

We are thrilled to begin our second year of Enrichment Clusters at Torah Academy. Our program is rooted in the research, ideas, and pedagogy of Joseph Renzulli's Schoolwide Enrichment Model. Our program aims to engage students through topics of their interest, allow students to have choice in their field of study, encourage students to produce a product or service with an authentic audience in mind, and to create meaningful and high-level learning opportunities for our students.

Enrichment Clusters will take place on Tuesdays from 2:45-3:45 PM, beginning on November 1. **All students in grades 1-5 will participate.**

We are pleased to offer an exciting menu of options for 1st-5th grade enrichment clusters. Our variety of cluster offerings reflects the diverse interests of our students. We have planned clusters that focus on science, technology, math, arts, language arts, social studies, physical education, and Limudei Kodesh and anticipate interdisciplinary themes running through all clusters.

We look forward to partnering with you to make sure your child has exciting and engaging learning experiences during the school day!

Elana Stiel Obstfeld
Enrichment Program Coordinator

Rabbi Isaac Entin
Head of School



TORAH ACADEMY
of GREATER PHILADELPHIA

Enrichment Clusters
Fall 2016

1st-2nd Grade

Menu of Cluster Offerings

In the spirit of encouraging our students to learn through areas of their own interest and choosing, we ask that you partner with your child to complete this selection **together**. Follow your child's lead! Please do not choose for your child.

CHANUKAH OH CHANUKAH!

Is Chanukah one of your favorite holidays? Do you love to light the menorah, spin the dreidel, eat latkes, and give presents? Join this cluster to share the joy of Chanukah with others. In this cluster, it's always Chanukah!

CHAVAYA YISRAELIT (ISRAELI EXPERIENCE)

Take a virtual trip to Eretz Yisrael! Discover what makes Israel such a special place, speak with children in Israel, and explore our holy land!

FOOD POWER

What's for dinner? Do you enjoy planning and preparing snacks and meals? Join Food Power: The TA student's guide to smart eating, and making empowered (and delicious!) food choices.

KEEP IT SAFE

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a community safety worker? Do you wonder what kinds of things police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical workers do? Is keeping people out of danger important to you? Join this cluster to meet some safety professionals and find out what it takes to keep your community safe.

MOVING AND GROOVING

Do you ever feel like you need to get up and move during class? Do you love to exercise? Come explore how moving and grooving can help keep your body and brain healthy. Create your own exercise, and teach others how they can keep their bodies fit using exercise too!

SCRATCH THAT

Did you ever wish that you knew how to design animation and games on an iPad? Well here's your chance to find out how! Explore the Scratch Jr. coding language, and code your way to your own animation and games!

START SPREADING THE NEWS

Extra! Extra! How do you and your family find out about breaking news? Do you read the newspaper? Listen to the radio? Visit news websites? Watch television news shows? Explore the Kol Torah? Students in this cluster will get the inside scoop on all types of news reporting. Become a journalist and start spreading the news!

WE'RE IN THE MONEY

Pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, shekalim, agurot ... Are your pockets jingling? Do you love to collect and sort coins? Are you interested in finding out more about where each coin comes from, how coins are made, and how each country's money looks different? If so, this is the cluster for you!

YES WE'VE GOT THE MUSIC

Ever find yourself tapping your feet, banging tables and chairs with your hands, or whistling because you have a melody playing in your head? Ever want to create your own music and your own musical instruments? Then yes, you've got the music and this cluster is singing out to you!

Please read through the cluster descriptions **with your child**. Discuss the options **together**.

Please indicate your child's three choices on our selection form accessible at <http://tinyurl.com/TA-PHILA-enrichment>

A link to this form was emailed to all families. **All selections must be made by October 26.**

As you will probably notice, the names of cluster facilitators have been omitted from the descriptions. This was deliberate. It is important that students choose based on their interest in the subject and not based on who is facilitating the clusters.

3rd-5th Grade

Menu of Cluster Offerings

In the spirit of encouraging our students to learn through areas of their own interest and choosing, we ask that you partner with your child to complete this selection **together**. Follow your child's lead! Please do not choose for your child.

A TIME TO GIVE

Attention "Precious Kinderlach!" Giving- it's the theme of the year. Let's dedicate our enrichment cluster time to giving back to our community. We can visit with the elderly to put a smile on their faces, prepare packages of food and necessities to cheer up those in need, help out around the school to make sure everyone "has a great day at TA," and find many other chesed opportunities. Join this cluster to find out how you can "Give it, give it, give it, give it all you got!"

BE OUR GUEST

Do you love eating out at your favorite kosher restaurant? Ever wonder what goes on behind the counter at restaurants? Wonder what it takes to succeed in the restaurant business? Tie your napkin 'round your neck and join "Be Our Guest" to find out more!

BEHIND THE SCENES

There's no business like show business! There are so many pieces that must come together to set the stage for a theater performance. Go behind the scenes to explore the artistry that goes into designing and making costumes and scenery, and even visit the costume warehouse of a professional theater!

CHALLENGE 24

Calling all mathletes! Do you love to play with numbers? Join this cluster to compete in tournaments of fierce competition, quick reflexes, thinking on your toes, and a chance to flex your "athletic" ability.

DISCOVER DANCE (GIRLS ONLY)

Do you tap your toes and bounce to the beat whenever you hear music? Do you love to express yourself through movement? Boogie on down to Discover Dance! Let's step our way through warm-up techniques, proper posture, basic dance steps, different types of music, and choreography. Let's groove!

GAME ON

Monopoly, Scrabble, Apples to Apples, Clue, Trivial Pursuit.... the list goes on and on! Are you a board game enthusiast? Do you enjoy playing board games during indoor recess and Shabbat afternoon? Roll the dice and try out this cluster to play your favorite board games and explore what makes a game fun. Use your knowledge of general trivia and Yediot Klaliot as you collaborate to create board games!

HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS

Are you an entrepreneur at heart? Have you ever had thoughts about starting a business? Meet business owners and financial experts as you explore the path to starting your own business.

I CODE YOU NOT ;)

Love technology? Want to know how computer programming works? Come and experience Scratch Coding, find out how to make your own animated videos and computer games!

KIDS ON THE RUN

Were you born to run? Ever dream of running a 5K? Discover how running can help you stay fit and build positive relationships. Don't run away from your problems or fears, run towards confidence and success!

RAISE YOUR GLASS

Have you ever seen glass cups, vases, plates, or mirrors decorated with intricate etchings? Have you ever wondered how the artists created such special pieces? Find out about the tricks of cream glass etching and proper use of art tools. Try your hand at glass etching as you create unique and eye-catching works of art.

THE ART OF THE CARD

Greetings! Isn't it exciting to open an envelope addressed to you and find a thoughtful and special birthday card? Have you ever created a birthday card, Shana Tova card, or thank you card for someone else? Student artists in this cluster will have the opportunity to design professional cards and submit original artwork to an organization that distributes birthday cards to hundreds of people. Who knows, your artwork could brighten someone's special day!

TRASH TO TREASURE

Reduce, reuse, recycle... repurpose! Do you have toys, containers, and other items that you can't use anymore? Don't throw them away! Let your imagination and creativity help you turn these bits of trash into troves of treasure!

YALILI

Are cholent, gefilte fish and kugel the only authentic Jewish foods? Join this cluster to explore the many traditions, celebrations, artifacts, and **foods** from Jewish cultures around the world. Share your family traditions and recipes and discover other Jewish minhagim from all over the world.

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