



Shir Tikvah
שִׁיר תִּקְוָה

MENSCHES:

KINDERGARTEN & 1ST GRADE

Who are Mensches?

Our Kindergarten and 1st grade *eidah* (cohort) is called "Mensches", which means "Do-Gooders."

What essential questions do Mensches explore?

Mensches explore the questions, Who is a Jew? What do Jews do? How might I behave as a Jew?

What are the enduring understandings of the Mensches experience?

- Jewish tradition teaches me how to be kind and thoughtful, and encourages me to reflect on and improve my behavior.
- There are Jewish habits and practices I can do in my daily life.
- Exploring middot and performing mitzvot make me feel good, helpful, and whole.

What do Mensches learn?

Mensches study Jewish values (*middot* or character traits and *mitzvot* or commandments).

How do Mensches learn?

Mensches learn through craft, dance, sharing, song, story, and more.

Where do Mensches gather?

In-person at Shir Tikvah. Specific classroom assignments will be announced.



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When do Mensches gather?

Read below about the Mensches schedule.

Classes

Sunday each week (except after Saturday class)

9:30am - 11:30am

Shabbat Gatherings

Three Saturdays of the year

9:30am - 11:30am

Mensches will be invited to one or more Friday evening Shabbat dinners over the course of the year.

What else is important to know about the Mensches experience?

The Mensches experience is a two-year program; both grades learn together in a given year, and the curriculum rotates on a two-year cycle between Kindergarten and 1st grade.

The Shabbat component of Mensches is a family experience; at least one parent/guardian is expected to attend alongside and participate with their child.