

Devarim: Fifth - Eighth Grades

I. **Between Persons – A Life Guided by Jewish Values**

- Big Ideas*: Understand that living a Jewish life is more than attending services; it is also living by Jewish values.
- Students are required to complete a mitzvah project as part of Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation and will teach their classmates about their bar/bat mitzvah parsha
- Students will attend two Friday and two Saturday services a month and participate in one designated Family Shabbat

II. **Between Jews and G-d**

Concepts learned:

- Continue to explore their own spirituality and connection to G-d.
- Understand mitzvot associated with Bar/Bat Mitzvah.
- Describe their relationships with G-d and the idea of Kevah (the structure of the service) and Kavannah (the intention of prayers)
- Explain the mitzvot associated with the following:
 - Tallit -Daily Prayer -Torah Reading
 - T'fillin -Aliyot -Other Honors
- Use basic blessings before eating any type of food in class
- Students will wear kippot at all times

III. **Torah Study**

Concepts learned:

- Prophets and their role in our traditions.
- Use the PSHAT method to study for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah.
- The relationships between their own Bar/Bat Mitzvah portion and today's society.

Students will...

- Research the Jewish values that the following prophets demonstrated in their lives, modern Jews who also follow these values and how they can live these values.
 - Moses - Samuel - Elijah - Amos - Isaiah - Jonah - Jeremiah
- Explain their Bar/Bat Mitzvah Torah portion with thoughtful reflection and application

IV. **Knowledge of Hebrew**

Concepts learned:

- Hebrew word vocabulary will continue to grow
- Make connections between vocabulary words and prayer book Hebrew
- Read Hebrew with high levels of fluency and accuracy

V. **Knowing Prayer and Praying**

PRIMARY TEXT: Siddur Lev Shalom

Goals:

- Students' participation and attendance in Shabbat Services will increase to each Friday evening and Saturday morning service.
- Students will demonstrate competence in the Friday evening and Saturday morning Shabbat Services
- Students will help lead the Sunday morning service
- Students will attend and help lead Shabbat Services.

VI. Knowledge About and Concern for Israel

Students will...

- Develop their own opinions and connection to Israel.
- Discuss current events in Israel.

VII. Conservative Judaism

Students will...

- Be encouraged to participate in USY and attend Camp Ramah.
- Prepare for their B'Nai Mitzvot