

The L'mala (Classroom-Based) Program

Students in the classroom-based block for grades 3-6 have two educational components; Jewish Studies and Hebrew. Incorporated into both, is the goal of building Kehilah (community) and a positive relationship to each other, Temple Beth Ami and to Judaism.

For Jewish Studies, students explore Torah, Holidays, Israel and Life Cycles as part of a 4-pronged spiral curriculum. Using this approach, students revisit key topics through a variety of methodology repeatedly through their Machane TBA education. As students' progress, the complexity of the topic increases and deep new learning takes place. Concepts in Jewish History and spirituality will be addressed throughout the topics.

Hebrew goals for grade 3-6 begin with a focus on letter and vowel recognition, decoding and reading fluency. As the Hebrew curriculum advances, students study key prayers related to Shabbat, holidays and lifecycle events with a goal of achieving fluency and understanding. In an interactive way, students are introduced to Torah cantillation, liturgical melodies and the service structure.

Our grades 3-6 Hebrew program is tailored to reflect and dovetail with the Jewish Studies lessons in terms of introducing vocabulary, appropriate liturgical prayers from tefillah, and Torah texts whenever appropriate.

Erev (evening) Machane Overnights- Students in grades 3-6 participate in two immersive camp style overnights that take place on a Saturday evening at Temple Beth Ami before a Machane TBA session. 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.