science:

- Difference between weather and climate
- Impact on Florida
- Local weather: hurricanes
- Different types of weather patterns, their effect on humans and the choices we make
- Water: Explore properties of water and how it interacts with other materials, look at how humans use water
- In-class lab work

Social Studies

- Florida: Early inhabitants and explorers, the founding of Florida, products, cities, symbols, water and highway systems
- Regions of the United States: Longitude and latitude landforms, climate, economics and states and capitals
- Maps: Reading, interpreting maps, Florida postcard exchange
- Current Events



Judaic and Hebrew Studies

Be'ur Tefilah

- Introduction to Tefilla
- Shema
- Yotzer Hameorot
- Aleinu

Hebrew Language

- Oral Language: Build conversational skills by sharing experiences, writing and reading stories to class, practicing storytelling
- Reading Comprehension and Creative Writing: Identifying main ideas, book reports (Hebrew Books)
- Grammar: Conjunctions, prepositions, punctuation, different verb structures
- Reading Comprehension and creative focus on the individuality of each student and conflict resolution

Israel

- Geography
- Israel through Holidays and Holidays through Israel and Minhagim
- Israel through Israeli games and songs

Jewish Life (Minhagim/Dinim)

- Interpersonal aspects of each holiday
Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur: Teshuva and forgiveness
- Sukkot Laws of the Sukkah, symbols of the four species, the Three Regalim, customs (Ashkenaz, Sephardic), symbolic foods
- Simchat Torah: Happiness and joy
- Chanukah: Questions/conflicts in the story of Chanukah, compare with Purim, customs (Ashkenaz, Sephardic), symbolic foods
- Tu B'Shvat: Importance of trees to our lives and the environment
- Purim: Decision-making in the story, historical background, customs (Ashkenaz, Sephardic)
- Pesach: Historical background, preparations, simanim (symbols), minhagim (traditions/customs), and Haggadah
- Shavuot: Reasons and customs, background
- Israel: Importance of Yom Ha'atzmaut and the history of Jerusalem

Middot

- **חשון – זריזות** - The *midah* of being quick, responsive and enthusiastic to perform a mitzvah.
- **כסלו – אמת** - The *midah* of honesty and sincerity.
- **טבת – סבלנות** - The *midah* of being calm and patient.

- **שבט – חסד** - The *midah* of loving kindness and generosity.
- **אדר א' – כבוד הורים/מורים** - The *midah* of honoring one's parents and teachers.
- **אדר ב' & ניסן – שמחה** - The *midah* of being joyous and seeing the good in everyone and everything.
- **אייר – נושא בעול** - The *midah* of being sensitive to the challenges of others and helping them whenever you can.
- **סיון – הכרת הטוב** - The *midah* of being grateful to Hashem and to others.

Tefilla (Prayer)

- Continue practice and recitation of all previously learned Tefillot plus...
- L'Dovid
- Ya'ale V'Yavo
- Al HaNissim (Chanuka and Purim)
- Tachanun
- Hallel (full)

Text Study

- Chumash: Vayeshev, Miketz, Vayigash, Vayechi with Rashi commentary
- Navi (Yehoshua):
- Introduction plus perakim in detail
- Importance and love of Eretz Yisrael
- Familiarity with Hebrew Phrases
- Storyline
- Parshat Hashavuah and Mefarshim (commentaries)

General Studies

Language Arts

- Reading: Fluency, comprehension strategies and skills, vocabulary, understanding cause and effect, making inferences, identifying author's purpose, summarizing
- Inquiry and Research: Study skills, create and use visual aids, note taking, making outlines, summarize and organize information, and use of appropriate and multiple resources
- Writing/Composition
 - Writing process
 - Writing forms
 - Descriptive, personal, persuasive, narrative and journal writing
 - Writer's craft and purpose
 - Multi-paragraphs, supporting with detail
- Grammar: Parts of speech, sentences, usage and mechanics
- Spelling, Listening, Speaking and Penmanship

Math

- Data and Graphs
- Whole Numbers and Decimals: place value adding and subtracting
- Multiplying Whole Numbers
- Dividing Whole Numbers and Decimals: 1 and 2 digit divisors
- Fractions and Mixed Numbers: using all four operations - addition, subtraction, multiplication, division
- Decimals: Ordering of decimals, rounding of decimals, application of all four operations using decimals, relationship between decimals and fractions
- Measurement – standard and metric, calculating perimeter and area of a variety of geometric shapes
- Ratio and Proportion
- Probability
- **Enrichment:** Understanding and applying creative problem solving strategies

Science

- Understand the scientific process and developing language concepts and vocabulary related to science
- Development an understand of different kinds of plants, how they adapt to their environments and the process they undergo to survive

