

CURRICULUM –ETHICS AND JEWISH VALUES 6TH GRADE

Many of the choices we make as Jewish people are rooted in Jewish tradition, notably the Torah (as explained in the Talmud).

Goals and objectives:

6th Grade Ethics and Jewish Values will invite students to find the connection between the ethical values and their own life experiences. The focus in each session will fall on solving and applying their own values and ethics with Jewish learning, and then moving towards the truth of his/ her own personal meaning (there are a number of answers with different student opinions).

Students will work in groups to identify the different themes and to find “the right answer” to a complex series of ethical dilemmas.

Textbook:

“You be the Judge” – Book 2

Unit 1: 1 -2 sessions – 30 minutes each

Key Concept: Courage/Strength of Heart. Who is the Mighty?

You be the Judge Book 2 No 46.

Unit 2: 2 sessions – 30 minutes each

Key Concept: Tzedek Tzedel Tirdof – Justice: not only in the courtroom but in our relationships.

You be the Judge Book 2: no 36/37

Unit 3: 1-2 sessions – 30 minutes each

Key concept: Anavah – Humility: halfway between too much pride and too little pride

You be the Judge Book 2: story no 43

Unit 4: 1-2 sessions – 30 minutes each

Key concept: Kiddush Ha-shem – Living in a way that gives honor to G-d and the Jewish people.

You be the Judge Book 2: story no 45

Unit 5: 2 sessions – 30 minutes each

Key Concept: Ethics between students and parents/teachers/authoritative figures

You be the Judge Book 2: Story no: 20, 2

Unit 6: 1-2 sessions – 30 minutes each

Key Concept: Kol Israel Arevim

You be the Judge Book 2: Story no: 22

Unit 7: 1-2 sessions – 30 minutes each

Key Concept: Ethics of the Environment

You be the Judge Book 2: Story no: 7

Unit 8: 10-12 sessions- 30 minutes each

Textbook: You be the Judge Book 2 – From Story no. 1 to Story no.24:

Key Concepts:

- Tzedaka Story no.: 2, 5, 24,19
- Embarrassment: story no: 2, 5
- Lashon Hara : story no: 2, 16,34
- Kol Israel Arevim: story no: 3,18,6
- Prayer and Action: story no: 25
- Stealing?: story no.9, 1
- Mitzvah of preserving life: story no: 10,21
- Miracles: story no: 15
- Honor thy father and thy mother: story no: 13

- Parental responsibility: story no: 14
- Dealing with anti-Semitism: story no: 22

Special Activities:

- Origins of Jewish customs and ideals
- Oral vs. Torah discussions and debates

Assessments:

- Exit cards
- List 3 ways to do something
- Debates differences between _____ and _____