University Synagogue’s kindergarten program will provide a safe, nurturing atmosphere with the goal of creating stimulating experiences in which students will grow and mature emotionally, intellectually, physically, and socially. The kindergarten program will involve opportunities for students to accomplish new tasks and master new skills based on Common Core standards.

**LANGUAGE ARTS**
This year, in Language Arts, we will focus on beginning reading skills such as increasing fluency, phonological awareness, and reading comprehension. Our program will include foundational skills such as word recognition, decoding, and print concepts. Kindergarteners will be able to identify basic story elements, and will understand basic punctuation. We will work on writing skills in our new kindergarten journals and handwriting.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**
In Social Studies, we will learn about holidays and traditions, good citizenship, and explore different cultures from around the world. Kindergarteners will discover continents, landforms, and oceans, and learn about voting and elections. We will explore maps and globes, timelines, compasses, and legends. We will introduce concepts such as past vs. present, needs vs. wants, and good and services.

**SCIENCE**
In Science, we will be learning about animal habitats and plants. We will also be observing the life cycle of a butterfly. Our kindergarten program will provide fun and engaging hands-on science labs where students can actively participate in investigation and discovery. We will build our own volcano and watch it ‘erupt.’ Students will learn about making a hypothesis, collecting data, and forming conclusions.

**MATH**
will be developing a conceptual understanding of place value, addition, and subtraction that can be used as a foundation for later years. Students will learn different strategies for addition and subtraction such as ten frames and number lines. Kindergarteners will be using our new consumable workbooks. We will be using math manipulatives to introduce money recognition, 2-D and 3-D shapes, telling time, measurement, and concepts such as estimation and greater than and less than.

University Synagogue’s kindergarten program has a rich, cumulative, core curriculum which instills values such as civic duty, respect, kindness, responsibility and incorporate Jewish values. We will spend time outside each day doing organized physical games and activities. We will incorporate a variety of music into our day with songs and instruments. Kindergarteners will have the opportunity to engage in activities involving dance, movement, and yoga. Art will also be embedded in our curriculum, through projects involving drawing, cutting, tracing, gluing, and coloring, that will also help build fine motor skills. Our goal is to educate the whole child through a comprehensive curriculum and prepare our students to be successful in first grade! We look forward to getting to know your child and your family!