

MIGDAL MIDDOT
JEWISH VALUES TOWER

Sources for explanations:

- * Jewish Philanthropic Values Cards - Rose Community Foundation
- ** Jewish Values Challenge – Behrman House
- ^ Values cards - Jewish Teen Giving Initiative, Melbourne, Australia
- # Making Mensches: A Periodic Table – Foundation for Jewish Camp
- + Jewish Sensibility cards – Lippman Kanfer Foundation for Living Torah
- \$ URJ Six Points Sci-Tech Camp Mission
- @ BBYO Jewish Values Matrix

ENGLISH	TRANSLITERATION (Sefaradi / Hebrew pronunciation)	HEBREW	JEWISH TEXTS	EXPLANATION FROM EXISTING VALUES CARDS (WHERE APPLICABLE)
Responsibility	<i>Areivut</i>	ערבות	<p><i>"If you see your fellow's ox or sheep gone astray, do not ignore it; you must take it back to your fellow" – Deuteronomy 22:1</i></p> <p><i>"...that all people, saints and sinners alike, may recognize their common kinship in the collective human family." Tosefta Sanhedrin 8:4</i></p>	We recognize and respond to the needs of others – taking responsibility beyond ourselves.**
Love	<i>Ahavah</i>	אהבה	<i>"You shall love your fellow as you love yourself; I am God." Leviticus 19:18</i>	
Love of Israel	<i>Ahavat Eretz Yisrael</i>	אהבת ארץ ישראל	<p><i>"You shall possess the Land and dwell in it" - Numbers 33:53</i></p> <p><i>Whoever walks four amot in the Land of Israel may rest assured that he will be a denizen of the World to Come – Ketubot 111a</i></p>	The Jewish people have always felt a deep connection with and love for the Land of Israel. In every generation there has been a call for Jews to return to Zion.**
Love the Stranger	<i>Ahavat Hager</i>	אהבת הגר	<i>"The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in the land of</i>	Welcome strangers, newcomers and those considered "outsiders" with compassion and inclusion.*

			<i>Egypt.</i> – <i>Leviticus 19:34</i>	
Humility	<i>Anavah</i>	ענוה	<i>“A man’s pride shall bring him low: but honor shall uphold the humble in spirit.” – Mishlei Shlomo (Book of Proverbs) 29:23</i> <i>“Be humble of spirit before everyone.”- Pirkei Avot 4:10</i>	Humble people recognize their own talents but don’t boast about them. Many people regard their abilities as gifts from God.**
Give First in your City	<i>Aniyei Ircha Kodmin</i>	עניי עירך קדמין	<i>“One’s impoverished family members come before another poor person. Parents have priority over children who can support themselves. One’s self comes before anyone else, all things being equal” – Shulhan Aruch, Yoreh De’ah 251:3</i>	Your first obligation is to support yourself, then your family, the poor of your own city, poor Jewish people, then the poor of other cities.*
Service work	<i>Avodah</i>	עבודה	<i>“The entire world stands on three things: Torah, Service, Acts of Loving Kindness” – Pirkei Avot 1:2</i>	We feel proud when we work hard. Doing meaningful work builds our dignity and self-confidence.**
Avoiding Waste	<i>Bal Tashchit</i>	בל תשחית	<i>“When you besiege a city a long time, in making war against it to take it, you shall not destroy the trees by wielding an axe against them; for you may eat of them, but you shall not cut them down; for is the tree of the field a human, that it should withdraw from you into the besieged city?” - Deuteronomy 20:19-20</i>	We are tenants on the earth, responsible for the environment, and partners with God in maintaining the earth’s resources. **
Free Choice	<i>B'chirah Chofsheet</i>	בחירה חפשית	<i>“Verily, this human being is unique, that he has his own mind to choose between good and evil.” – Genesis, according to the translation of Maimonides, Shemoneh Perakim, 8:1</i>	To make good decisions, we identify and thoughtfully consider our options.**
Understanding	<i>Binah</i>	בינה	<i>“Do not judge your fellow until you come to his place.” – Pirkei Avot 2:4</i>	
Sacred Contract	<i>Brit</i>	ברית	<i>“I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.” – Genesis 17:6-7</i>	The Jewish approach includes forging relationships and communities – meaningfully connecting ourselves to others by agreeing to shared commitments. +

