



אישי התנ"ך

TORAH PERSONALITIES

KINDERGARTEN STUDY LIST

Kindergarten students should learn the following names and concepts:

1. אָדָם הָרִשׁוֹן (Adam HaRishon)- He was the first person. He was created on the sixth day of the creation of the world.
2. חַוָּה (Chava)- She was the first woman. She was created from Adam's rib. The snake tricked her into eating from the עֵץ הַדַּעַת - the Tree of Knowledge.
3. אַבְרָהָם אַבְיֵנו (Avraham Avinu) - The first Jew. Hashem gave him ten tests and he passed all of them.
4. שָׂרָה אִמֵּנו (Sarah Imainu) -The mother of the Jewish people. She gave birth to Yitzchak when she was 90 years old.
5. יִצְחָק (Yitzchak) - He was as holy as a sacrifice to Hashem. He blessed Yaakov (instead of Eisav) before he died.
6. רִבְקָה (Rivka) - She was the mother of the twins, Yaakov and Eisav. She knew that Yaakov was a Tzaddik and that Eisav was a Rasha.
7. יַעֲקֹב אַבְיֵנו (Yaakov Avinu) - He had the twelve tribes. All of his children were Tzaddikim (good, holy people).
8. רָחֵל אִמֵּנו (Rachel Imainu) - She was supposed to marry Yaakov, but she let her sister Leah marry him rather than embarrass her sister. In the end, she married him also and gave birth to Yoseph and Binyamin.
9. לֵאָה (Leah Imainu) - She married Yaakov and had six of the shevatim (tribes).
10. מֹשֶׁה רַבֵּינו (Moshe Rabbainu) - He took the Jewish people out of Egypt and led them through the desert for 40 years. He was the greatest Navi.
11. דָּוִד הַמֶּלֶךְ (David Hamelech) - He was the greatest king of the Jewish people. He started off as a shepherd and also wrote the book of Tehillim.

FIRST GRADE STUDY LIST

**First Grade students should learn the following names and concepts,
in addition to the previous list:**

1. נֹחַ (Noah) - Built the תֵּבָה (Ark) and saved his family and all of the animals from the flood.
2. אַהֲרֹן (Aharon) - He was the first Kohen Gadol and Moshe's older brother.
3. מִרְיָם (Miriam) - She was Moshe and Aharon's sister. In her honor, a giant rock/well traveled with the Jewish people in the desert and gave them water whenever they stopped. It was called "Be'er Miriam".
4. יְהוֹשֻׁעַ (Yehoshua) - He was the leader after Moshe. He led the Jewish people into the Land of Israel.
5. שְׁמוּאֵל הַנָּבִיא (Shmuel) - He was a great judge, prophet and leader of the Jewish people. Hashem told him to annoint (pour oil over) the first two Jewish kings.
6. מֶרְדֳּכַי (Mordechai) - Was a great Rabbi of the Sanhedrin, he spoke 70 languages, he became the Prime Minister of King Achashveirosh.
7. אֶסְתֵּר (Esther) - She came from King Shaul, and was the queen of 127 countries. Her real name was Hadassa.
8. אֵלִיָּהוּ (Eliyahu HaNavi) - He was a prophet (Hashem spoke to him) and he went up to שָׁמַיִם (heaven) alive. He visits us at the Seder every year.

SECOND GRADE STUDY LIST

Second Grade students should learn the following names and concepts, in addition to the previous lists:

