

# Social Studies

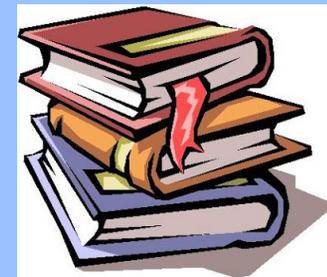
Our social studies curriculum provides students with a fundamental understanding of the role of the individual in family and community. The students learn the principles of civic responsibility within the classroom community and beyond by discussing rules and responsibilities in the classroom and at home. Students learn about the principles of government and democracy, as well as American culture and symbols through celebrations of various events on the calendar. In first grade, students learn about the parts and purposes of map and how physical environments in other places are similar and different from their own.

YBH of Passaic  
270 Passaic Avenue  
Passaic, New Jersey  
07055

ישיבת בית הלל

**YBH**  
OF PASSAIC

First Grade  
General Studies  
Curriculum





## Literacy

Our literacy program places a strong value on building and expanding oral language. Students are encouraged to share ideas orally, incorporating increasingly more sophisticated and explicit vocabulary. They acquire the foundations skills in phonics and sight word recognition that allow them access to fiction and nonfiction texts. Using our core program, Reading Street (Common Core Edition) supplemented by leveled texts, our students read authentic literature and content specific material on a daily basis. The conventions of grammar are applied to daily writing activities related to text and to personal lives. Since the fundamental goal of all reading is to gain meaning, comprehension skills are integral to instruction each day. Students are called upon to discuss various texts read to them, by them and independently.

## Overview

First grade at YBH represents a transition to a more formal learning environment. Cognizant of the developmental needs of youngsters moving from the ECD to a more structured academic setting, our first grade classes focus on supporting and nurturing each child's sense of personal responsibility for learning and for their social interactions with peers and adults. Our teachers help students acquire these skills for success, learning through modeling, practice and gradual release of responsibility onto each child. Our first graders leave first grade with the foundations for future learning. YBH's developmentally appropriate first grade experience provides children with the stepping stone for formal learning in elementary school and beyond.



## Mathematics

In Mathematics, students focus on representing and solving problems at increasing levels of abstraction in addition and subtraction. They use a variety of manipulatives to demonstrate their conceptual understanding of these operations. They use the rudiments of place value and various counting strategies to find sums and differences of numbers. Students learn to tell time to the hour and half hour, to interpret data on various graphs and measure length. Students use the program "Go Math" along with other resources to acquire and practice these skills.

## Science

The science curriculum at YBH aligns with the Next Generation Science Standards which encourages more in-depth investigations of science concepts using an inquiry based method of study. At the first grade level, students explore our Five Senses and Sound and Light using the steps in the Scientific Method. They explore how energy travels via waves and construct models of how sound travels. They also use their hands-on experiences and print and technology resources to conduct investigations and gain a deep understanding of their senses.