

## Hebrew School Curriculum

Congregation Beth Israel's mid-week Hebrew School program is designed for students to be able to read our sacred language. They are taught to decode the Aleph-Bet and *read* the prayers that our congregation does in Hebrew. Each year students add a minimum of 25 new vocabulary words to connect them to the meaning of the prayers they are reading. Hebrew School is for children beginning in the fourth grade, or nine years old. Enrollment in the Religious School program is required of all Hebrew School students. The program continues through their B'nai Mitzvah year. Participation in the CBI Hebrew and Religious School program is required at least during the year prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah service

Connection to Hebrew as our sacred language is also taught through familiarity with the worship service. Beginning in Kindergarten, students participate in a short, age appropriate weekday morning service during Religious School. Each Wednesday afternoon we hold a 15 minute weekday evening service, which the students lead.

In addition to the traditional reading instruction, **Hebrew Through Movement** has been added into our Hebrew and Religious School Curriculum. This program is based on the progression of how children learn language. It is designed to create an oral vocabulary while connecting students to the living modern language. Hebrew Through Movement is taught in 10 -15 minute lessons on both Sunday mornings during Religious School and Wednesday afternoons during Hebrew School.

In order to learn a foreign language, home practice is mandatory. Occasionally students require additional assistance to keep up with their class. In this case, the child's teacher will recommend outside tutoring. Each level of Hebrew is built on the previous skills. Therefore students are only promoted to the next level if they have mastered their current requirements. Report cards will be sent out in January as well as at the end of the year to inform parents of their student's progress. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's teacher with any questions or concerns.