- Understand that the Earth's surface is in a constant state of motion that causes physical features of landforms to change
- Understand that matter takes on many forms based on its physical and chemical properties
- Distinguishing between mixtures and solutions

Social Studies

- US History and Geography: the Age of Exploration, First Colonies, 13 Colonies, American Revolution, the Constitution, and the Young Republic Map and Globe Skills
- Current Events



Judaic and Hebrew Studies

Hebrew

- Oral Language: Build conversational skills by sharing experiences, writing and reading stories to class, practicing storytelling
- Reading Comprehension: Chelm stories, introduction to Hebrew literature
- Applied writing
- Conversation
- Grammar

Israel

- Geography
- Israel through Holidays and Holidays through Israel
- Israel through Israeli games and songs
- Minhagim (Sephardic and Ashkenazi)

Jewish Life (Minhagim/Dinim)

- Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur: Liturgy of Machzor: Shofarot, different services for Yom Kippur, observance during Beit HaMikdash period, Hashkafa and Halachot of Shofar.
- Sukkot/Hoshana Rabbah: Torah Passages, Hashkafa and Halachot of the Arba Minim (four species)
- Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah: Variety of minhagim (customs), Shulchan Aruch
- Chanukah: Symbols, Hashkafa and Halachot of Menorah
- Tu B'Shvat: The four Jewish new years
- Purim: Al HaNissim
- Pesach: Vocabulary, halachot and minhagim aside from Seder, preparation, Chol HaMoed (intermediate days) and last two days
- Omer between Pesach and Shavuot
- Shavuot: Vocabulary, Megillat Ruth
- Shabbat: Vocabulary for the different special Shabbatot during the year, melave malka
- Shacharit Service: Focus on Nishmat and difference between the Shabbat and weekday Amidah

Middot

- **חשון – זריזות** - The *midah* of being quick, responsive and enthusiastic to perform a mitzvah.
- **כסלו – אמת** - The *midah* of honesty and sincerity.
- **טבת – סבלנות** - The *midah* of being calm and patient.
- **שבט – חסד** - The *midah* of loving kindness and generosity.
- **אדר א' – כבוד הורים/מורים** - The *midah* of honoring one's parents and teachers.
- **אדר ב' & ניסן – שמחה** - The *midah* of being joyous and seeing the good in everyone and everything.
- **אייר – נושא בעול** - The *midah* of being sensitive to the challenges of others and helping them whenever you can.
- **סיון – הכרת הטוב** - The *midah* of being grateful to Hashem and to others.

Tefilla (Prayer)

- Continue practice and recitation of all previously learned Tefillot plus...
- Review previously learned Tefillot with deeper meaning and learn interpretations
- Introduce new selections in Pesukei D'Zimra
- Address questions regarding Tefilla

Text Study

- Chumash: First half of Shemot (Exodus) through Parshat Bo, Beshalach, birth and development of Jewish nation
- Mishnah: Introduction to Oral Torah and discussions of Holidays (Masechet Brachot)
- Navi: Shoftim (Judges) and leadership qualities and Rashi
- Chevrotah: Focus on team studying
- Chassidic Stories and Midrashic
- Biblical Perspectives



General Studies

Language Arts

Literature

- Novels and Short stories
- Verbal responses and written analyses
- Obtaining information
- Analyzing authors' conclusions
- Reading fluency and comprehension of narrative and expository texts
- Plot/character analysis of historically and culturally significant literary works
- Fiction forms and characteristics

Writing

- Focused essays: five paragraph essay in expository, informational, creative, and persuasive writing
- Prewriting, writing, revising, editing and publishing
- Strategies for delivering coherent presentations, including oral communications

Grammar and Vocabulary

- Understanding specialized vocabulary through word origins/relationships and historical/literary clues
- Parts of speech, sentence parts, language conventions
- Grammar and spelling: vocabulary units of 20 words focusing on definitions, synonyms, and antonyms

Math

Regular

- Numbers, Expressions, and Equations
- Relationships between fractions, decimals and percentages
- Number Theory and Fraction Concepts
- Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying and Dividing Decimals
- Ratios, Rates and Proportion

Advanced

- Numbers, Expressions, and Equations
- Relationships between fractions, decimals and percentages
- Number Theory and Fraction Concepts
- Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying and Dividing Decimals
- Ratios, Rates and Proportion
- Algebra: Integers and Rational Numbers
- Geometry, Measurement
- Data, Graphs and Probability

