



*Downtown  
Hebrew For Kids  
The Hebrew School your kids love!*

*Parent's Handbook 2011/2012– 5772*

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*Dear Parents,*

Imagine a Hebrew School where kids don't want to miss a day. They come in with a smile and leave humming a Hebrew song. Walking through the rooms, you can hear the sounds of lively discussion, of singing, laughter and learning. Imagine a child who feels the warmth and spirit of Judaism and loves learning Hebrew. Imagine the pride of his/her parents.

Welcome to Downtown Hebrew for Kids.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to teach your children.

We are humbled by this responsibility and are and ready for a great year!

We are excited to get acquainted with all the kids and begin our ride into Hebrew reading and Judaism. You should be proud that you have now joined thousands of families around the world on a journey into our rich culture & birthright.

Please take a moment to review the parent's handbooks so that we can be partners in creating the best, safest and most enjoyable experience at Hebrew for Kids.

Please sign the last page and return it to the office.

I also encourage you to watch our fabulous PowerPoint presentation.

It has much useful and informative information.

Sincerely,

Devorah Kaplan  
Director



## *Mission Statement*

The mission of Hebrew for Kids is to provide and promote the highest quality after-school Hebrew and Judaic education to a diverse community of Jewish children.

Our aim is to nurture and build the foundation of your child's Jewish identity, through our interdisciplinary educational approach.

The focus of our dedicated teachers is to inspire a twofold love.

A love for learning and a love for Judaism; while fostering a feeling of familiarity within their heritage for each individual child.

A well-balanced Hebrew School education will develop in our students a commitment to using Jewish values as a guide to the decisions of life, community and family.

### **Credentials**

- Certified and trained teachers.
- Teaching degrees from Australia , France & Israel and New York.
- Pedagogy and Child Psychology
- Many years of experience with children
- Trained in CPR and first Aid and anaphylactic care
- Special Needs Supervisor with Masters in Special Ed and 30 years experience
- One on one Hebrew reading and comprehension coaches.
- Ample assistance in each class for the optimum learning environment

### **Methods in the Classroom**

- Circle time – Interactive and all inclusive visual and audio included.
- Story time –Incorporating musical expression, pictures and role playing.
- Role playing – Understanding and personalizing the morals and values taught in the torah
- Debates – Allowing the diversity of the children to be expressed and acknowledged
- Visual aids – Touching, feeling and seeing the actual Biblical items and artifacts.
- Video – Presentations in song and play for the visual learner in all of us.
- Puppets – Fun and entertaining learning tool
- Music / Song / Audio - Exciting & enjoyable audio learning tools.
- Centers - Hands on learning centers in smaller groups, for specific, focused learning & comprehension
- Montessori Style ambiance - Children assisting and teaching other children
- One on one time- Personalized one on one teacher -child time
- Games- Implementing and reinforcing concepts through imagination and games.
- Hands on manipulation – Channeled freedom to express the lesson learned i.e.; baking
- Children's personal creativity and interpretation - Encouraged throughout the classes
- Problem Solving - Compare contrast – Internalizing the lessons in our daily lives.



## Curriculum

### Hebrew Reading- **Aleph Champion Reading**

At Hebrew for Kids, we strive to provide the highest standard of Hebrew language study in the limited period. In all classes, children immerse in the Hebrew language. Each level incorporates the four strands of language acquisition, i.e. reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Our focus is to impart relevant Hebrew language skills integrated with Jewish studies. This allows the children to practically apply the language into relevant areas of their lives. In addition, each level participates in our **Aleph Champion Reading Program**. This allows each individual child to advance in reading at their own pace and become proficient Hebrew readers.

Aleph Champ is based on the Karate motivational system and integrates color based levels for Hebrew reading. Students start out on the white champ level with a white champ book and white flash cards and a burning desire to pass to the next level. Age appropriate, creative and motivational methods are used. Hebrew vocabulary and eventually Hebrew writing is integrated throughout the Curriculum.

### Hebrew reading and Language

**Level 1-** White Aleph Champ: First 19 Letters of the Hebrew Alphabet

Pre-reading skills; involving proficiency in the names and sounds of the Aleph-Bet. Vocabulary and songs introduce the new world of Hebrew language and reinforce the sounds of the letters.

