

BIG IDEAS FOR KOL YISRAEL

- Prayers and rituals teach us about Jewish values and mitzvot.
- When we know how to recite prayers, and what they mean, we feel like a participating member of our Jewish community.

Essential Question for Kol Yisrael

What does it mean to be a member of *Kol Yisrael*?

For more information about the prayers or blessings presented in each chapter, please refer to “About the Prayer” on the opening page of each section in the Teacher’s Editions.

KOL YISRAEL 1

Additional Big Idea for Kol Yisrael 1

Being able to say blessings for Jewish home celebrations increases *sh’lom bayit* – peace in the home.

Essential Questions for Kol Yisrael 1

Chapter 1 Modeh

How does saying “thank you” help increase shalom in the world and in our homes?

Chapter 2 B’rachot

How can reciting blessings strengthen our connection to God, our families, and *kol Yisrael*?

Chapter 3 B’rachot Shel Mitzvah

In what ways does performing mitzvot add holiness to our lives?

Chapter 4 B’rachot Shel Shabbat

How do Shabbat rituals help us appreciate Shabbat?

Chapter 5 Kiddush

How does the Kiddush connect us with Jews around the world and with Jews throughout our history?

Chapter 6 Havdalah

What purpose does it serve to have a ceremony that separates Shabbat from the other days of the week?

Chapter 7 B’rachot Shel Yom Tov

In what ways do the holiday mitzvot add meaning to each “yom tov”?

Chapter 8 Mah Nishtanah

Why must we retell the Pesah story each year and see ourselves as if we were freed from slavery in Egypt?

Chapter 9 Birkat Hamazon

How can we partner with God to make the world a better place?

Chapter 10 Shema

How can we fulfill the Jewish teaching: All of Israel is responsible for one another?

KOL YISRAEL 2

Additional Big Idea for Kol Yisrael 2

Through prayer and action individuals and families come together to form community.

Essential Questions for Kol Yisrael 2

Chapter 1 Barchu

What impact does the tradition of praying with a minyan have on the Jewish community?
Why pray with a minyan?

Chapter 2 Yotzeir Or/Ma'ariv Aravim

How can reciting blessings of thanks for the wonders of creation remind us of our responsibility to take care of our world?

Chapter 3 Shema

In what ways do mitzvot help us fulfill our promise to be loyal to God?

Chapter 4 Ve'ahavta

Why are we commanded to love God? How do we show our love for God?

Chapter 5 Mi Chamocha

Why is it our responsibility to help others who suffer?

Chapter 6 Avot v'Imahot

What does God's relationship with our patriarchs and matriarchs have to do with us today?

Chapter 7 G'vurot

Why does Jewish tradition teach us that we must be kind and compassionate?

Chapter 8 K'dushah

How can we show respect for God's holiness?

Chapter 9 Birkat Shalom

Why, according to Jewish tradition, is nothing more important than peace, shalom?

KOL YISRAEL 3

Additional Big Idea for Kol Yisrael 3

Learning prayers and Jewish values prepares us to become b'nai mitzvah and to formally join the adult Jewish community.

Essential Questions for Kol Yisrael 3

Chapter 1 Ein Kamocha/Av Harahamim

How and why do we prepare our hearts and minds to receive the words of Torah?

Chapter 2 Ki Mitziyon, Baruch Shenatan

How are the Land of Israel and the Torah continuing sources of strength to the Jewish people?

Chapter 3 Birchot HaTorah

What do we learn about the Torah from the honors, blessings, and traditions of the Torah service?

Chapter 4 Birchot Hahaftarah

How can we apply the teachings of the prophets to our lives today?

Chapter 5 Aleinu

How can we demonstrate loyalty to God?

Chapter 6 Kaddish

How might reciting the Kaddish comfort mourners and strengthen their connection to God and the Jewish community?

Chapter 7 Ein Keloheinu, Adon Olam

Despite our awareness that God is an awesome power beyond our understanding, why do we and how can we describe God in our prayers?