

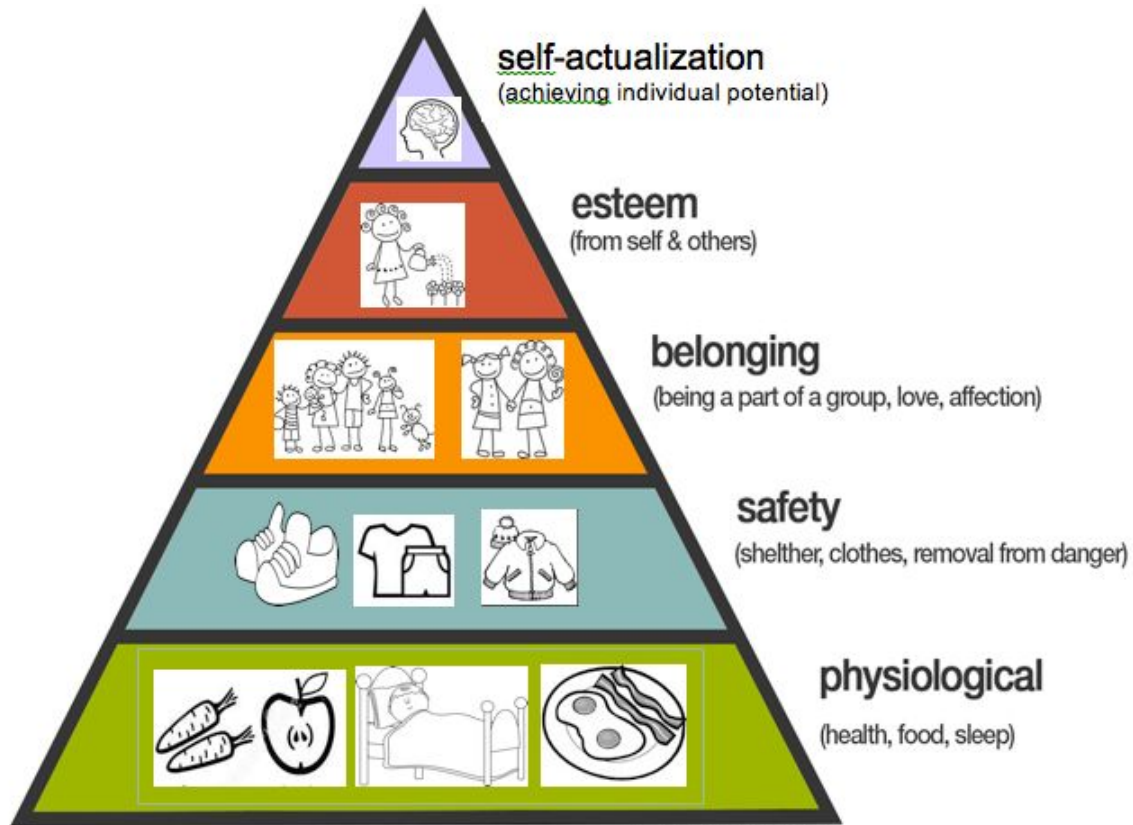
Kindergarten Curriculum Night

5779-5780 2019-2020



חנך לנער על פי דרכו גם כי יזקין לא יסור ממנה
Start children off on the way they should go,
and even when they are old they will not turn from it

The Importance of Snack and Extra Clothes



Maslow hierarchy of needs pyramid

Illustration Kenneth buddha Jeans

How to help your child be successful at school:

- Get a good night's sleep.
- Eat a protein-filled breakfast.
- Send a snack of complex carbs and protein: veggies, fruit, dairy, whole grains.
- Dress in season-appropriate clothing and closed-toed shoes.
- Keep an extra set of season-appropriate clothing and possible extra set of shoes.
- Send a family picture, and leave with a hug and a kiss.
- Drop off at 8:20.
- Arrange play dates.
- Ask about specific times when your child felt proud of his or herself.
- Praise hard work, persistence, and other skills instead of traits.

