

Level 3
(Theme: K'dushah – Holiness)

Torah

Lesson # and Title	Topic/Questions to be Addressed
1. Introduction to <i>Vayikra/Leviticus – Parashat K'doshim: Holiness</i>	What does <i>k'dushah/</i> holiness mean? What people, places, actions and things are <i>kadosh/holy</i> ? Through guided imagery and class discussion, students consider the meaning of holiness in the world and in their lives.
2. <i>Parashat Vayikra: Sacrifice, Gifts, Drawing Near</i>	Students are asked to examine the offerings they are willing to make for themselves, their world, and God through consideration of these key questions: What is the connection between an offering to God and drawing close to God? How can I make an offering to God through my actions?
3. <i>Parashat Sh'mini: Kashrut – Holy Eating</i>	What are the laws of <i>kashrut</i> ? Why should I study and follow the mitzvah/commandment of <i>kashrut</i> ? How might the mitzvah of <i>kashrut</i> add holiness to my life? In this lesson, students learn about the Biblical commandment of <i>kashrut</i> (Jewish dietary laws) and the Reform Judaism's view.




<p>4. <i>Parashat K'doshim</i> Session Alef: Stumbling Block</p>	<p>Using text study and drama, students consider what the commandment to be holy means in terms of how we treat one another through an exploration of these questions: What does it mean to put a stumbling block before the blind? How are we all blind? What does it mean to curse the deaf? How are we all deaf? In what ways do the messages of this verse help us to act in a more <i>kadosh</i>/holy manner toward others?</p>
<p>5. <i>Parashat K'doshim</i> Session Bet: <i>Tochecha</i> (Rebuking Others)</p>	<p>Continuing with the concept of holiness and behavior toward one another introduced in the previous lesson, this lesson focuses on <i>tochecha</i>, rebuke or reprimand. What are the rules/guidelines for practicing <i>tochecha</i>? How does telling someone she or he did something wrong help that person? How can the guidelines for <i>tochecha</i> make me a better friend?</p>
<p>6. <i>Parashat Emor</i>: Shabbat – Holy Time</p>	<p>Students contemplate their own lives and work in <i>chevruta</i> to discuss and understand the key concepts of Shabbat: What is “work,” according to the Hebrew term used in the verse, <i>melacha</i>? Why is not working on Shabbat Holy? What makes a day holy? Why is it important for Shabbat to be celebrated by Jews everywhere?</p>
<p>7. <i>Parashat B'har</i>: The Sabbatical Year – Holiness of the Earth</p>	<p>To whom does the land belong, God or people? What do we need to do to take care of the earth? Why does the land need to take a rest, a Shabbat? Students will study the Torah text and then create an Earth Day celebration to reflect the concept of respecting the land.</p>
<p>8. <i>Parashat K'doshim</i>: Love Your Neighbor</p>	<p>This lesson is the first of two wrap-up lessons for level 3 Torah. In it, students utilize Hillel’s commentary and create a Personal Guide to Holiness” to address these questions: What does it mean to love my fellow human being as myself? How might I do this? How does loving others as I love myself lead to more <i>k'dushah</i>/holiness in my life? What is my definition of <i>k'dushah</i>/holiness? In what ways might more <i>k'dushah</i>/holiness in my life make it better or happier?</p>
<p>9. <i>Parashat B'chukotai</i>: Rules, Laws and Teachings – Passing It On</p>	<p>In this final lesson, students review the key teachings they have learned, discuss how the Torah has been passed on, and identify to whom they want to pass it on. The lesson concludes with an actual passing on of Torah ceremony.</p>

