



CHAI Themes and Lesson Titles

Level 1

Theme: *Discovering Myself in the Jewish Story*

Torah	Avodah	G'milut Chasadim
1. Introduction: What Is Torah? 2. Adam and Eve 3. Noah 4. Abraham and Sarah 5. Rebekah: Woman of Kindness and Courage 6. Jacob and Esau 7. Joseph (Lesson <i>Alef</i>): Trouble among Brothers 8. Joseph (Lesson <i>Bet</i>): Personal Change and Reconciliation 9. The Genesis Journey Map	1. Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur* 2. Sukkot* 3. Simchat Torah 4. What is a Blessing? 5. Havdalah 6. Chanukah 7. Purim 8. Pesach 9. <i>Shehecheyanu</i>	1. Being a Jewish Hero: An Introduction to <i>G'milut Chasadim</i> and <i>Tzedakah</i> 2. Being Kind with <i>Derech Eretz</i> * 3. Do Not Do to Others... 4. Repentance: Is Saying Sorry Enough? 5. Welcoming Guests: <i>Hachnasat Orchim</i> 6. Helping Our Synagogue Community 7. Taking Care of the Earth 8. <i>Tzedakah</i> : A Different Way of Helping 9. <i>G'milut Chasadim</i> Hero

Family education:

Torah, Me, My Family and My People

A Havdalah Pajama Party

Behaving in Special Ways: A Family Introduction to *G'milut Chasadim*

Level 2

Theme: *I am part of the Jewish people.*

Torah	Avodah	G'milut Chasadim
1. Introduction to Torah* 2. Introduction to the Book of Exodus/ <i>Sh'mot</i> * 3. <i>Parashat Sh'mot</i> Part 1: When I was a Slave in Egypt 4. <i>Parashat Sh'mot</i> Part 2: Finding God in Small Places 5. <i>Parshiyot Va-eira</i> and <i>Bo</i> : The Ten Plagues 6. <i>Parashat B'shalach</i> : Song at the Sea 7. <i>Parashat Yitro</i> Part 1: Helping Hands	1. Seeing God 2. Praising God, the Creator of Our World 3. Asking God for Help 4. Thanking God for Who I Am* 5. Evening Blessings (Lesson <i>Alef</i>): <i>Hashkiveinu</i> 6. Evening Blessings (Lesson <i>Bet</i>): <i>Sh'ma</i> 7. Morning Blessings 8. Shabbat: A Time to Connect to God 9. Connecting to God through	1. Making A Difference 2. Opportunities Every Day 3. Torah Teaches Us* 4. Being God's Partner 5. Helping Others: The Work of the Jewish Community 6. Our Community Cares for the Elderly 7. Our Community Helps the Hungry 8. Our Community Cares for the Homeless 9. Reflecting on Doing

*Sample lesson available online at <https://store.behrmanhouse.com/index.php/chai-sample-lessons/>

8. <i>Parashat Yitro</i> Part 2: The Ten Commandments 9. <i>Parashat Ki Tisa</i> : The Israelites and the Golden Calf*	Our Behavior	
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Family education:

Eating, Remembering, and Telling: Sharing Jewish Life Together

Level 3

Theme: *K'dushah – Holiness*

Torah	Avodah	G'milut Chasadim
1. Introduction to <i>Vayikra/Leviticus – Parashat K'doshim</i> : Holiness* 2. <i>Parashat Vayikra</i> : Sacrifice, Gifts, Drawing Near 3. <i>Parashat Sh'mini</i> : <i>Kashrut</i> – Holy Eating 4. <i>Parashat K'doshim</i> Session <i>Alef</i> : Stumbling Block 5. <i>Parashat K'doshim</i> Session <i>Bet</i> : <i>Tochecha</i> (Rebuking Others) 6. <i>Parashat Emor</i> : Shabbat – Holy Time 7. <i>Parashat B'har</i> : The Sabbatical Year – Holiness of the Earth 8. <i>Parashat K'doshim</i> : Love Your Neighbor 9. <i>Parashat B'chukotai</i> : Rules, Laws and Teachings – Passing It On	1. Synagogue Helps Us Make Room for God 2. Road Signs to God 3. How Do We Relate to God? 4. Getting Connected 5. Acting Holy 6. Everything's <i>B'seder</i> , All Is in Order 7. Our Bodies Are a Gift from God 8. Ordinary Moments Can Be <i>Kadosh</i> 9. Taking God Home	1. Taking Responsibility: Doing <i>G'milut Chasadim</i> 2. <i>K'lal Yisrael</i> : Helping Jews around the World 3. <i>G'milut Chasadim</i> : Helping Others and Helping Ourselves 4. Our Actions Make a Difference: Caring is Contagious 5. <i>G'milut Chasadim</i> Every Day 6. A <i>G'milut Chasadim</i> Road Map 7. The <i>G'milut Chasadim</i> Holiday Connection – Session <i>Alef</i> 8. The <i>G'milut Chasadim</i> Holiday Connection – Session <i>Bet</i> 9. <i>G'milut Chasadim</i> : Review and Taking Action