Science

- Scientific methodology, techniques and history
- Processes, procedures, and tools of scientific investigation
- Properties/interaction of matter and energy forms, sources
- Weather, climate, and atmospheric process
- The composition and structure of the universe
- The impact of renewable and nonrenewable resources on environment: weathering, soil erosion, atomic structure
- Historical geology, fossils and the geologic time
- Principles of meteorology, cycles and movement of water
- Patterns of the Earth's rotation and revolution in relation to the sun and moon
- Comparison of earth to planets/objects in the universe
- Instruments used to study the universe
- Rocks and the rock cycle, plate tectonics
- Natural processes: the change of Earth's surface (earthquakes, volcanoes, formation of mountains, weathering, erosion, sedimentation, and soil formation)
- Weather, climate and climate changes
- Solar system, the relationship of the sun, earth, moon
- Space, stars, galaxies, and the universe

Social Studies – Western Civilization

- Analysis of geographic, political, economic, religious and social structures of ancient civilizations through the use of timelines, archaeology and map study
- Mesopotamia, Ancient Egypt, Ancient Greece, Rise and Fall of Roman Empire, Dark Ages and the Feudal System, Renaissance and Period of Exploration, Industrial Revolution in England and the United States
- Current Events



Judaic and Hebrew Studies

Hebrew

- Building reading comprehension
- Building fluency
- Advanced verbs and conjugation
- Writing skills

Israel

- Geography
- Biblical Israel
- Israel through Holidays and Holidays through Israel
- Israel through songs

Jewish Life (Minhagim/Dinim)

- Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur
- Sukkot/Hoshana Rabbah
- Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah
- Chanukah
- Tu B'Shvat
- Purim
- Pesach
- Shavuot

Middot

- Character Development Program
- Advisory Program

Tefilla (Prayer)

- Tefilla in a minyan
- Decorum in a minyan
- Learning leadership roles in a minyan (i.e. reading from the Torah, Chazzan, Gabbai for boys and Divrei Torah for both boys and girls)
- Be'ur Tefilla – deeper meaning of select Tefillot

Text Study

- Navi – Prophets – Selections from Shmuel Alef
- Chumash – Selections from Shemot (thematic approaches)
- Dinim and Chagim
- Mishnah – Bava Metzia (boys)
- Concept/Law
- Relationship of Mishna and Talmud
- Vocabulary
- Rashi
- Toshba – “Living Lessons” – Various topics and themes of the chagim

General Studies

Language Arts

Literature

- Novel, Short Stories and Plays
- Verbal responses and written analyses – of fiction and non-fiction
- Structural features of informational materials
- Reading, fluency, and comprehension strategies

Writing

- Poetry, creative writing, literature response using five paragraph essay format
- Group projects
- Memoirs, Expository writing compositions
- Persuasive essays
- Summaries of articles/books and research

Grammar and Vocabulary

- Advanced grammar and vocabulary
- Parts of speech, usage, sentence parts
- Word analysis and fluency, Language conventions
- Systematic vocabulary development in novels, short stories and unit vocabulary

Math

Pre-Algebra

- Operations with rational numbers
- Exponents
- Variables and Expressions
- Ratios, Proportions, Percentages
- Integer Operations
- Solving One and Two-Step Equations
- Data Analysis
- Probability

Algebra 1 (Honors Level)

- Operations with Real Numbers, Polynomials, Rational Expressions and Radicals
- Solving Multi-Step Equations
- Factoring Polynomials
- Solving Rational, Fractional, and Linear Equations
- Solving Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities
- Direct and Inverse Variation
- Rational and Irrational Square Roots
- Pythagorean Theorem
- Strategies for solving word problems using various algebraic concepts
- Factoring Polynomials

- Solving Quadratic Equations

Science

- Methods and application of scientific, environmental, or technological knowledge
- Understanding and measuring matter
- Characteristics and classification of living things
- Chemistry of living things
- The structural and functional similarities and differences of living organisms
- Methods of cellular division and reproduction
- Genetic variation and biotechnology
- Relationship of biotic/abiotic factors of different ecosystems
- Similarities in cell structures and functions
- Differences in specialized cellular structures and functions
- Mendelian patterns of inheritance
- Genetic variation and biotechnology engineering
- Human Systems
- Ecological behaviors and systems
- Biodiversity: interdependence of species in an ecosystem
- The biospheres
- Food chains and webs

Social Studies – Civics and Economics

- Understanding how the Constitution and the Bill of Rights provide a foundation for our American democracy
- Explaining the roles of the 3 branches of the United States Federal Government
- Understanding the Division of Power between the Federal Government and the States
- Developing an understanding of politics, voting and the election process
- Applying the understanding of the decision making process to real world events
- Integrating an understanding of the distribution of resources between stakeholders and how this impacts the political process and global economy
- Current Events



