GAN (K)

Beginning to explore, “I am Jewish!”—What does it mean for myself, my family and my community?

Topics: Torah stories (Genesis), holidays, Modern Hebrew, Tefillah, the synagogue

Tefillah: Shabbat blessings—candles, Kiddush, HaMotzi; V’shamru chorus; Modeh Ani; Barchu; Shema and Baruch Shem; Mi Chamocha—first verse; Oseh Shalom; Holiday songs and prayers; Aleph Bet song

Big Ideas:
- We learn about being Jewish from family, friends, teachers and our synagogue.
- Jews celebrate special holidays and read special stories in the Torah.
- Hebrew is the language that Jews speak, and I can speak it, too!

Essential Questions:
- What does it mean to be Jewish?
- What are Jewish holidays and how do we celebrate them?
- What are Jewish stories? How do we learn about them?
- What is a synagogue all about?

Objectives:

Students will learn how to...
- Identify ideas, mitzvot and objects associated with holidays.
- Celebrate major Jewish holidays (calendar split between Gan and Kitah Aleph)
- Use basic Hebrew phrases to greet people, identify people/places, refer to colors and numbers, and identify ideas, mitzvot and objects associated with holidays

Students will understand that...
- Each Jewish holiday has its own story, mitzvot, and ways that we celebrate it.
- Torah stories teach us about what it means to be Jewish, focusing on stories from Sefer Breishit (Genesis).
- Hebrew is the language that Jews from all over the world can use to communicate.

Students will believe that...
- It is fun to be Jewish!
- We do “Jewish things” with family, friends, and our synagogue community.
- People at our synagogue care about them.
- We celebrate holidays with other people to share our joy.