Contact Information and Communication

Classroom Teachers:

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Hebrew and Judaics:

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We regularly attempt to connect with parents personally by updating you when you come by the classroom, calling you by phone, or sending an email. We will return your emails or phone calls within 24 hours Monday through Friday. Because we don't have timely access to email, please call the office for absences, pick up changes, and other pressing items. If you have a quick note, feel free to text. For lengthier items, please email or call the school.

During Shabbat, we ensure everyone enjoys a day of rest by not emailing or phoning.

Three times per month you will receive a newsletter on a Friday, informing you about our classroom life. Once a month, we will send you a personal communication by email about your child. If we do not have school on Friday, you will not receive a newsletter or personal email.

We also regularly update your child's online portfolio on Seesaw. Your child will have his or her own learning journal, and you can receive notifications when new items are added. It's completely private -- only you can see your child's journal outside of class. Please see attached directions to sign up and download the app.

We will have two parent-teacher conferences, one in the fall and one in the spring, to meet with you in person to share about your child as a student. You can sign up for times on the new Mirowitz app. Please make sure to sign up for a separate Hebrew conference time as well.

Literacy Education

Students will become readers, authors, and better spellers through:

1. Daily 5: Each day there is a whole group mini-lesson about a reading strategy or skill followed by individual practice and a reflection. The individual practice time is called Daily 5. The theory behind Daily 5 is that every day children engage in Read to Self, Read to Someone Else, Word Work (language study), Work on Writing (including handwriting), and Listen to Reading. This structure allows the teachers to lead guided reading groups and individually conferences with students. The small groups review or introduce reading strategies and skills while the conferences inform us of which strategies students are using and how they are feeling about themselves as readers. Word Work and Work on Writing will be completed during Work Time. The three ways to read will be completed during Literacy.
2. Writer's Workshop: Students will engage in daily independent writing, writing process lessons, individual conferences, and mini lessons to enhance writing skills. Our writing units explore personal narratives, opinions, and teaching books. In kindergarten, it is appropriate for students to use their best guess spelling. As they progress on the writing continuum, they will first write beginning sounds, then ending sounds, and finally middle sounds. It is common that they will miss the vowel sounds, and digraphs are especially tricky. Let them experiment with spelling with little correction; however, help them when with sight words. Sight words are words they cannot sound out and will need to know by sight. Having a self-created dictionary will be a helpful resource for them as the year progresses.

Mathematical Education

Students will continue to develop their number and operation skills, geometry, measurement, data analysis, and probability skills through daily math activities with our Montessori math materials. We will integrate math into our science and social studies curricula.

Science

Students will develop and strengthen observation, experimentation, deduction, and journaling skills through our science curriculum, which includes units on senses, weather, sustainability, and pond life.

Social Studies

Kindergartners will begin to develop an awareness of their position in their community, time, and space by creating a classroom community, utilizing calendars, exploring the neighborhood, native habitats, and maps.

Judaics

In kindergarten Judaics, your child will have the exciting opportunity to learn Torah stories in the first book of Torah - *Bereshit* (Genesis)! We will study the story of creation and the development of our Jewish family tree, starting with Avraham, Sarah, Yitzchak, Rivka, Ya'akov, Esav, and Yosef. We will focus on stories such as Avraham's developing relationship with God, his incredible *chessed* of welcoming guests, Rivka's kindness at the well, Ya'akov and Esav's conflicts of interests, and favoritism in the Yosef story. Your children will participate in deep discussions, and learn that there are countless lessons we can derive from characters in Torah that apply to our lives today. Each week, we will also learn *Parashat Hashavua* and your children will have the opportunity to bring home an illustration, which reflects our class discussion so you may continue discussing at home. In addition, your children will learn, through hands-on experiences, about the history of the holidays as well as the customs, blessings and traditions of celebrations.

