

This year flew by! It feels like I just met all of you yesterday and here we are at this year's last week of Hebrew Club. We had an amazing time and learned a lot together this year. Here is short overview of some of the many topics we learned every Sunday.

At Hebrew Club the holidays come to life. Not only do we learn about the laws and customs, we actively partake in observing each and every one of them. We began the year learning about our Jewish New Year - Rosh Hashana. We tasted apples dipped in honey, and made our very own Shofars! After Rosh Hashana we focused on learning about the other High Holidays - Yom Kippur, Sukkot, & Simchat Torah. On Sukkot we all had a chance to shake the Lulav and Etrog and then had a delicious pizza lunch in the Sukkah.

After we celebrated the High Holidays we began our curriculum of learning about the Torah.

We jumped right into the book of Bereishit; the first of the five books of Torah. Bereishit begins with the creation of the world. We learned what G-D created on each day and how He rested on the 7th day which we call "Shabbat." We made a "Mock Shabbat," where we discussed the concept of Shabbat and watched the teacher light Shabbat candles. Then we got to taste some homemade Challah!

Noah was up next. We built our own tri-level Ark and discussed what Noah put on each floor. Our Ark was pretty cool but it wasn't close to the size of Noah's Ark! We decorated mini Charity boxes, with a picture of Noah's Ark and a rainbow. We talked about how the rainbow was a sign that G-d would never flood the world again, that's why we make a bracha whenever we see one.

After Noah we learned about Abraham our Forefather. We discussed how G-D

promised him and all his descendants the land of Israel. That Israel is the land of the Jewish nation. G-D promised Abraham that a great nation will come from him. The nation would be as countless as the sand and stars. We tried counting grains of sand and realized it was quite impossible!

We learned all the different blessings, we say on different types of food. We even got to make some blessings on some different snacks, and topped it off with baking our very own scrumptious chocolate-chip cookies!

We continued learning about how after Avraham had his Brit he wasn't feeling well and G-D made the weather boiling hot so guests would not come while Abraham was recuperating. This was because Avraham loved having guests and had an open tent policy, as its a big mitzvah! We learned this lesson in a tent just like Avraham had, with an entrance facing every direction so he could welcome in guests coming from all-over.

We learned how Abraham sent Eliezer to go look for a wife for his son. He brought along gifts for the woman. We made jewelry out of cheerios, similar to the sparkling jewels Eliezer brought with him. We then learned that Eliezer went to the well to look for a wife for Issac. He decided that whichever girl would offer to give him water was the woman for Isaac. This would show that the woman had the quality of kindness. We learned how a well worked back in the olden days and we tried to draw water ourselves! Issac got married to Rivka and we learned how a traditional Jewish wedding works!

Chanukah was very exciting for our class. We learned the whole story of Chanukah, made yummy Chanukah shaped cookies, our very own dreidels, played some fun Chanukah games, and topped off all the Chanukah fun with the amazing Jewish

rapper that we had so much fun dancing with!

We continued after Chanukah with our curriculum where we learned about Isaac and Rivkah's twin children Esav and Jacob. We learned how Jacob was the righteous son and Esav spent most of his time hunting. Esav tried to trick his father that he was the good son. We had fun making puppets of Yaakov and Eisav and acting out parts of the story.

Yaakov then left home and started working for his uncle Lavan. Lavan told Yaakov that if he works for him for 7 years he will let him marry his daughter Rochel. Lavan tricked Yaakov into marrying the older daughter Leah instead of Rochel. Yaakov worked for Lavan for another 7 years and only then married Rochel. Finally Yaakov left to go home. He now had 4 wives, 12 children (which would soon become the 12 tribes) and a daughter. We did a special project where we learned about all the Jewish Tribes and what made each tribe special.

One son of Yaakov was named Joseph. Yaakov loved him very much. We made ourselves multi-colored coats, just like the special coat Yaakov gave Joseph. We learned how Joseph's brothers became jealous and that they decided to throw him in a pit. One of the brothers felt sorry for what they did. He returned to the pit and sold Joseph as a slave to Arab merchants who were traveling to Egypt. In Egypt Joseph was thrown into jail where he met two people. He analyzed their dreams. And after that they thought he was a hero!

We had a great time acting out the dreams that Pharaoh had. Joseph explained that Pharaoh's dreams meant that there was going to be 7 years of plenty and then 7 years of hunger. Pharaoh then made Joseph his right hand man. Joseph's brothers traveled to

Egypt during the Famine to get food. They soon found out that Joseph was second to the king. Once Yaakov heard that Joseph was alive he moved his family to Egypt and set up Shuls and Yeshivot in Egypt. This concluded our curriculum of Bereishit.

Purim came along and we had a blast learning about this fun holiday. We dressed up like Esther, Achashveirosh, Haman, Vashti, and Mordechai and acted out the story of Purim. We learned about all the special customs that we do on Purim. We played some fun Purim games, baked Hamentashen, and decorated masks to dress up in for Purim. On Purim everyone came dressed up in beautiful costumes. We spent the day having an amazing time going on rides and jumping in the bounce houses! We heard the Megillah and all went home with Shaloch Manot!

Then next holiday was Passover. We made a projected of Moshe in the basket. We learned about all the preparations that we have to do in our homes before Passover. We made special door hangers to show which rooms were already cleaned for Passover. To review the story and laws of Passover we played a fun game show. The highlight of our Passover learning was our trip to the Exodus exhibit. We walked through the whole story of Passover starting with the Jews as slaves to Pharoah till we walked through the split sea! The fun trip ended off with a Matzah bakery, where we learned all the rules of making Matzah. We donned our matzah bakery hats while we had a chance to bake our Matzah from scratch!

After Pesach we continued on with a new curriculum. This curriculum is called "All About Me." The topic explains how we can use each part of our body to serve Hashem, by doing different Mitzvot. Our head: To learn Torah, wear a kippah, and men can use it to don tefillin. Our heart: To love a fellow Jew -Ahavat Yisroel. Our nose: To

smell besamim (spices) by Havdallah. Our mouth: To pray, say brachot on food, eat kosher and more!

We spent Yom Hazikaron (Memorial day for Israeli soldiers) learning about our Jewish country, the Land of Israel. We learned about celebrating our independence on Yom Haatzmaut. We read a book about all the different cities in Israel and what makes it so special. We also made a cool sand-art craft of the map of Israel.

After Pesach we began counting Sefirat Haomer, we learned about the inspiring Rabbi Akiva. Rabbi Akiva went from being a shepherd to one of the greatest Rabbis in his time with over 24,000 students. We learned about Lag Baomer and what a happy day this is. Anyone that joined us on the Lag Baomer parade at Gulfstream can agree! We saw many floats decorated with different mitzvot, listened to Jewish singers, and went on a lot of fun rides!

I had an awesome time this year teaching all of you! You all kept me on my feet while you sped through your Aleph-Bet books. You were all so eager to learn about the Torah and Mitzvot! Each week I grew more proud of you guys! Thanks for being the greatest kids ever! I love you all and I'm really going to miss spending my Sunday mornings with you. Keep in touch!