In God's Image	<i>B'tzelem Elohim</i>	בצלם אלהים	<i>"And God created man in God's own image." – Genesis 1:27</i>	All human beings are created in the image of God.* When we recognize that all people are created in God's image, we are more likely to understand and respect them.**
Freedom	<i>Cheirut</i>	חרות	<i>"Once we were slaves in Egypt. Now, we are free." – Passover Seder</i>	Freedom means we can exercise choice and act with free will. With freedom comes responsibility.**
Kindness	<i>Chesed</i>	חסד	<i>"The highest form of wisdom is kindness." - Talmud</i>	Care for those in need with kindness.*
Truth	<i>Emet</i>	אמת	<i>"Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating unjust gain; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens." – Exodus 18:21</i>	Strong relationships are built on a foundation of honesty.**
Faithfulness	<i>Emunah</i>	אמונה	<i>"And when Israel saw the wondrous power which Adonai had wielded against the Egyptians, the people feared Adonai; they had faith in Adonai and Adonai's servant Moses." – Exodus 14:31</i>	
Strength	<i>G'vurah</i>	גבורה	<i>"...relative to strength, "Receive all men with a kindly countenance. That is, one should suppress his inclination not to give and wage war with his recalcitrant heart. And we learned: "Who is strong? One who suppresses his (evil) inclination.]" – Pirkei Avot 1:15</i>	Jewish tradition challenges us to stand up and do what is good for humanity and our natural world.**
Hospitality	<i>Hachnasat Orchim</i>	הכנסת אורחים	<i>"And he [Abraham] lifted his eyes and saw, and behold, three men were standing beside him, and he saw and he ran toward them from the entrance of the tent, and he prostrated himself to the ground. And he said, 'My lords, if only I have found favor in your eyes, please do not pass on from beside your servant. Please let a little water be taken, and bathe your feet, and recline under the tree'." – Genesis 18:2-4</i>	When we take special care to welcome guests to our homes, synagogues, schools, and neighborhoods we honor them.**

Appreciation	<i>Hakarat Hatov</i>	הכרת הטוב	<i>"I offer thanks to You, living and eternal Sovereign, for You have mercifully restored my soul within me" – daily prayer, Modeh Ani</i>	Expressing appreciation to others and to God helps cultivate positive feelings and healthy relationships.**
Perseverance	<i>Hatmadah</i>	התמדה	<i>"A righteous person can fall seven times and rise." -Proverbs 24:16</i> <i>"You are not obligated to complete a task, but nevertheless you are not free to leave it." - Pirkei Avot 2:20</i>	Perseverance means sticking to something because it is important – even when it is difficult to do.**
Honoring the Elderly	<i>Hidur P'nei Zakein</i>	הדור פני זקן	<i>"You shall rise before the aged and show deference to the old" – Leviticus 19:32</i>	When we recognize the contributions of older people to our communities and families, and the depth of their life experiences, we value them and treat them with respect, understanding and sensitivity.**
New Beginnings	<i>Hitchadshut</i>	התחדשות	<i>"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness." – Genesis 1:1-4</i>	When we renew ourselves, we continue to grow in all kinds of ways, emotionally, intellectually, physically and spiritually.**
Wisdom	<i>Hochmah</i>	חכמה	<i>"Who is wise? The one who learns from every person." – Pirkei Avot 4:1</i>	
Respect	<i>Kavod</i>	כבוד	<i>That which is hateful to you, do not do to your fellow. That is the whole Torah; the rest is the explanation; go and learn." - Rabbi Hillel, Babylonian Talmud, tractate Shabbat 31a</i>	Each person possesses infinite value and is entitled to be treated with respect and concern.**