Our goal is for students to see t'fillah as an enriching part of the day, which can lead to self-reflection and has the potential to inspire them to "live justly, love mercy, and walk humbly before God." Proverbs 22:6
Kindergartners will also learn melodies, choreography, and symbolism of the *havdallah* service and will be exposed to and gain basic familiarity with melodies and meanings of *Modei Ani*, *Yotzer Or*, and *Sh'ma* from the morning liturgy.

Ivrit - Hebrew

Gan

In kindergarten students are introduced to the "sights and sounds" of the Hebrew language. Instruction is in Hebrew so that students are immersed in the language. Listening to Hebrew spoken in an accessible and comprehensible way is the primary means by which students acquire the language. Lessons are taught in a joyful atmosphere through song, story, art, movement, imitation, conversation, and repetition. Students will learn many new vocabulary words and language structures. They will develop pre-literacy skills through exposure to the print form of the alef-bet letters and their associated sounds. They will also become familiar with a large body of Israeli children's literature and other elements of Israeli culture. Focus topics include students' immediate surroundings--self, family, numbers, colors, weather and food. It is our goal that by the end of the year some students reach the "Novice-Mid" level of proficiency in listening and speaking on the language proficiency scale established by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. At this skill level, students can understand and repeat words and phrases learned within the topics listed above.

Our Classroom Life

Attendance

Your child must arrive at school by 8:20. Students will start their day by putting away their belongings, saying hello to friends, and other activities that help them get ready for learning. Morning meeting begins promptly at 8:30. Arriving on time sets the pace for the day and allows for a successful transition from home to school.

Movement

Based upon research, movement is key for academic success in the classroom. We will be incorporating aerobic movement and/or yoga as active learning techniques throughout the day.

Birthday Celebration

In Kindergarten we have a short (15 minute) celebration on or around your child's birthday. This involves a parent(s) joining us and reading your child's favorite book to the class. Also, your child may share a favorite baby photo, lovey, stuffed animal, and/or toy.

Unfortunately we are unable to have treats sent for birthdays.

Thank you!

Homework

Please read to your child daily. From time to time, your child will have a special assignment, such as observing the moon, which will be shared with you through the weekly newsletter.

Field Trips

- Litzsinger Road Ecology Center, 3 times a year
- Pond at Longview Farm Park
- Mishloach Manot

Throughout the year, we will need parents to drive our classes on school-sponsored field trips. If you would like to drive on a field trip, you will need to have a copy of your driver's license and current automobile insurance card on file with Kara and Mary in the office.

Here are a few guidelines:

- Due to students' allergies, **you may not serve food in your car.**
- While driving students, **you may not talk on your cell phone.**
- You may not make any unauthorized stops while driving Mirowitz students.
- Students must ride in the car seat that they bring to school, or we need confirmation that it is okay for your child to sit in another car seat.
- Please do not show movies and use discretion when choosing music.

Snacks

Kindergarten students will eat a snack every morning and are strongly encouraged to bring a daily snack to eat mid-afternoon. To ensure proper nutrition for optimal learning, to contribute to your child's independence, and to respect the food policies of the school, please assist your child in choosing a snack from the **Fab Five: fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, dairy snack, whole-grain pretzels or crackers, or nut-free granola bars.**

These choices provide variety for Kosher observance, allergy restrictions, and health requirements. This also limits the temptation of sharing snacks and guarantees the safety of every child. The school is not able to provide snack for children. **WE ARE A NUT AND PEANUT FREE SCHOOL.**

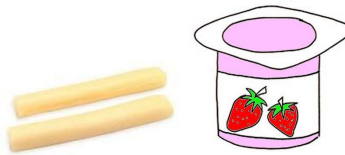
Fab Five Snacks



Vegetables



Fruit



Dairy Snacks













Whole Grain Crackers/Pretzels



Nut-Free Granola Bars

Weekly Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 				    



Wear Mirowitz shirt for Mirowitz Mondays.



Wear tennis shoes for PE.



Wear long pants to walk in the woods.



Wear blue and/or white and



bring tzedakah for Shabbat.



Bring back library books.