**Text book : My Magical Aleph Bet**

**Level 2 -** Red Aleph Champ Next 13 letters of the Hebrew Alphabet.

**Text book: My World of Hebrew reading**

**Level 3 -** Orange Aleph Champ; The first 3 vowels of the Hebrew Reading System: Kamatz, Patach, Tzeirei

**Text book : Party of Words**

**Level 4-**Yellow Aleph Champ; The next 3 vowels...Segol, Shva, Cholam

**Text Book : All Abuoet Me**

**Level 5 -** Green Aleph Champ; The last 3 vowels: Chirik, Koobootz, Shoorook

**Text Book: A Head of Hebrew**

**Level 6 -** Blue Aleph Champ; Exceptions to the Rule: Patach Chet, Double shva, (middle & end of words) Yud vav, Patach yud...

**Text Book: Celebrate my birthday**

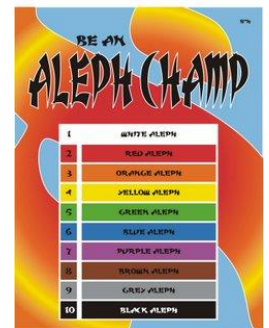
**Level 7 -** Purple Aleph Champ 60 wpm (words per minute) Prayers from the everyday prayers

**Lifecycle**

**Level 8 -** Brown Aleph Champ 70wpm, Prayers from everyday & Shabbat prayers

**Level 9 -** Grey Belt!

**Level 10-** Black Belt!





## Course Overview

At DHFK the program is divided into two sessions,  
50 minutes **Hebrew language** and 50 minutes **Jewish Heritage**.

### HEBREW LANGUAGE -

Each level participates in 2 Hebrew sessions, our **Aleph Champ** Reading Program and our **Aleph Legends** Language Program.

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Level 1 | <p><b>Pink legend-My Magical Alef-Bet</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus is on the names and sounds of the Aleph-Bet and Pre-reading skills</li> <li>• Vocabulary and songs introducing the new world of Hebrew language and reinforcing the sounds of the letters.</li> <li>• Introduction to vowels and script letters.</li> </ul> |
| Level 2 | <p><b>Peach Legend- I Can Read Hebrew</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hebrew Reading is taught in context, involving pronunciation of all letter and vowel combinations.</li> <li>• Script writing, vocabulary and language comprehension.</li> </ul>   |
| Level 3 | <p><b>Lime Legend</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consolidating Reading skills; focus on accuracy in reading.</li> <li>• Vocabulary units, reading comprehension, and script writing.</li> </ul>  |
| Level 4 | <p><b>Violet Legend</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading fluency and accuracy.</li> <li>• Hebrew language skills, involving vocabulary units and beginners grammar.</li> </ul>   |
| Level 5 | <p><b>Turquoise Legend</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consolidating Hebrew Reading</li> <li>• Hebrew Language skills, involving more extensive grammar and writing.</li> </ul>   |
| Level 6 | <p><b>Silver Legend</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing Hebrew Language skills as you read and explore Hebrew text</li> </ul>  |
| Level 7 | <p><b>Gold Legend</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Become a Black Aleph Champ Legend and take the Hebrew language with you.</li> <li>• Hebrew from Birth onward-Journal writing and conversation.</li> </ul>   |



## JEWISH STUDIES

Our unique Jewish studies curriculum combines seven carefully chosen themes. This is in addition to all the Jewish Holidays, covered two lessons prior to every festival throughout the levels. All topics provide your child with meaningful values and insights into his/her Jewish heritage and foster a sense of Jewish awareness, pride and identity.

### Level 1 **My Magical Mitzvot**

#### *Jewish Ethics and Values in Order of the Aleph-Bet*

Ahavat Yisrael/Love thy Neighbour; Bikkur Cholim/Visiting the Sick; Gemilut Chasadim/Acts of Kindness; Derech Eretz/Respect; Hachnasat Orchim/Inviting Guests; Vatronut/Patience; Zrizut/swiftness; Challah; Netilat Yadayim/Washing Hands; Kibud Av V'Em/Honor your Father and Mother; Lashon Tov & Lashon Hara/Talebearing; Seder V'Nikayon/Order and Cleanliness; Mezuzah; Tzedakah/Charity; Emet & Sheker/Honesty; Talmud-Torah/Torah Study.