Sustainability	Kayamut	קיימות	<p><i>"For six years you shall sow your fields and for six years you shall prune your vines and you shall gather in their produce. And in the seventh year there shall be a Sabbath of solemn rest for the land." – Leviticus, Vayikra 25:1-6</i></p> <p><i>"One day as Honi was walking along he saw a man planting a carob tree. Honi asked him, "How many years until it will bear fruit?" The man answered: "Not for seventy years." Honi asked him, "Do you really believe you'll live another seventy years?" The man answered: "I found this world provided with carob trees, and as my ancestors planted them for me, so I too plant them for my descendants." - Talmud Balvi Taanit 23a</i></p>	Maintaining and respecting today's resources while planning for the long term.^
Holy Community	Kehillah Kedoshah	קהלה קדושה	<i>"Hillel says: 'do not separate yourself from the community'." – Pirkei Avot 2:4</i>	As part of the Jewish community, we receive unique benefits-and have a responsibility to each of the other members.**
Jewish Solidarity	K'lal Yisrael	כלל ישראל	<i>"We owe a responsibility not only to those who are in Israel but also to those generations that are no more, to those millions who have died within our lifetime, to Jews all over the world, and to generations of Jews to come." – Golda Meir</i>	Jews have communal responsibility for each other.*
Power of Speech	Ko'ach Hadibur	כח הדבור	<i>"The words of the wise are heard [when spoken] softly, more than the shout of a ruler of fools." – Ecclesiastes 9:17</i>	When we choose our words carefully, we ensure that our language is used in a positive and productive way.**
Dignity	K'vod Habriyot	כבוד הבריות	<i>"The honor of your friend should be as dear to you as your own..." Pirkei Avot, 2:10</i>	Each person possesses infinite value and is entitled to be treated with respect and concern.**

From Generation to Generation	<i>L'Dor Vador</i>	לדור ודור	<p>"Listen my son to the instruction of your father, and do not forsake the teaching of your mother." - Proverbs, 1:8</p> <p>"And I have known him in order that he may ordain his children and his household after him that they may follow the ways of the Almighty to do charity and justice" - Genesis, 18:19</p>	To pass Jewish traditions from one generation to the next.*
Do Not Embarrass	<i>Lo L'vayeish</i>	לא לביש	<p>"...a person should be careful not to embarrass a colleague - whether of great or lesser stature - in public, and not to call him a name which embarrasses him or to relate a matter that brings him shame in his presence." Mishneh Torah, Sefer Madda, De'ot 6:8</p> <p>"To humiliate a person is tantamount to shedding blood" - Bava Metzia 58b-59a</p>	Just as we don't want to be embarrassed, we do not embarrass others. This includes deliberate or unintentional shaming.
Do Not Stand Idly By	<i>Lo Ta'amod Al Dam Rei'echa</i>	לא תעמד על־דם רעך	<p>"In regard to cruelties committed in the name of a free society, some are guilty while all are responsible." – Rabbi AJ Heschel.</p> <p>"Hillel said: if I am not for me, who is for me; and if I am only for myself, what am I? And it not now, when? - Pirkei Avot 1:14.</p>	Do not stand by when violence is carried out against other people.*
Forgiveness	<i>M'chilah</i>	מחילה	<p>"For transgressions between a person and God, Yom Kippur atones, for transgressions against one's neighbor, Yom Kippur cannot atone, until he appeases his neighbor." - Mishnah Yoma 8:9</p>	
Appreciation of Opposition	<i>Machloket Leshem Shamayim</i>	מחלוקת לשם שמיים	<p>"Every argument that is for the sake of heaven's name, it is destined to endure. But if it is not for the sake of heaven's name, it is not destined to endure." – Pirkei Avot 5:17</p>	We must demonstrate respect for others even if we have different ideas.**
Leadership	<i>Manhigut</i>	מנהיגות	<p>"In a place where there is no leader – strive to be a leader." Talmud</p>	Jewish leaders provide a vision based on Jewish values; they stand up for what is important and anticipate the needs of the community. Everyone is a leader in some way.**

