

GOAL

• to plant the seeds in every student for a lifetime of meaningful prayer

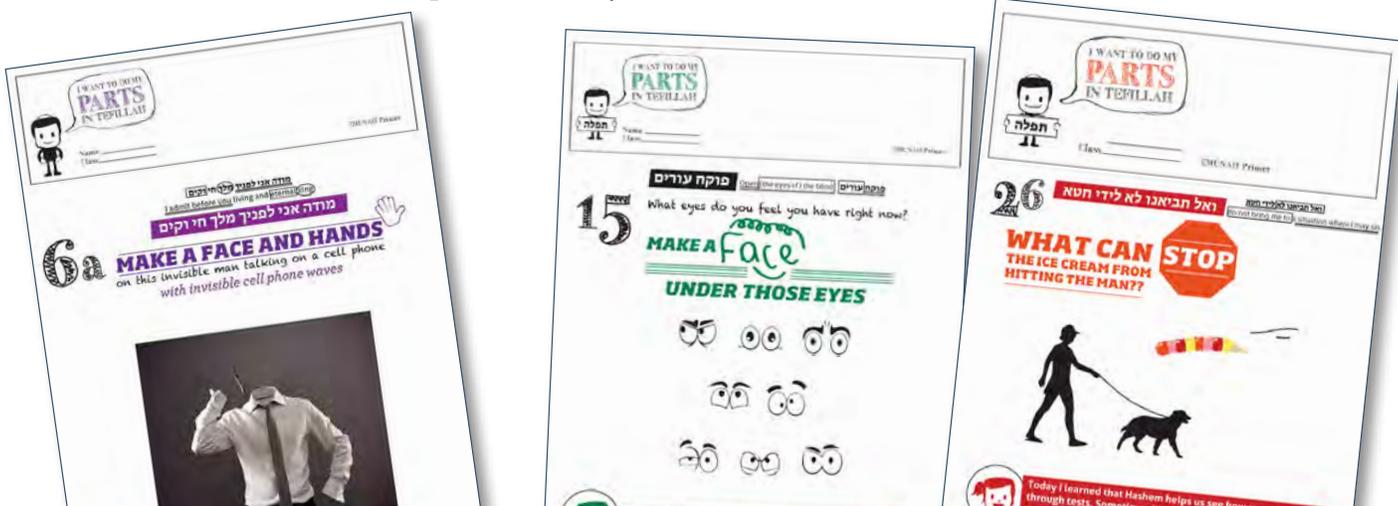
For more information about the Tefillah Curriculum please contact rabbibenari@gmail.com

3 TIMES A DAY: COJDS HELPING CHILDREN DO IT RIGHT! The Tefillah Curriculum is now in its 4th year of development and is spreading throughout the US and the world. Schools in Rochester, NY; Omaha, NE; Las Vegas, NV; Columbus, OH; Houston, TX; Melbourne, Australia; Vancouver, BC; and Buffalo Grove, IL; have seen a transformation in their younger grades in *tefillah* thanks to this CoJDS program. Our curriculum development team utilizes the feedback of all schools to make it as meaningful and adaptable to as wide an audience as possible.

The curriculum is designed to be a 5-minute daily lesson before *tefillah*. The goal is to develop within students the foundation for a lifetime of meaningful prayer. *Tefillah* is meant to be a relevant and soulful experience as opposed to a dry ritual of going through the motions. The first year of the curriculum helps the children recognize and internalize that *tefillah* is talking to *Hashem*. By examining the words of the *siddur*, teachers are able to bring *tefillah* to a personal level for every single student.

The second year, currently under development, is to be designed for students in grades 3-5. Building on the concepts in the first year of a realization to Whom students are speaking and a basic understanding of *tefillah*, students will identify and focus on the goal of each individual *tefillah*. Students will understand the difference between the different “PARTS” of *tefillah*, i.e: Praising, Asking, Recognizing, Thanking and Subjecting oneself to *Hashem*. Once students visualize to Whom they are speaking and understand what they are saying, they are empowered to utilize both public and private prayer as a vehicle with which to establish a meaningful lifetime relationship and conversation with their Creator.

We are excited to continue its development in many more schools.



- A number of new schools have implemented the curriculum in the following cities: Omaha, NE; Houston, TX; Buffalo Grove, IL; Vancouver, BC; and Great Neck, NY.
- Conference calls for participating schools to collaborate on innovative ideas to expound on the curriculum's content

... WHAT'S NEW ...

LOOKING AHEAD FOR 2019

- The lessons for the second year of the curriculum are under development in consultation with Judaic teachers, principals, psychologists, social workers, siddur developers and leading Rabbis. It is expected to be piloted in classrooms at the end of 2019.

The content is wonderful. The children ate it up. They all wanted a chance to share their thoughts about their appointment with Hashem with the entire group.They made so many connections with their own lives: the birds, trees and so many other things surrounding them in their lives.

From a tefillah conference call

Pauline Rosenberg, Ivrit Teacher, Judaics Coordinator

Hillel Community Day School, Rochester, NY

The children were taught to look for Hashem in their every day. They all pointed out moments in their day when they "saw Hashem." Kids always love to tell stories but now it's with a new twist that they're looking for Hashem in the story. I love the bottom quote because some get so involved in the activity that they forget what the goal of the day was. I will be passing on the rest of the curriculum to the next year teacher to continue the great work that this curriculum accomplishes.

From a tefillah conference call

Miriam Kalter

Maayan Day School, Portland, Oregon

For me, the magic is understanding the basic fundamentals of faith. That's where the kids became alive, were intrigued, and felt touched.

From a tefillah conference call

Elana Katz

Columbus Torah Academy, Columbus, OH

Students in the Yeshiva of Central Queens, NY, using the CoJDS Tefillah curriculum