Family education:

The Great God Hunt

Level 4

Theme: *Being Part of the Community*

Torah	Avodah	G'milut Chasadim
1. <i>Am Yisrael, Eretz Yisrael</i> , and the <i>B'rit</i> 2. <i>Am Yisrael</i> – Session <i>Alef</i> : All Jews are Members of <i>Am Yisrael</i> ; I Am a Member of <i>Am Yisrael</i>	1. <i>Kavanah</i> 2. <i>Keva</i> : Why We Pray 3. Siddur Geography: Our Journey through the Prayer Book 4. The <i>Sh'ma</i> and Its Blessings:	1. Making Peace Among Friends 2. <i>Sh'lom Bayit</i> : Peace and Harmony at Home 3. Accepting Differences: Love Your Neighbor as Yourself

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3. <i>Am Yisrael</i> — Session <i>Bet</i> : It Takes Twelve Tribes to Create a People 4. <i>Eretz Yisrael</i> — Session <i>Alef</i> : The Physical Land 5. <i>Eretz Yisrael</i> — Session <i>Bet</i> : The Land for Our Souls 6. <i>B'rit</i> — Session <i>Alef</i> : <i>Parashat Sh'lach L'cha</i> : Becoming Like Joshua and Caleb 7. <i>Brit</i> — Session <i>Bet</i> : <i>Parashat Sh'lach L'cha</i> : Becoming Like Joshua and Caleb 8. <i>Brit</i> — Session <i>Gimel</i> : Keeping the <i>B'rit</i> 9. Wrap-Up: We Are About to Enter the Land...	Finding <i>Kavanah</i> in <i>Keva</i> (Session <i>Alef</i> : <i>Sh'ma</i> and <i>V'ahavta</i>) 5. The <i>Sh'ma</i> and Its Blessings: Finding <i>Kavanah</i> in <i>Keva</i> (Session <i>Bet</i> : Creation, Revelation, Redemption) 6. <i>Kiddush</i> : Sanctifying Our Lives Through Fixed Prayer and Personal Feelings of Holiness 7. Communal and Individual Prayers 8. Blessings of Wonder* 9. Silent Prayer: Creating a Moment for Ourselves, with Our Own Words	(<i>V'ahavta L'rei-acha Kamocha</i>) 4. Show Honor with Action: Honor Your Parents (<i>Kibud Av Va-eim</i>) 5. Befriending the Lonely 6. The Danger of Gossip: <i>Lashon Hara</i> 7. Understanding the Elderly 8. Honoring the Elderly (<i>Kibud Z'keinim</i>) Session <i>Alef</i> 9. Honoring the Elderly (<i>Kibud Z'keinim</i>) Session <i>Bet</i>
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Family education:

The Many Faces of My Jewish Family

Level 5

Theme: *Reform Judaism*

Torah	<i>Avodah</i>	<i>G'milut Chasadim</i>
1. <i>Tanach</i> : Getting to Know You 2. Meet the Prophets* 3. Joshua: Warrior Prophet 4. Deborah: Bringing Light to Her World 5. Jonah and Jeremiah: The Reluctant Prophets 6. Amos and Isaiah: The Intolerant Prophets 7. Elijah: Who Was He? Who Is He? 8. Reform Judaism: Response to Prophecy 9. Your Sons and Daughters Shall Prophesy	1. The Prayer-to-Action Connection 2. Introduction to the <i>Amidah</i> 3. <i>Amidah</i> Section 1: <i>B'rachot</i> of Praise* 4. <i>Amidah</i> Section 2: <i>B'rachot</i> of Petition 5. <i>Amidah</i> Section 3: <i>B'rachot</i> of Thanksgiving 6. The <i>Aleinu</i> Prayer: Choosing God 7. The <i>Kaddish</i> Prayer: Remembering and Affirming God 8. Israel in Our Prayers 9. The Prayer-to-Action Wrap-Up	1. <i>K'hilah</i> : The Jewish Community 2. <i>Al Tifrosh Min Hatzibur</i> : Do Not Separate Yourself from the Jewish Community 3. <i>K'vod HaMet</i> : Showing Honor to the Dead 4. Conversion: Becoming Part of the Jewish Community 5. <i>Keruv</i> : Welcoming Jews-by-Choice into the Jewish Community 6. Justice in the Community* 7. <i>Tzedakah</i> Session 1: How to Choose Where to Give 8. <i>Tzedakah</i> Session 2: Avoiding Embarrassment 9. Speaking Out and Speaking Up

