



## **BZBI EARLY CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM**

### **Emergent Curriculum, Themes, and Projects**

Our teachers utilize themes, projects, and emergent curriculum in an integrated approach to learning. Teachers closely observe and record children's so that they can develop studies and projects based on their interests. Our learning is infused with Jewish content and values and our themes or studies focus on topics that engage children in many different learning domains. For example, when children make play dough they are developing reading, math, science, and language skills, in addition to sensory exploration, and cooperative learning. Our teachers have clearly defined learning goals that are interwoven into the themes, projects, and small and large group activities.

### **Language, Literacy and Creative Thinking**

The acquisition of language and literacy skills and fostering creativity is one of the main objectives of our early childhood classrooms. By engaging children in rich conversations and creative activities throughout the day, in all content areas, we will expand their vocabulary, foster creativity and higher order thinking skills, and provide them with the essential tools to become independent and proficient readers, proficient writers, and confident speakers.

### **Hebrew Language Program**

Our children are exposed to everyday Hebrew in a weekly or bi-weekly Hebrew class taught by an Israeli educator. We incorporate elements of Chalav u'Dvash©, an innovative Hebrew language instruction program that utilizes developmentally appropriate activities and interactive teaching aids, along with vocabulary that relates to the Jewish calendar and classroom themes or studies.

### **Music Program**

Our Music Specialist incorporates original music, Jewish music, movement, and games into the curriculum using vocal techniques, movement and body percussion, and Orff-Schulwerk instruments. Children will gain an understanding of melody, rhythm, tempo, range, body percussion, patterns, unison and solo, vocal levels, and coordination.

Classroom teachers will also include the music program repertoire into their daily program, as well as, best loved children's songs in both English and Hebrew. We have many opportunities to bring children together for Havdalah, Shabbat, and community sing-a-longs.