

“Yedidim” Program – September 15, 2013

We planned an exciting and meaningful program for our **“Kitah Aleph”** and **“Kitah Vav”** buddies!. We allotted a half hour to forty minutes for the program. The day evolved as follows:

Our groups were pre-determined before arrival. Each group consisted of two or three Vav students and two Aleph students.

Upon arrival to the school library (where the **“Yedidim”** program took place), we were greeted by at least 40 – 45 **“Vav”** students. The 30 **“Aleph”** students were slightly overwhelmed at the beginning of this program, but quickly felt at ease as they began to discover who their **“buddies”** were and what they were like.

After breaking into groups the children introduced themselves. The groups got acquainted through verbal communication using **“Icebreaker Questions”**. They shared one thing they learned from their **“benzug”** (partner). The next portion of the program was the reading of the book **“Tashlich at Turtle Rock”, by Susan Schnur and Anna Schnur-Fishman**. Unfortunately because of time constraints, we weren’t able to read the book. An explanation of **“Tashlich”** was given by a few of the **“Vav”** students. We experienced a **“Chatimah”** (A signature or seal) where the older children wrote down for themselves and their younger **“buddies”** one thing they are proud of on a picture of an apple and one thing they would like to **“throw away”** and forget. A **“Tashlich”** (throwing away of our sins) was performed. The older children wrote on **“Spy Paper”** (a paper where the letters float off the paper) when exposed to water. The apples will be displayed on a bulletin board outside the library. They really enjoyed this shared experience.

The two classes shared a **“sukariah”** (a candy (lollypop) together for a sweet New Year. While enjoying their treat I was going to read a very relevant poem called **“ I Did It! I’m Sorry!”** by **Eliezar Segal**. It is a poem about children who made the wrong choices and would like to apologize for the mistakes they made. They ask for forgiveness. Unfortunately, we didn’t have enough time to read it.

We said **“Shalom”** to our **“buddies”**. **“We can’t wait to see you again”** and wished them a **“Shavua Tov”!**

Hanna Harel