

## JOSEPH KUSHNER HEBREW ACADEMY RAE KUSHNER YESHIVA HIGH SCHOOL

## CLASS NOVEL IN FOURTH GRADE HELPS STUDENTS UNDERSTAND THE MAIN IDEA

Our fourth graders have been so excited reading our class novel "No Talking" weekly in class. Its a story about competitive fifth grade boys and girls who challenge one another to see who can go longer without talking. While reading the book, we have been focusing on how to find the main ideas and supporting details throughout the book. The students have learned that recognizing the main idea is the key to good comprehension and it is considered to be the general "umbrella" idea; all of the supporting details fit underneath the umbrella. The main idea usually appears at the beginning of a paragraph and the supporting details are the specific examples, causes, reasons or facts. The students worked in small groups to illustrate the main idea and supporting details of our novel thus far.

