

The L'mata (Experiential) Program

The *l'mata* block has two basic parts. First, grades 3-6 meet in the sanctuary for *ruach* (a spirited song session) and *tefillah* (prayer). With the Clergy and Song leaders, students learn Jewish songs and liturgy in an energetic, music-filled session. Next, the morning can take several basic paths.

1. Tochnit (large-scale programs)-Approximately once per month we have a large-scale program. These programs range in topic and might include holidays, history, Jewish eco-farming or Israel, among other things.
2. Choice chugim (electives)- Five times per year, all students break out into interest based *chugim* (elective classes). Students choose from a list of several possible classes.
3. Grade level Chugim-On other mornings, each grade level has a different program. These include "ask the rabbi", art, and Jewish movement with specialists and clergy.

Erev (evening) Machane- Students in grades 3-6 participate in two immersive camp style programs. The first Erev Machane takes place on a Saturday afternoon into the evening with a late night pick up and students sleeping at home. The second Erev Machane take place on a Saturday evening at Temple Beth Ami with an overnight. Students will sleep in grade level bunks and picked up at 9:00am The program is designed to strengthen student's connection to the curriculum, staff, peers and the Temple Beth Ami community.

The L'mala and L'mata blocks are designed to complement and supplement each other with a goal of students achieving confidence in their Jewish education, competency in Hebrew prayer and a strong sense of Jewish identity and community.