Overview of Shorashim Curriculum

In Shorashim we offer an experiential model of education that allows each learner to explore and discover meaning, personal relevance, and truths in our Jewish traditions and thought. In general, our curriculum focuses on Hebrew, holidays, Torah, prayer, Jewish values, Israel learning, and building community through the best practices of SEL (Social/Emotional learning). We pride ourselves on being an inclusive community of learners and try to accommodate all our learners, ideally in partnership with our families.

Our spiraling curriculum is broadly based on grade level curricular big ideas, which guide our planning and help us develop age appropriate and content-rich learning activities at every grade level. Our grade level curricular big Ideas/essential questions are:

**Gan (K):**

The learning focuses on introductions; to holidays, to basic Jewish values, to Torah stories, to major cities and bodies of water in Israel.

**Kitah Aleph (Grade 1):**

All learning is grounded in symbols of the holidays, Israel and Torah. Basic values in Bible stories are specifically taught.

**Kitah Bet (Grade 2):**

Who are the basic people, what are the basic places and Jewish values in Jewish life, and what is my connection to them?

**Kitah Gimel (Grade 3):**

What is my personal connection to God, to Torah and the stories and values inherent in those stories, to holidays and Shabbat, to Israel and to Judaism?

**Kitah Dalet (Grade 4):**

Through the building of a learning community, where do I fit into this history of the Jewish people? What are my personal relationships to others in my life and community, to the Land of Israel and her people, finding myself in the stories and relationships of people in the Torah.

**Kitah Hey (Grade 5):**

What are the character traits and Jewish values that dictate how I can live my life as a good person and as a Jewish person?

**Kitah Vav (Grade 6):**

What are the actions and consequences in Jewish history and in my life that affect me and Jewish history?