Diversity	<i>Migvan</i>	נגון	<i>"You stand this day, all of you, before Adonai your God: your tribal heads, your elders and your officials, all the men of Israel, your children, your wives, even the stranger within your camp, from woodchopper to water drawer; to enter into the covenant of Adonai your God." - Deuteronomy 29:9-11</i>	
Generosity	<i>N'divut</i>	נדיבות	<i>"Even a poor person who lives on Tzedakah is obligated to give Tzedakah to another." - Maimonides.</i>	Generosity is giving materially and of ourselves. It is giving because we want to.**
Community Fund	<i>Kupah</i>	קופה	<i>"Any city in which there is a Jewish community is obligated to raise up collectors of tzedakah, people who are well-known and trustworthy, to go door-to-door among the people from Sabbath eve to Sabbath eve and to take from each and every one what is appropriate for them to give. [The amount] should be a set and clear matter for each person. They also distribute the money from Sabbath eve to Sabbath eve and give to each and every poor person enough food to last them for seven days. This method is called the kupah." – Mishneh Torah 9:1</i>	A community fund for the needy – It is the obligation of every Jewish community to establish a communal agency to collect resources and distribute them to the needy.@
Saving a Life	<i>Pikuach Nefesh</i>	פקוח נפש	<i>"You shall keep my statutes and my commandments, You shall live by them, but you shall not die because of them." – Yoma 85b</i> <i>"Whoever saves one soul, it is as if he had saved a full world." – Sanhedrin 4:5</i>	The obligation to preserve human life comes first, overriding other commandments.*
Compassion	<i>Rachamim</i>	רחמים	<i>"Jews are compassionate children of compassionate parents, and one who shows no pity for fellow creatures is assuredly not the seed of Abraham, our father." – Talmud Bavli Massekhet Shabbat 127a</i>	When we show sympathy, care, and concern for others - especially the disadvantaged – we demonstrate compassion.**

Friendship	<i>Rei'ut</i>	רעות	<p><i>"And Adonai said, "It is not good for Adam to be alone..." (Genesis 2:18)</i></p> <p><i>"Find for yourself a teacher, acquire a friend, and judge all people with the scale of merit" (Pirkei Avot 1:6).</i></p>	True and enduring friendships are built on a foundation of giving of ourselves.**
Pursuing Peace	<i>Rodef Shalom</i>	רודף שלום	<p><i>"Great is peace, since the entire Torah has been given to create peace in the world, as it is written: 'Its ways are ways of pleasantness, and all its paths are peace'. (Proverbs 3:17)" – Mishna Torah, Laws of Megillah and Hanukah 4:14</i></p>	Shalom literally means 'completeness' or 'wholeness' in ourselves, in our relationships with family and friends, and with God. Peace restores and unifies.**
Curiosity	<i>Sakranut</i>	סקרנות	<p><i>"Ben Bag Bag says: Search in it and search in it, since everything is in it. And in it you should look..." – Pirkei Avot 5:22</i></p>	We are curious about the world around us, from the mundane to the spectacular, yearning to understand how and why things work for the purpose of preserving and improving \$
Day of Rest	<i>Shabbat</i>	שבת	<p><i>"Six days shall you labor and do all your work; but the seventh day is a sabbath to God... For in six days God made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore God blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it." - Exodus 20: 9-11</i></p>	
Chain of Tradition	<i>Shalshet Ham'sorah</i>	שלשלת המסורה	<p><i>"And you shall teach them to your sons and speak of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk on the way, and when you lie down and when you rise up." – Deuteronomy 6:7</i></p>	Our beliefs are practices link us in a chain of tradition with previous generations, while our creativity adds new links to that chain.**
Protecting the Earth	<i>Sh'mirat Ha'adamah</i>	שמירת האדמה	<p><i>"One generation goes and another generation comes; but the Earth remains forever." - Ecclesiastes 1:4</i></p>	

