

Middle School Curriculum

Overview

6th

CORE	Core	Interdisciplinary study of language arts and social studies using primary and secondary historical sources, fiction, nonfiction, and poetry; strong focus on writing, reading, and skill building	Roots of Western Civilization discovered through archaeology, ancient history, geography, and literature centered on Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, and Rome
MATH	Math	Problem-solving strategies, critical thinking, estimation, and mental math skills while introducing the use of technology	Sequence 1: Pre-Algebra 6 Sequence 2: Pre-Algebra Sequence 3: Algebra 1, Part 1
SCIENCE	Science	Lab-oriented study with an in-class, project-based approach to learning concepts and making connections with the world	Earth, exploration of Earth's place in the universe
JEWISH STUDIES & TANAKH	Jewish Studies	Introduction to Jewish peoplehood, ethics, Jewish life through historical, biblical, and rabbinic texts Introduction to the land and people of Israel	The transformation of Jewish religion and peoplehood through biblical, rabbinic, and modern times in Israel and the diaspora Introduction to Jewish text study skills Jewish life cycle: birth to b'nai mitzvah
	Tanakh/Bible	A comprehensive approach to studying the Bible as a formative document for the Jewish people through narratives, key vocabulary, literacy, rabbinic and historical perspectives	Leadership and the beginnings of Jewish peoplehood Introduction to rabbinic commentators Close study of Exodus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, and Esther
HEBREW	Hebrew	The Bishil Ha-Ivrit curriculum brings Hebrew alive with print and digital media Dynamic classroom learning	All levels of Hebrew (Introduction, beginner, intermediate, advanced)
PHYS ED/ HEALTH & ELECTIVES	Phys Ed/Health	Courses and physical activity that maintain students' physical, mental, and emotional health	Cyber/internet safety, conflict resolution, puberty, body systems, and personal health Seasonal sports and personal fitness
	Electives	Opportunities to explore interests and passions	Fine Arts, Theater Arts, STEAM, Technology and Coding, and Reading

7th

8th

18th and 19th century American history with an emphasis on the aspirations and achievements of early Americans and the foundations of government using primary documents, secondary documents, and literature including short stories, novels, and poetry

The story of America through the lens of Native American, African American, and immigrant history, using primary and secondary documents, literature, and poetry. Exploration of the "American Dream" through the lens of justice and identity; truth and moral contextualism

Sequence 1: Pre-Algebra 7
Sequence 2: Algebra 1, Part 1
Sequence 3: Algebra 1, Part 2

Sequence 1: Algebra 1, Part 1
Sequence 2: Algebra 1, Part 2
Sequence 3: Geometry

Life science through the study of the diversity of life, processes and functions of a wide variety of organisms, and the interactions between them

Chemical and physical science including the basics of chemistry and physics, focusing on the engineering design process

Responsibility to oneself and others: tzedakah, returning lost objects, environmental ethics, honoring parents in selected ancient and modern texts
Jewish life cycle: midlife rituals

Civil discourse, ethics and community-building in rabbinic texts
Ethnic diversity and waves of immigration since 1882 and in contemporary Israel
Jewish life cycle: end of life issues

Leadership and sovereignty (successful and unsuccessful kings) in Judges, Samuel, Ruth, and Kings

Close readings of Genesis through different approaches and methodologies in Tanakh study

All levels of Hebrew
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Self-esteem and body image, basic first aid and safety, nutrition, drug education, and environmental health
Seasonal sports and personal fitness

Relationships, conflict resolution, postponing sexual involvement (PSI), sexual identity, alcohol, harassment, and disease and disorders
Seasonal sports and personal fitness

Fine Arts, Theater Arts, Culinary Arts, STEAM, Technology and Coding, Keyboarding, and Space Simulation

Fine Arts, Culinary Arts, Theater Arts, STEAM, Technology and Coding, Keyboarding, Spanish, Space Simulation, and creation of the annual 8th Grade Memory Book

