WRITING YOUR B'NEI MITZVAH TORAH SUMMARY

YOU WILL BE READING YOUR SUMMARY ALOUD AT YOUR B'NEI MITZVAH
AS AN INTRODUCTION TO THE TORAH READING.

SEND YOUR SUMMARY BY EMAIL TO Terese at TMcCauley@mzion.org

Preparing your Summary

☐ 1. Read through the summary in the booklet in your binder. It is entitled
"Introduction to the Parashah."

☐ 2. Read through the ENTIRE Torah portion in English. In your booklet, it is the
column on each page that says "Translation." You don't have to read any of the
commentaries at this point.

☐ 3. Divide your Torah Portion into 2-4 main sections, and write a topic sentence
about each.

☐ 4. Write a brief paragraph for each section. Don't include a lot of detail; just
summarize the section and give one or two examples when appropriate, using a
term like "for example…" or "such as…"

☐ 5. When referring to God in your summary and your D'var Torah, please use non-
gendered language, since God is beyond gender. The simplest approach is to
simply say "God" rather than "He." Another alternative, which is used in our
Torah Commentary is "The Eternal."

☐ 6. Make sure you are consistent throughout your summary in your use of tenses.

*Present tense: God **tells** Abraham to offer his son as an offering on Mount
Moriah. Abraham **gets up** early in the morning, **saddles** his donkey, and
takes Isaac and two servants up the mountain.*

OR

*Past tense: God **told** Abraham to offer his son as an offering on Mount
Moriah. Abraham **got up** early in the morning, **saddled** his donkey, and **took**
Isaac and two servants up the mountain.*

Completing Your Summary

☐ 1. Begin your Summary with this sentence:

   Shabbat Shalom. This week's Torah portion is _____ from the book of _____.

☐ 2. End your Summary with this sentence:

   We will now be chanting from _____(Book), chapter_____, verse _____, which can be found on page _____of your blue Torah Commentary.

☐ 3. Format your Summary:
   ✡ in 18 point font
   ✡ Double Spaced
   ✡ Leave an extra space between paragraphs
   ✡ **Number the pages**
   ✡ No need to hole-punch your summary. Paper-clip it instead.

☐ 4. Write "Summary" and your name at the top.

☐ 5. SAVE YOUR SUMMARY IN YOUR COMPUTER

☐ 6. Email your summary to Terese at McCauley@mzion.org

☐ 7. Print your Summary and keep it with your B'nei Mitzvah Notebook.