Taking Care of your Body	<i>Sh'mirat Haguf</i>	שמירת הגוף	<p><i>Since by keeping the body in good health one follows the way of God, for it is impossible to understand or know anything about the Creator when one is ill, it is a man's duty to shun whatever it is... harmful to the body and cultivate health-preserving habits." - Mishneh Torah 4:1</i></p>	Just as we care for others, we treat our own bodies with care and respect.**
Learning Torah	<i>Talmud Torah</i>	תלמוד תורה	<p><i>"Do not say, "When I will be available I will study [Torah]," lest you never become available." – Pirkei Avot 2:4</i></p>	By committing ourselves to learning Torah, we gain continuous insights and guidance for our lives. Learning Torah can be extended to mean learning anything Jewish.**
Repairing the World	<i>Tikkun Olam</i>	תקון עולם	<p><i>"When the community is in trouble do not say, "I will go home and eat and drink and all will be well with me."...Rather, involve yourself in the community's distress as was demonstrated by Moses . . . In this way Moses said, "Since Israel is in trouble, I will share their burden." Anyone who shares a community's distress will be rewarded and will witness the community's consolation." - Talmud Bavli Massekhet Ta'anit 11a</i></p> <p><i>"If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?" - Mishna Massekhet Avot 1:13</i></p>	<p>Humanity is in partnership with God to complete the world of creating a whole, perfect world.*</p> <p>We are obligated to work toward creating a more just and righteous society. <i>Tikkun Olam</i> literally means 'fixing' or 'healing' the 'world'.**</p>

Respect for Animals	<i>Tza'ar Ba'alei Chayim</i>	צער בעלי חיים	<p><i>"Six days you shall do your work, but on the Seventh Day you shall cease from labor, in order that your ox and your donkey may rest." -Exodus 23:12</i></p> <p><i>"If you should happen upon a bird's nest along the way, in a tree or upon the ground, with chicks or eggs, with the mother nesting upon them, do not take the mother along with the young. Shoo the mother away, and take only the young, in order that you may fare well and have a long life." -Deuteronomy 22:6-7</i></p>	We treat animals with sensitivity, taking care of their physical and emotional needs. When we use animals for our benefit, we do so in the most humane way possible.**
Righteous Giving	<i>Tzedakah</i>	צדקה	<p><i>"Share your bread with the hungry and bring the poor that are cast out into your home. When you see the naked clothe them." - Isaiah 58:7)</i></p> <p><i>"And when your brother will become poor and you will extend your hand to him." – Vayikra 25:35</i></p>	We have an obligation to give to those in need. It's not just a nice thing to do; it's the right things to do.**
Justice	<i>Tzedek</i>	צדק	<p><i>"Justice, justice shalt thou pursue that thou may live, and inherit the land which Adonai your God gives you" – Deuteronomy 16:20</i></p>	<p>Give to those in need in order to right the scales of justice. *</p> <p>Jewish law stresses the need for a system of justice that is impartial, equally serving the rich and the poor, the powerful and the powerless.**</p>
Creativity	<i>Y'tziratiut</i>	יצירתיות	<p><i>"Originality, creativity and novelty are spiritual endeavors." – Sfat Emet of Ger, Shemot 5631, Second Ma'amar.</i></p>	Using imagination to bring about change. ^

Taking Initiative	Z'rizut	זריזות	<p><i>"Nachshon, the son of Aminadav, stepped into the water. His family and friend looked on with horror and amazement. They cried: "What are you doing? Where are you going?" Nachshon walked forward like a man possessed — up to his knees, his waist, his chest. The second the water came up just over his nostrils, the second when he is fully submerged, at that moment and not a second before, the sea split. And the people were able to walk behind Nachshon to liberation, to a place of singing and joy." - Babylonian Talmud, Sotah 36b-37a, Mekhilta Beshallah 6)</i></p>	<p>We look for occasions to contribute to society enthusiastically and swiftly.**</p>
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