1. רְאוּבֵן (Re'uvain) - The בְּכוֹר (oldest) of the twelve tribes. He tried to save Yoseph.
2. שִׁמְעוֹן (Shimon) - The second son of Yaakov & Leah. He destroyed the city of Shechem with his brother לֵוִי.
3. לַיִי (Laivi) - He (together with Shimon) destroyed the city of Shechem. All of the Kohanim and Leviim come from Laivi.
4. יְהוּדָה (Yehuda) - He was the "king" of the brothers. He was compared to a lion. David Hamelech came from him.
5. יִשָּׁשְׁכָר (Yissochar) - He was famous for being a great Torah scholar. Many great Rabbis came from him.
6. זְבוּלוֹן (Zevulun) - He helped support Yissochar so that Yissochar could learn Torah. His tribe would live by the seashore.
7. דָּן (Dan) - He was compared to a poisonous snake. Shimshon, the powerful leader, would come from him and destroy the פְּלִשְׁתִּים (enemies of the Jews).
8. נַפְתָּלִי (Naftali) - He was compared to a deer because he was very quick.
9. גָּד (Gad) - His tribe marched in front of the Jewish armies when they conquered the land of Israel.
10. אָשֶׁר (Asher) - Asher was blessed with a very good part of the land. His portion was filled with olive trees that dripped olive oil.
11. יוֹסֵף (Yoseph) - The oldest son of Rachel and Yaakov. He was called "Yoseph HaTzaddik". He was assistant to the king of Egypt for many years but he didn't behave like the Egyptians.
12. בִּנְיָמִין (Binyamin) - The youngest tribe. He was compared to a wolf, and King Shaul, Mordechai and Queen Esther all came from him.
13. שְׁלֹמֹה הַמֶּלֶךְ (Shlomo HaMelech) - He was David's son. He became king when he was 12 years old. He built the first Bais Hamikdash.
14. רוּת (Ruth) - She was a princess from the nation of Moav. Her husband died and her new family became very poor but she stayed to take care of her mother-in-law. She became a Jew and later married Boaz. Their great-grandson was David Hamelech.

THIRD GRADE STUDY LIST

Third Grade students should learn the following names and concepts, in addition to the previous lists:

1. **דִּינָה** (Dinah) - She was the daughter of **לֵאָה** & **יעקב** and was named **דִּינָה** because **לֵאָה** passed judgement upon herself. **דִּינָה** was kidnapped by **שָׁכֵם**, a prince of the city of **שָׁכֵם**. Her brothers **שמעון** & **לוי** rescued her and destroyed the city.
2. **יִזְרָו** (Yisro) - He was Moshe's father-in-law (Tzipporah's father). He was a priest for idols, but when he heard about Hashem, he left the other religions and became a Jew.
3. **מְנַשֶּׁה** (Menashe) - He was Yoseph's older son and royal interpreter. He and his brother Ephraim were blessed by their grandfather Yaakov that they would count like his own sons and receive portions in Eretz Yisrael. Half of the tribe of Menashe's portion was in the land of Israel and the other half was on the other side of the Jordan River.
4. **אֶפְרַיִם** (Ephraim) - While Menashe helped Yoseph (his father) rule the land of Egypt, Ephraim used to stay with his grandfather Yaakov and learn Torah. Yaakov put his right hand on Ephraim's head when he blessed him and said that he would be the greater one and that his children would be more famous.
5. **חַנָּה** (Chana) - She was one of the seven Nevios (prophetesses). She was married to Elkana for 19 years and was not able to have children. Finally, when she was in the Mishkan, she prayed and cried silently to Hashem. Eli, the Kohen Gadol, thought she was drunk because he had never seen anyone daven quietly (like davening Shemona Esrai). When he realized that she was just terribly sad, he blessed her. She gave birth to a son who became the great leader, Shmuel Hanavi.
6. **שְׂאוּל הַמֶּלֶךְ** (King Shaul) - Shaul was the first Jewish king. He was very kind, modest and handsome. He was annointed by Shmuel, but Shmuel later became angry at Shaul for not listening to Hashem. Shaul was supposed to kill out the entire nation of Amalek but he didn't. In the end, his kingdom was shortened and he died in war.
7. **דָּנִיֵּאל** (Daniel) - He was a very great and wise man who became an advisor for Nevuchadnetzar, Daryavesh and Achashveirosh. Nevuchadnetzar threw him into a fiery furnace and into the lion's den, but Hashem saved him from both.

FOURTH GRADE STUDY LIST

Fourth Grade students should learn the following names and concepts, in addition to the previous lists:

1. בִּלְהָה (Bilha) - She was יַעֲקֹב's third wife, given by רַחֵל to יַעֲקֹב. As long as רַחֵל and לֵאָה were alive, Hashem's Shechina was with them. When they died, the Shechina moved to the tent of בִּלְהָה. She had two of the twelve שְׁבָטִים: דָן & נַפְתָּלִי.
2. זִלְפָּה (Zilpa) - She was יַעֲקֹב's fourth and youngest wife, given by לֵאָה to יַעֲקֹב. She had two of the twelve שְׁבָטִים: אָשֵׁר & גָּד.