Family education:

Prayer and Community: Reform Judaism and Change

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Level 6

Theme: *Revelation*

Torah	Avodah	G'milut Chasadim
1. Introduction to <i>K'tuvim</i> /Writings 2. <i>M'gillat Rut</i> / The Book of Ruth: Mining the Text for Meaning 3. <i>M'gillat Rut</i> / The Book of Ruth: Finding God in Moab and Canaan 4. Introduction to Wisdom Literature* 5. <i>Mishlei</i> / Proverbs: Wise Words for All 6. <i>Kohelet</i> : Wise Man or Cynic? 7. <i>T'hillim</i> / Psalms Session <i>Alef</i> : Poetry and Liturgy 8. <i>T'hillim</i> / Psalms Session <i>Bet</i> : Images of God 9. God: How Are You Revealed in the World and What Is My Relationship with You?	1. Standing at Sinai: My Role in Revelation 2. The Torah Service as Public Reading 3. The Torah Service and Community Building 4. Finding Our Way to Sinai: A Map of the Torah Service 5. Choreography and Etiquette of the Torah Service 6. The Blessings of Torah* 7. What is the Haftarah? 8. The Role of <i>Sh'liach Tzibur</i> 9. My Communal Role in Revelation: Entering the Covenant as a Jewish Adult	1. Finding God in Our World Through Acts of <i>G'milut Chasadim</i> 2. <i>Bal Tashchit</i> : Protecting the Rainforests 3. <i>Bal Tashchit</i> : Recycling and Conserving Energy 4. <i>Tzaar Baalei Chayim</i> : Care and Protection of Animals 5. World Health Issues 6. Peace 7. World Hunger 8. Jews and the Struggle for Civil Rights 9. <i>Hineini</i> : Embracing Our People around the World

Family education:

Coincidence, Courage, or the Hand of God? A Family Exploration of the Book of Esther

Level 7

Theme: *Hineini – Here I Am*

Torah	Avodah	G'milut Chasadim
1. <i>Lech L'cha</i> : The Journeys We Take 2. Cain and Abel: Family Relationships 3. <i>Akeidat Yitzchak</i> / The Binding of Isaac: Honoring, Not Necessarily Obeying, Parents 4. Rebekah: A Virtuous Woman? 5. Rebekah: Tough Choices 6. God and Abraham: A Relationship Like No Other 7. Jacob and the <i>Ish</i> / Being: Struggling to Change (Lesson <i>Aleph</i>)	1. Introduction to the Jewish Life Cycle 2. <i>B'nei Mitzvah</i> and Marriage: Responsibility and Relationships 3. Birth and Death: Teach Us to Number Our Days* 4. The High Holy Days: Focus on Repentance 5. Pesach – Questions: Then and Now 6. Chanukah and Purim: Do You Believe in Miracles (and Boundaries)? Introduction to the Jewish Identity Unit (Lessons 7,	1. Time for a Checkup 2. That's What Friends Are For: Being A Loyal Friend (<i>Dibuk Chaverim</i>) 3. Truth as an Act of Kindness (<i>Emet</i>) 4. Stop the Bullying NOW!: Not Standing Idly By (<i>Lo Ta'amod al Dam Rei-echa</i>)* 5. Keep Your Cool: Being Slow to Anger (<i>Erech Apayim</i>) 6. What's With the Attitude? Have a Pleasant Demeanor (<i>Seiver Panim Yafot</i>)

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8. Jacob and the <i>Ish</i> / Being: Struggling to Change (Lesson <i>Bet</i>) 9. Our Lessons from <i>B'reishit</i> / Genesis	8, and 9) 7. My Jewish Identity: <i>Eilu</i> <i>D'varim</i> – What Must I Do? 8. My Jewish Identity: <i>Sh'ma</i> – What Do I Believe? 9. My Jewish Identity: <i>Hineini</i>	7. Courage! (<i>Ometz Lev</i>) 8. Living Generously (<i>N'divut</i>) 9. <i>Hineini</i> – Here I Am! I Am Ready to Act!
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Family education:

Creating Jewish Memory