

Addressing the Diverse Needs of Our Learners

Our community makes a serious effort to provide the best learning environment for all of our children. We believe that *Mayim* is suitable for many different kinds of learners because it includes opportunities for small-group instruction, differentiated instruction, choice of activities, and individual attention. Here are some ways in which we are addressing the needs of diverse learners:

- **Jewish Learning Guides** – During *chavurah* time and outside of it, our Jewish Learning Guides build deep relationships with each child and his/her family, enabling the guides to understand and address each child’s strengths and challenges, interests, and areas for growth.
- **Project Based Learning** – Project Based Learning is an approach to learning that allows for choice within the context of a larger project. Children work in smaller groups, assisted by Jewish Learning Guides and *madrichim*, according to their interests and abilities to explore a “big question” and contribute to the final project. Most projects include opportunities to work in artistic, physical, and other modalities.
- **Small Group Hebrew (4th-5th Grade)** – The fourth and fifth graders are divided into small Hebrew groups by ability. The **Hebrew educators** get to know the children in the group, craft lessons that provide the appropriate amount of challenge, and provide individual attention to each child.
- **Special Needs Professional** – *Mayim* also benefits from the services of a special needs professional, who works with the Jewish Learning Guides to develop lessons and activities that support varied learning styles and challenges. This specialist may also work directly with individual children or small groups of children and their families to help support their learning.

Beyond this, we know there are children in our community who may benefit from additional support and individual help. Through the support of [Gateways: Access to Jewish Education](#), professional training and *madrichim* (teen assistants) may be provided for children who need individual help during *Mayim*. If you have questions about how your child’s learning needs will be addressed, please contact Allison Gutman, the Director of Elementary Learning. She will work with you to outline a learning plan for your child.