Unitarian Church of Montreal Église Unitarienne de Montréal Religious Exploration Program

Goals of the RE Program

- 1. To create a welcoming and inclusive community for children and youth where they can grow personally and spiritually
- 2. To share ritual experiences with children and youth which honour their spiritual and emotional, as well as everyday lives
- 3. To provide children and youth with experiences of the mystery and wonder of life in the interdependent web of existence
- 4. To provide families with stories, ideas, and experiences which they can share and bring back to their home lives, through coordinated Theme-Based Ministry

Goals for the 2017-18 "I Am Somebody / Je suis quelqu'un" RE Theme

- 1. To provide different categories of activity which honour different interests, ways of being, and spiritual experiences among children and people of all ages, including activities relating to:
 - a. Unitarian Universalism and our monthly theme (week 1)
 - b. Art and creativity (week 2)
 - c. Science and nature (week 3)
 - d. Religious, cultural, and family celebrations (week 4)
 - e. Play (week 5)
- 2. To empower children and youth in our congregation with a greater self-esteem and self-confidence, validating their inherent worth and dignity and their ability to grow as leaders who advocate and work for change in our church and in the world at large
- 3. To harness the power of celebration to foster inquiry, exploration, and learning about cultures, traditions, religions, and each other
- 4. To create a

A learning environment[] that enable[s] people to cultivate more powerful ways of knowing, a greater sense of self, and a connectedness to others

- A Tradition That Has No Name, Belenky, Bond, Weinstock 1997