### Level 2 **Beginnings - Bible Stories of Bereshit**

#### *Genesis- Stories of the 1<sup>st</sup> Book of the Torah.*

Famous Jewish heroes and characters; timeline of events; storyline; lessons, morals and messages for our lives today. Events covered are: Creation; Noach and the Flood; Dor Haflaga/Generation of Confusion; our Patriarchs and Matriarchs; Joseph & the 12 Tribes.

### Level 3 **Torah Travels**

#### *Shemot-.Devarim Stories of 4 Books of the Torah*

Famous Jewish heroes and characters; timeline of events; storyline; lessons, morals and messages for our lives today. Topics covered include: Moses and the Israelites in Egypt; Exodus; Mt Sinai- The Giving of the Torah; Jews Travels in the Dessert.

### Level 4 **WikiTorah**

#### *Fundamental Mitzvot and Foundations of Jewish Faith.*

Topics include: Gam Zu LeTova/Everything is for the best; Torah study; Jewish Birthdays; Kashrut/Kosher; Anava/humility; Shabbat; Blessings; Hashgacha Pratit/Divine Providence; Simcha/Joy.

### Level 5 **In their Shoes**

#### *Jewish History from Joshua to the Second Temple Era*

Events covered: Judges; Samson the Great; Deborah the prophetess; Kings Saul, David & Solomon; Elijah the prophet; Temple I; Babylonian Exile; Purim; Oral/written Law

### Level 6 **Stepping Forward**

#### *Jewish History from the Second Temple Era until Today*

Events covered: The second Temple era; Ezra and Nechemia; the Chashmonaim; Chanukah; Christianity; the Middle Ages; Spanish Inquisition; European Jewry; Great Jewish Scholars; Holocaust; Modern Israel

### Level 7 **Kids in Action/ Lifecycles**

#### *The Torahs' Perspective on Lifecycle Events.*

Participate in the real thing, and learn it, live it, love it!  
Topics include; Birth and the Neshamah/soul; Brit; Bar/Bat Mitzvah; Adolescence-think the Jewish way; Jewish Wedding; Mourning; Death; Techiyat Hamaitim/After life; Moshiach and the Jewish Future.

## *Pick Up & Drop Off*

We are offering pick up from Virginia Schuman Young at 3:15pm on Tuesdays. If you would like us to pick up your child, please be sure you checked the appropriate boxes on the registration forms or fill in the enclosed permission slip & submit it to our office.

**You MUST notify VSY that a representative from Hebrew for Kids will be picking up your child on Tuesdays.**

There is a designated area at VSY pick up, for the Hebrew school kids. Please remind your child to be there on Tuesdays. Children in the "cage" will be picked up by us.

**PLEASE NOTIFY US WHEN YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT OR WILL NOT NEED TO BE PICKED UP FROM VSY.**

Tuesday Class officially begins at 3:30 pm.  
The children will be served snack before class begins.

### **Pick up**

**School Ends at 5:30pm on Tuesday and 12 Noon on Sundays.**

If someone other than the indicated guardians of your child will be picking up; you MUST notify the office that day. You may also fill out the enclosed form with information on who may pick up your child from school.

Pick up & Drop off will take place at our main entrance on SE 9<sup>th</sup> Street. Heading East On Broward, take a right at SE 8<sup>th</sup> Street, left at SE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street & a left at SE 9<sup>th</sup> Street , heading North towards Broward Blvd. We are on the right side. A pick up & drop off line will form there.

**Please do not come out of the car, we will bring the children to you.**

Staff members will be outside to assist in carpool.



## *Hours*

Sunday 10:00am – 12 noon

Tuesday 3:30pm – 5:30 pm

Ages 4 – 13

Mondays: Toddler class 3:30pm -5 :30 pm

## *Snack Roster*

We would love for parents to help with healthy snacks!

Please let us know if you would like to participate in the snacks roster.

