



Shir Tikvah  
שיר תקווה

# 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.



Shir Tikvah  
שִׁיר תִּקְוָה

# MENSCHES: KINDERGARTEN & 1ST GRADE

## **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 during each gathering.