

25 September 2018
Grade 6, 22 students
Lesson 1: Introductions

Theme: Introductions to each other and introduction to theme (*Tikkun Olam*)

Time: 1h30

Aims:

1. To begin to get to know one another
 - a. Students will know one another's names
 - b. Students will know something interesting about another person in the class
2. To reflect on the year that was and the coming year
 - a. Students will name some customs of the High Holy Days
 - b. Students will share their goals for the new year
3. To introduce the theme of Tikkun Olam, through the framework of the 'Concentric Circles Model'
 - a. Students will be able to provide a basic definition of Tikkun Olam
 - b. Students will be able to name the five circles of Tikkun Olam

Set Induction:

1. As students arrive, give each one a blank name tag on which they need to write their names and draw an image that represents something that they love (e.g. a tree for someone who loves nature, chocolate ice cream etc). Then, in a circle, each person shares their name and the thing that they love. The next person in the circle needs to first introduce the person who came before them and then introduce themselves. **10 MINS**
2. Establishing class rules and rituals
 - a. Pass the Tzedaka box around, explaining to and reminding the students that this is a core part of our religious school experience. Remind them to bring money (as small as a penny) each week for the Tzedaka box. **10 MINS**
 - b. Come up with a list of positive classroom behaviours for our class brit
 - i. What is a brit? A list with positive behaviours that we all agree to that will enable us all to learn and have fun at Hebrew School. E.g arriving on time, waiting our turn to speak, listening to one another, participating in activities, asking questions when we don't understand, being kind to one another, being helpful (i.e. helping to tidy the classroom after class), respecting one another and classroom materials. Ask the students to suggest ideas. The Brit will be typed up and we will all sign it next week, and it will be put up in the classroom **10 mins**

3. Human Bingo

- a. Each student is given a pencil and a human bingo sheet. The blocks on the sheets describe certain characteristics, skills or attributes. The students need to wander around and find someone whom that characteristic or skill matches, and write the name of that student/teacher on their bingo sheet. The first person to fill their whole bingo sheet wins. Then go through the Bingo sheet and ask everyone to whom it applies to raise their hands. Have a bigger Bingo Sheet on which all the names will be written and stuck up in the classroom. **10 MINS**

Body/Method - introducing the Theme:

1. Each student is given five circles of differing sizes and colours. Tell them that the five circles represent Self/*Atzmi*, Community/*Kehilla*, Society/*Chevra*, Jewish People/*Am*, World/*Olam* - these will be indicated by colour, so need to cut five different sizes in each colour. They need to visually arrange their five circles according to how they think those five aspects connect (or don't) to one another. **5 Mins**
2. Once they have done this, ask for a couple of volunteers to explain their choices. **5 mins**
3. INTRODUCE THE THEME OF TIKKUN OLAM. Tikkun Olam means 'Repairing the World' and is a central idea of Reform Judaism. This year we will be learning all about Tikkun Olam and how our traditions, liturgy, sacred texts and holidays connect to this broader idea. We will be looking at Tikkun Olam through the lens of the Concentric Circles Model. The idea is that TO exists in five different spheres, each of which has a "ripple effect" on the other, like when we throw a stone into water.
 - a. Tikkun Atzmi (innermost circle)
 - b. Tikkun Kehilla
 - c. Tikkun Chevra
 - d. Tikkun Am
 - e. Tikkun Olam (outermost circle)

Stick the circles up in the classroom in a manner that reflects this process of Tikkun Olam. **5 mins**

Sikkum: 20 MINS

To understand a bit about Tikkun Atzmi - repairing of the self - let's look at the holidays of Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur. **Split students into smaller groups** for small-group facilitated discussion. Questions to focus on:

- a. Which Jewish holidays have we celebrated in the last couple of weeks? What do we celebrate on these holidays/what are some of the themes of these holidays?
- b. Can you think of some customs in the holidays that reflect the idea of repairing ourselves? What sort of things do we do during this time in order to improve ourselves? (Teshuva - asking forgiveness, forgiving others; Tefila - praying, going to shul with family; Tashlich - casting off sins)
- c. What about some customs that reflect other circles in the cycle of Tikkun Olam? What do we do to repair our community (prayer together, tzedakah project)?

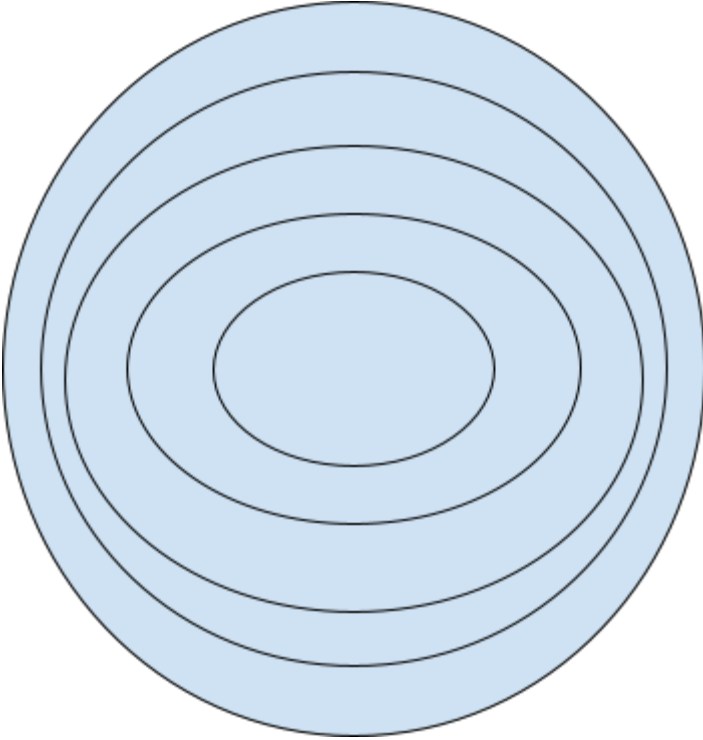
Society (tzedakkah, raising awareness of issues through sermons)? Jewish people? The world?

- d. Can you think of a time last year when you fell short of being your best self? What are some things from the last year that each of you would like to do better?
- e. Can you think of some of your accomplishments from the last year that you would like to hold on to? The High Holidays and Tikkun Atzmi remind us also to be kind to ourselves, and to acknowledge the positive impact that each of us has on the people and world around us.
- f. What are you looking forward to in the coming year?

Tziud (Equipment):

- Name tags
- Markers
- Human Bingo sheets - see page 4
- Pencils
- Circles cut out - COLOURED paper. Enough for each child.

TIKKUN OLAM MODEL



Human Bingo

Ask the people around you about themselves! In each block, write in the **name** of the person who fits the description.

<p>Find someone whose Hebrew name and English name are the same</p>	<p>Somebody who has more than 3 pets at home</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Find someone who can speak 2 languages fluently</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>This person's favourite <i>chag</i> (Jewish holiday) is Pesach</p>
<p>Who has never broken a bone before in their life?</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>This person is an only child</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Find someone with size 5 shoes</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Whose favourite colour is purple?</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>Find someone who can name all of the members of One Direction AND all five books of the Torah. Demand proof.</p>	<p>This person has been to Israel before</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Find someone whose favourite ice cream flavour is chocolate</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>This person was born in February.</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>This person is a vegetarian.</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Find someone who has ever been to a Jewish summer camp</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>This person was born on a different continent</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Who can do a handstand or a very impressive cartwheel? (You have to see it to believe it)</p> <p>_____</p>