### Snack Criteria:

1. Products should be dry,
2. non dairy-and
3. must have a Kosher symbol. such as circle u, circle k, star k
4. no peanuts or anything with peanuts in them
5. whole fruit - not cut up

We can store dry items so feel free to drop off any dry items anytime :)



## Calendar 2010-2011

### Calendar for Hebrew For Kids 5772 Sunday and Tuesday classes September 2011 - May 2012

Month / Day	Sunday	Tuesday
<b>September</b>	September 11 <sup>th</sup> First day of Hebrew School	September 6 <sup>th</sup> First day of Hebrew School
<b>October</b>	October 16 <sup>th</sup> Sukkot Yes School	October 18 <sup>th</sup> Sukkot Yes School
<b>November</b>	November 27 <sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving break No School	
<b>December</b>	December 25 <sup>th</sup> Chanukah /Winter Break No School	December 20 <sup>th</sup> Chanukah /Winter Break No School  December 27 <sup>th</sup> Winter/ Chanukah Break No School
<b>January</b>	January 1 <sup>st</sup> Winter Break No School	
<b>February</b>	February 19 <sup>th</sup> No School Presidents week	
<b>March</b>	March 11 <sup>th</sup> Spring Break VSY YES School	March 13 <sup>th</sup> Spring Break VSY No School
<b>April</b>	April 8 <sup>th</sup> Pesach Break No School <hr/> April 15 <sup>th</sup> Pesach Break No School	April 10 <sup>th</sup> Pesach Break No School
<b>May</b>	May 20 <sup>th</sup> Graduation	May 22 Graduation



## *Staying Connected*

Each week you will receive an e-mail update and a link to our website. We will post photos and a short description of that week's class for your enjoyment. This will allow you insight into what goes on in our classrooms and keep you updated on what the children are learning. We are sure you will take great pride in their academic achievements and smiling faces.

## *Special Needs advisor*

We are delighted to welcome to our staff a Special Needs Supervisor; Mrs. Julie Gerber. Mrs. Julie Gerber has her masters in Special education and extensive experience working with children with special needs.

She will be evaluating, guiding and assisting on a constant basis.

We have already incorporated many new methods and teaching tools to ensure that each child has a proper Jewish educational experience, regardless of their individual differences or special needs.

Your participation and communication is vital for us to be able to ensure the right learning and social environment for your child.

Please be sure to notify us of any special needs or information that we should have that would help us better accommodate for your child and the children in his/her class.

Please do not have discussions with the teachers at drop off and pick up.

Please make an appointment either via e-mail or phone.

We will surely do our best to accommodate you.

Julie will also be available by appointment.

Website: [www.downtownjewish.com](http://www.downtownjewish.com)

E-mail: [info@downtownjewish.com](mailto:info@downtownjewish.com)

[Devorah@downtownjewish.com](mailto:Devorah@downtownjewish.com)

Office: 954-667-8000



## *Parent Release Form for Media Recording*

I, the undersigned, do hereby grant or deny permission to Downtown Jewish Center Chabad to use the image of my child,

\_\_\_\_\_, as marked by my selection(s) below.

Such use includes the display, distribution, publication, transmission, or otherwise use of photographs, images, and/or video taken of my child for use in materials that include, but may not be limited to, printed materials such as brochures and newsletters, videos, and digital images such as those on the Downtown Jewish Center Chabad Web site.

- Deny permission to use my child's image at all.
- Grant permission to use my child's image in the following ways (mark all that apply):
- Unrestricted usage:** I give unrestricted permission for my child's image to be used in print, video, and digital media. I agree that these images may be used by DJCC for a variety of purposes and that these images may be used without further notifying me. I do understand that the child's last name will not be used in conjunction with any video or digital images.
  - Limited usage:** I want my child's image used within the DJCC setting only (not in the larger community).
  - Limited usage:** I want my child's image used for educational materials only (not marketing). This could be either within DJCC or in the larger community. One example of this could be videos in parent education classes.
  - Limited usage:** I want my child's image used on printed materials only (no digital or video use).

Parent/guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*If you have questions, contact Devorah at 954-667-8000.*

*Please Fill in & submit to the office:*

I have read the Parents handbook 2011-2012-5772

Sign \_\_\_\_\_

**Permission to Pick up from VSY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ give permission for my child, \_\_\_\_\_ to be picked up from VSY & taken to Hebrew School at approx 3:15pm on Tuesdays.

\_\_ I do not require this service

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Permission for someone other than Guardian, to pick up child from school**

I hereby give permission for the following person/s to pick up my child up from school.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