Judaic and Hebrew Studies

Hebrew

- Building reading comprehension
- Parables
- Advanced verb and conjugation
- Writing skills

Israel

- Geography
- Israel through Holidays and Holidays through Israel

Jewish Life (Minhagim, Dinim)

- Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur
- Sukkot/Hoshana Rabbah
- Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah
- Chanukah
- Tu B'Shvat
- Purim
- Pesach
- Shavuot

Middot

- Character Development Program
- Advisory Program

Tefilla (Prayer)

- Tefilla in a minyan
- Decorum in a minyan
- Learning leadership roles in a minyan (i.e. Reading from the Torah, Chazzan, Gabbai for boys and Divrei Torah for both boys and girls)
- Be'ur Tefilla – deeper meaning of select Tefillot

Text Study

- Navi – Prophets - Selections from Shmuel Bet
- Chumash – Bible Studies – Selections from Bamidbar – Shlach, Korach, Balak, Pinchas (Thematic approaches – “The Growth of a Nation”)
- Gemara: Brachot
- Toshba – “Living Lessons” – Various topics and themes of the chagim

General Studies

Language Arts

Literature

- Classic and contemporary literature
- Use of a variety of genres and themes
- Meaning, styles, and voice in poetry
- Novels, Short Stories, Fiction, Drama
- Thesis writing and literary response
- Structural features of literature and expository writing

Writing

- Thesis based analyses
- Journaling, Creative writing, Expository writing
- Evaluation and Revision, Compare and Contrast
- Cause and Effect, Problem and Solution
- Research Paper

Grammar and Vocabulary

- Advanced grammar and vocabulary in novels, short stories and unit vocabulary
- Word analysis and fluency, parts of speech, usage
- Sentence Parts, Agreement, Modifiers, Application
- Debate and public speaking

Math

Pre-Algebra

- Proportions and Percentages
- Properties of Exponents
- Square Roots
- Concept of Geometry
- Pythagorean Theorem
- Graphing Linear Equations
- Integer Operations
- Solving Multi-Step Equations
- Operations with Rational Numbers
- Variables and Expressions
- Integer Operations
- Solving One and Two-Step Equations
- Data Analysis
- Probability

Algebra (Honors)

- Absolute Value Equations and Inequalities
- Graphing Absolute Value Functions
- Using Linear Equations to model real-world data
- Solving systems with three variables
- Solving Quadratic Equations
- Imaginary and Complex Numbers

- Radical Functions
- Rational Exponents
- Operations with Real Numbers, Polynomials, Rational Expressions and Radicals
- Solving Multi-Step Equations
- Factoring Polynomials
- Solving Rational, Fractional, and Linear Equations
- Direct and Inverse Variation
- Rational and Irrational Square Roots
- Pythagorean Theorem
- Strategies for solving word problems using various algebraic concepts

Science

- Science, technology, and society: Diversity of Life
- Understanding and measuring matter
- Physical and chemical properties of matter
- Kinetic and chemical properties of matter
- Kinetic theory, states of matter, chemical reactions
- Properties of motion, Newton's Laws: Forces and Motion
- Work and simple machines
- Properties and sources of energy
- Conversion, and transfer of energy
- Principles of motion and force
- The Periodic Table and trends, States of Matter
- Radioactivity and Nuclear Reactions

Social Studies – American History (1789-Current times)

- Examine and analyze the Constitution as a foundation of American democracy
- Understand Westward expansion in America and the role of railroads
- Identify the cause and effects of the Civil War
- Study important individuals and movements during the 19th century that impacted the development of the United States
- Examine the causes and effects of WWI
- Engage in an in-depth analysis of the Great Depression and how it impacted American decision making during the 20th Century
- Study WWII and understand its effect on the world's Geo-Political structure
- Study the events of the 1960's and how they impact policies and decision making in today's world
- Current Events



Judaic and Hebrew Studies

Hebrew

- Building reading comprehension
- Parables
- Advanced verbs and conjugation
- Writing Skills

Israel

- Geography
- Israel through Holidays and Holidays through Israel

Jewish Life (Minhagim, Dinim)

- Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur
- Sukkot/Hoshana Rabbah
- Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah
- Chanukah
- Tu B'Shvat
- Purim
- Pesach
- Shavuot

Text Study

- Navi – Shmuel Bet and Melachim Alef
- Chumash – Bamidbar – Balak, Pinchas
- Dinim and Chagim
- Gemara – Brachot (Tefillot Hashachar)
- Toshba – “Living Lessons” – Various topics and themes of the chagim

Middot

- Character Development Program
- Advisory Program

Tefilla (Prayer)

- Tefilla in a minyan
- Decorum in a minyan
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