More about the Shvatim:

3. רְאוּבֵן (Re'uvain) - He was compared to rushing water. He lost the chance to have the Kohanim and kings come from him.
4. שִׁמְעוֹן (Shimon) - Yaakov was upset at Shimon and Laivi for killing the people of Shechem. He cursed their anger.
5. לֵוִי (Leivi) - Yaakov decided that it would be dangerous to have the tribes of Shimon and Laivi live near each other in Israel, so he spread out the tribe of Laivi into 48 cities.
6. יְהוּדָה (Yehuda) - David Hamelech, his son Shlomo Hamelech and all the kings of Yehuda came from him. Moshiach will also come from him. He was blessed with an excellent portion of Israel that was perfect for growing grapes and producing wine.
7. יִשָּׂשכָר (Yissochar) - He was compared to a strong-boned donkey because of how hard he worked to learn Torah. Many Torah scholars and two hundred heads of the Sanhedrin came from him. He was also given a very good land that produced delicious fruits.
8. זְבולוֹן (Zevulun) - His portion was along the seashore (the Mediterranean Sea). Even though it wasn't a good portion for farming, the tribe of Zevulun spent their time on boats sailing to different lands and trading. They also supplied the Jewish people with the Chilazon (the sea creature used to make Techailes) and supported the tribe of Yissocher while they learned Torah.
9. דָן (Dan) - He was Bilha's older son. His name means judge because in the future Shimshon would come from him and be a judge for the Jewish people and judge/fight against the פְּלִשְׁתִּים.
10. נַפְתָּלִי (Naftali) - He was blessed with a portion of Israel where the fruits ripened very quickly (by the Valley of Ginossar). His famous descendants included Devorah & Barak and the 10,000 soldiers who helped them beat Sisera (see Devorah below for more details).
11. גָּד (Gad) - His portion was on the other side of the Yarden (Jordan River) with Reuven and half of the tribe of Menashe. His tribe promised Moshe that they'd help conquer the land with the rest of the Jews before they settled on their portion. They fought on the front lines and they all returned safely to their land.
12. אָשֵׁר (Asher) - His land "flowed" with olive oil, and his portion was filled with castles. The girls from the tribe of Asher were very beautiful and special, and they married kings and Kohanim. Asher had a daughter named Serach who entered Gan Eden alive.
13. יוֹסֵף (Yoseph) - His two sons, Menashe and Ephraim, were blessed by their grandfather Yaakov that they should count like regular Shvatim (just like Reuven and Shimon). Each one got a portion of Israel, so Yoseph really got two portions.
14. בִּנְיָמִין (Binyamin) - The youngest of the tribes, he was the only one who had nothing to do with the selling of Yoseph. He named all ten of his sons names having to do with Yoseph. He was the only one of the Shvatim born in Israel. Binyamin never did a sin in his entire life.

FIFTH GRADE & SIXTH GRADE STUDY LIST

Fifth & Sixth Grade students should learn the following names and concepts, in addition to the previous lists:

More about the Shoftim:

1. עֲתַנְיָאֵל בֶּן קְנָז (Osniel Ben Kenaz) - He was the Shofet after Yehoshua. He led the Jewish people for 40 years. 1,700 Torah laws were forgotten after Moshe died and Osniel ben Kenaz retaught them to the Jews.
2. אֶהוּד בֶּן גַּרְא (Ehud Ben Gaira) - He was a "leftie" who led Bnei Yisrael for 80 years. He killed Eglon the king of Moav.
3. שַׁמְגַר בֶּן עַנַת (Shamgar Ben Anas) - He led the Jewish people for only half of a year.
4. דְּבוֹרָה וְבָרַק (Devorah & Barak) - Both were from the tribe of Naftali. Devorah was one of the seven Nevios (Prophetesses), she taught Torah and judged the Jewish people under the "Palm tree of Devorah". She led the Jews to war against Sisera and they defeated his powerful army.
5. גִּדְעוֹן (Gidon) - He was also called "Yerubaal", he led the Jewish people for 40 years.
6. אַבִּימֶלֶךְ (Avimelech) - He was Gidon's son. He was very wicked, he killed all of his brothers (except for one who escaped).
7. תּוֹלַע בֶּן פּוֹאָה (Tola Ben Poo'ah) - From the tribe of יששכר, he judged the Jewish people for 23 years.
8. יָאִיר הַגִּלְעָדִי (Yair Hagiladi) - He judged the Jewish people for 22 years. He had 30 sons who rode on 30 donkeys and they had 30 cities. They were called the villages of Yair (originally conquered by יָאִיר בֶּן מְנַשֶּׁה).
9. יִפְתָּח (Yiftach) - He led the Jewish people for 6 years. He was a good man, but he did not know much Torah and was too proud. He made a foolish promise and ruined his daughter's life.
9. אִבְצָן (Ivtzan) - He was Boaz, from the story of Ruth. He was the greatest Torah scholar of his generation. He judged the Jews for 7 years.
10. אֵילֹן הַזְּבוּלֹנִי (Aylon Hazvuloni) - He led the Jews for ten years in a time of peace.
11. אַבְדּוֹן [בֶּן הַלֵּל] הַפְּרָעָתִי (Avdon Hapiraton) - He had 40 sons and 30 grandsons who rode on 70 donkeys. He judged ישראל for eight years during a period of peace.
12. שִׁמְשׁוֹן (Shimshon) - He was from the tribe of Dan. He was a major enemy of the Plishtim. He killed more Plishtim at his death than during his whole life.
13. אֵילִי (Aili) - He was a Kohen Gadol and head of the Sanhedrin. He judged the Jewish people for 40 years. He was Shmuel's teacher. He was punished for not teaching his sons properly and not making them behave well.
14. שְׁמוּאֵל הַנְּבִיא (Shmuel Hanavi) - He was עֵלִי's student and a great Navi. He anointed the first two Jewish kings and wrote the books of שופטים, רות and most of שְׁמוּאֵל (the second book was finished by the Neviim Gad and Nossan).

SEVENTH GRADE & EIGHTH GRADE STUDY LIST

Seventh & Eighth Grade students should learn the following names and concepts, in addition to the previous lists:

1. שַׁי (Shais) - He was אָדָם and חָה' s third son. He was born with a bris, looked exactly like אָדָם and was one of the seven great shepherds of the world.
2. מְתוּשֶׁלַח (Mesushelach) - He was another of the seven great shepherds of the world. He lived the longest ever (969 years). Hashem delayed the flood until after he died.
3. אֵלִישֶׁבַע (Elisheva) - She was the daughter of Aminadav. Her husband, Aharon, was Kohen Gadol, her brother-in-law was Moshe Rabbeinu, her sons and grandson (Pinchas) were Kohanim and her brother Nachshon was the prince of the tribe of Yehuda.
4. הַיְהוּדָה תָמָר בְּלֵת (Tamar, daughter-in-law of Yehudah) - Daughter of שָׁם, she was extremely beautiful and modest. She first married יְהוּדָה's son Er. When he died, she married his brother Onan who also died. She fooled יְהוּדָה (he didn't realize that it was her) and he later married her. She was willing to be killed rather than embarrass him. They had twins - Peretz (Moshiach will come from him) & Zerach.
5. יוֹנָתָן בֶּן שָׂאוּל (Yonasan, son of Shaul) - He was דָּוִד הַמֶּלֶךְ's closest friend. He was the head of the Sanhedrin. Even though he was King Shaul's son (and most people in his place would've been jealous), he wasn't jealous of דָּוִד הַמֶּלֶךְ. יוֹנָתָן saved דָּוִד's life when Shaul tried to kill him.
6. מִיכָל בַּת שָׂאוּל (Michal, daughter of Shaul) - She was a great woman. She married דָּוִד הַמֶּלֶךְ. She saved his life when her father, King Shaul, tried to kill דָּוִד.
7. נֹסֹן הַנְּבִיא (Nosson HaNavi) - He was one of the Neviim (prophets) after שְׁמוּאֵל הַנְּבִיא. He convinced דָּוִד הַמֶּלֶךְ to confess to Hashem about his sin with בַּת שֶׁבַע, he helped דָּוִד הַמֶּלֶךְ plan the construction of the בַּיִת הַמְּקֹדֶשׁ and he had a seat of honor next to שְׁלֹמֹה הַמֶּלֶךְ's throne.
8. אֵלִישָׁע (Elisha) - He was אֵלִיהוּ's student. He served יִשְׂרָאֵל for 60 years. He did several miracles, including when he brought a dead boy back to life.
9. עֶזְרָא (Ezra) - After the destruction of the first בַּיִת הַמְּקֹדֶשׁ, Ezra gathered many Jews and returned to Israel. He instituted 10 new laws (including the reading of the Torah on Mondays and Thursdays and at Mincha on Shabbos) and retaught the Torah to כָּלל יִשְׂרָאֵל.
10. נְחֶמְיָה (Nechemia) - Was the royal governor of the land of Israel. He worked together with Ezra to return people to Israel. He spent 12 years rebuilding and fortifying the walls of יְרוּשָׁלַיִם. He was also called זְרִיבְבָדָל. Both he and Ezra died on the 10th of Teves.
11. אֵלְעָזָר & אִיתָמָר (Elazar & Isamar) - They were two of אֶהָרֹן & אֵלִישֶׁבַע's four sons. After אֶהָרֹן died, אֵלְעָזָר became the גְּדוּל, then after אֵלְעָזָר's death, אִיתָמָר became the גְּדוּל. After Hashem taught Torah to מֹשֶׁה, מֹשֶׁה would teach it to אֶהָרֹן, then to אֵלְעָזָר & אִיתָמָר...

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12. **אַבִּיהוּא & נָדָב** (Nadav & Avihu) - They were אֶהָרֹן & אֶלִישֶׁבַע's other two sons. They were צַדִּיקִים who died "Al Kiddush Hashem" for their sin of entering the קֹדֶשׁ הַקֹּדָשִׁים and bringing a foreign fire into the Mishkan.
13. **קֹרַח** (Korach) - He was from the tribe of לֵוִי. He was a great scholar with incredible potential and was very wealthy. He started a מְחֻלְקָת (fight) with מֹשֶׁה רַבֵּינוּ and Hashem. He lost and he was swallowed up by the earth.
14. **יִשְׁעַיָּהוּ** (Yishayah) - He was a great prophet and was called a "servant of Hashem". He was the second greatest prophet after מֹשֶׁה רַבֵּינוּ. He defended כָּלֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל even though they were sinning.
15. **יְחֶזְקֵאל** (Yechezkel) - He was a great Navi close to the time of the destruction of the first בַּיִת הַמִּקְדָּשׁ. He told כָּלֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל to prepare for exile. He was a Kohain and a descendant of רְחָב and יְהוֹשֻׁעַ. He brought the bones from the Valley of Dura back to life.
16. **יְרֵמְיָהוּ** (Yirmiyahu) - He was also great prophet at the time of the destruction of the first בַּיִת הַמִּקְדָּשׁ. He wrote the holy books of יְרֵמְיָהוּ, מְלָכִים & אֵיכָה. He begged כָּלֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל to repent, but they mocked and cursed him.
17. **רְחָבָעָם בֶּן שְׁלֹמֹה** (Rechavam, son of Shlomo) - He was the son of שְׁלֹמֹה הַמֶּלֶךְ and the grandson of דָּוִד הַמֶּלֶךְ. It was during his reign that the kingdom was split in two.
18. **יִרְבֵּעָם בֶּן נֶבֶט** (Yiravam, son of Nevat) - He was the first king of מַלְכוּת יִשְׂרָאֵל. He started out as a good person, but as a result of his jealousy, he became evil. He convinced many of the Jews to worship idols. He set up two golden calves, one in דָּן (up north) and one in בְּאֵר שֶׁבַע (down south) and convinced the Jews to come worship by the golden calves instead of in the בַּיִת הַמִּקְדָּשׁ.