Avodah

Lesson # and Title	Topic/Questions to be Addressed
1. Synagogue Helps Us Make Room for God	A synagogue scavenger hunt sets the stage to help students discover answers to these questions: How does the synagogue, and its people and objects, help me connect to God? What about the synagogue is <i>kadosh</i> ?
2. Road Signs to God	In this lesson, students will grapple with questions that are asked by Jews of all ages: What do I do when I feel distant from God? What does the Torah teach me about my relationship with God? How can we help each other to recognize God in challenging times? The search for answers is aided by "road signs to God" that students utilize in the lesson.
3. How Do We Relate to God?	Using the High Holy Days text, <i>Ki Anu Amecha</i> (We Are Your People), students examine how our relationships with one another help us have a relationship with God and how human relationships can be metaphors for relationships with God.
4. Getting Connected	This lesson focuses on the <i>shehecheyanu</i> blessing as a way of acknowledging God and our connections to each other, God, and God's creations. An art project and "case studies" demonstrate our connectedness with one another.
5. Acting Holy	The overlap between Torah, avodah, and <i>g'milut chasadim</i> is explored in this lesson through consideration of these questions: How can I experience moments of connection to God? How is striving for a connection to God, <i>avodah</i> , like work? How can doing the work of <i>avodah</i> make my life, the lives of others, and the world more <i>kadosh</i> /holy?
6. Everything's <i>B'seder</i> , All Is in Order	Students briefly review the Creation story and read an interpretation of the <i>maariv aravim</i> (evening) prayer as they consider how God brings order to the world and how <i>avodah</i> can bring order to their lives.
7. Our Bodies Are a Gift from God	How to reflect the holiness of one's body by the care we take of it is the topic of this lesson. Students will use text study and art to answer this question.
8. Ordinary Moments Can Be <i>Kadosh</i>	Students are introduced to the section of the morning blessings (<i>Nisim B'chol Yom</i>), which thank God for the miracle of "ordinary" things. They will reconstruct their own morning ritual to include thanks for a regular part of their day that becomes <i>kadosh</i> because of their conscious prayer.

9. Taking God Home	In this concluding lesson, students will review the ideas they have explored about God, about doing the work to connect to God, and about how each person can make the world more kadosh by taking the time to recognize and think about God.
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G'milut Chasadim

Lesson # and Title	Topic/Questions to be Addressed
1. Taking Responsibility: Doing G'milut Chasadim	The purpose of this lesson is to help students understand the importance of taking personal responsibility for the acts of g'milut chasadim that help make the world a better, holier place. Students will consider: what does it mean to take responsibility to perform G'milut Chasadim? Why do we have a responsibility to do G'milut Chasadim?
2. K'lal Yisrael: Helping Jews around the World 	Students learn about our responsibility for helping Jews around the world and utilizing fact-finding stations, they discover ways to do this.
3. G'milut Chasadim: Helping Others and Helping Ourselves	This lesson raises the question of how to keep a balance between helping ourselves and helping others. Students will use music, text study, and a values clarification activity to accomplish this.
4. Our Actions Make a Difference: Caring is Contagious	Using music, movement, stories and discussion, students will learn how one person can make a difference and how our acts of g'milut chasadim make a difference by influencing others.
5. G'milut Chasadim Every Day	Learning stations and a "palm pilot" activity help students understand how they can consciously incorporate acts of g'milut chasadim into their daily lives.
6. A G'milut Chasadim Road Map 	A Jewish Road Map Game helps students "find" the Jewish values described in the Elu D'varim text from the Talmud and found in our prayer book that are of utmost importance.
7. The G'milut Chasadim Holiday Connection – Session Alef	In this lesson, students take a tour of the Jewish holiday cycle, using text study, a card game, and creative skits, to identify the acts of g'milut chasadim connected with holiday celebrations.
8. The G'milut Chasadim Holiday Connection – Session Bet 	The focus of this lesson is on how the Jewish holidays give us opportunities to take responsibility for doing g'milut chasadim and how we can make the world more holy/kadosh when we celebrate the Jewish holidays.
9. G'milut Chasadim: Review and Taking Action	How can I do g'milut chasadim in my own community, right away? How does doing g'milut chasadim help me live a Jewish life?