

# Dreams Grow Here!

## Midbar Kodesh Temple Kindergarten **Core Plus More!**

Keeping the education and the safety of our students a priority

- Small class size
- Five days per week
- Face to face individualized instruction
- Strong academic curriculum

**Call 702/454-4848 to enroll today!**



**MidbarKodesh**

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

*“Tell me and I forget;  
Teach me and I may remember;  
Involve me and I learn”*

This quote is the substance of philosophy driving our Kindergarten program here at Midbar.

## **What Makes Our Program Unique**

- Our program will move each student forward to meet his/or her potential from wherever they begin.
- Our program will be taught by an experienced Kindergarten teacher with a teacher assistant.
- Our class size will be small with a maximum of 13 students per class.
- Our curriculum uses state of Nevada's Common Core as our baseline. We will enhance the Common Core in all areas as we work to extend all students' learning.

## **What Our Curriculum Covers**

### **READING AND LITERACY**

- Balanced literacy will be taught with a print rich environment consisting of leveled readers that work with each child at their current level and move them forward.
- We will build strong readers and writers. The six writing traits of ideas, voice, sentence fluency, organization, word choice and presentation will be taught.

### **MATHEMATICS**

- All children are naturally interested in numbers, shapes, measurements. We will explore mathematics in Kindergarten using the study of relationships, patterns, order and predictability.
- Our approach to mathematics will include content standards in: Number and Operations, Algebra, Geometry, Measurement, and Data Analysis and Probability. We will build upon these with activities that build agility with mental math.

### **SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY-ENGINEERING-ART-MATHEMATICS (STEAM):**

- Hands-on science will be taught with materials from a Full-Option-Science-System (FOSS) kit. This approach presents scientific theories as a matter of 'wonder' that children can explore and write about with the whole class, and within individual science journals. The journals become a bridge to future investigations.
- STEAM can be the center for many of the academics presented and taught in the Kindergarten classroom.

### **JUDAIC STUDIES/HEBREW**

- The focus in Midbar kindergarten is to teach both Jewish and American values, ethics, culture, and tradition.
- Judaic curriculum includes Hebrew letters, basic Hebrew vocabulary, Bible, Holidays and Jewish history. These will be taught through books, art, music, and dramatic play.
- We will teach about tzedakah to encourage charity and kindness to all.
- We will recite the appropriate blessings before eating and prepare for Shabbat and holidays with customs and prayers.

# **A Day in the Life of an MKT Kindergarten Student**

## **8:30 AM – 8:45 AM**

Morning car line, temp checks, hand washing, unpacking backpacks, morning activities

## **8:45 AM**

Morning meeting/circle time

Calendar, days of school, leaders and helpers, modeled writing, music, and other whole group activities, moving into whole group literacy direct instruction

Snack and recess about halfway through the morning

Literacy centers: Small group teacher instruction with students rotating through other centers to reinforce lessons

Writer's workshop – journal writing

## **11:30 AM**

Recess

## **12:00 PM**

Lunch and community time

## **12:45 PM**

Math

Number talks, whole group instruction and then math station work.

## **2:00 PM**

Integrated Thematic Studies

Science, Judaica, Technology, Art, Makerspace

## **3:00 PM**

Clean up, end of day discussion, homework (not daily), car line, and goodbyes

# And We Know You Have Some Questions...

## ON EVERYONE'S MIND: SAFETY

Health and safety protocols that were developed for summer camp, and which were successfully implemented, will be in place. Sinks and bathrooms will be sanitized on a regular basis, and children will be washing hands often. The teacher and the assistant will wear masks in the classroom, as will any other adults in the program.

Kindergarten will celebrate Shabbat and do other activities with the younger students. Much of this will depend on what happens with the current pandemic. We will not be mixing groups until such time that we are sure it will be safe to do it. Field trips will not be possible initially, but we may do some community walks.

## DAILY STRUCTURE

**Literacy** 2 hours to 2 hours 15 minutes (includes time for a snack break and recess)

**Math** 75 minutes

**STEAM** 75 minutes

**Recess, snack, lunch and "down time"** 1 hour to 1 hour 15 minutes

## PHILOSOPHY

**Flexibility** is built into the day, so students don't need to rush to get "done" but have time for deep learning. In addition, the sitting down and writing time is mostly in the morning, with the afternoon activities structured to be more activity based.

**Varieties of learning styles** will be respected in individual students, and all concepts will be taught in different modalities. The emphasis will not be on "teaching" the lesson, but rather on the students' understanding of the concept.

**The classroom** will have a large rug area where whole group instruction will be conducted. Students will have tables to work at, with 4 - 6 students at each table. Flexible seating will be available as appropriate. Most center or station work will be around the walls so there is enough space for children to be able to spread out and work. As long as appropriate work is being done, students will be allowed some choices as to where they would like to sit (table, floor, and so on) and with whom they would like to work. Progress and growth will be celebrated as students work towards meeting academic goals.

**The walls** will look empty at the beginning of the year, with little commercially purchased decorations. As the year goes on, student created anchor charts and other student work will be displayed. The classroom will reflect the students and their learning.

Except for during whole group instruction, **the room will have a "buzz" of students working** together, talking, discussion, sounding out words (and occasionally singing). The main community rule is this – you cannot interfere with others' learning.

**Homework** will be given a few times a week. It will be activity and family oriented – for instance, a child may be asked to retell a story and talk about the plot, characters or setting at home, bring in a picture of something that starts with a specific phonetic sound, play a game of sight word Bingo or lengthen a repeating pattern. The purpose of the homework will be to reinforce concepts worked on during the day.

**For more information please contact us at 702/454-4848**