



*Parent Handbook and
Information Kit
Camp Gan Israel - Winter 2009*

A letter from the Director...

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Camp Gan Israel Winter Camp. We are delighted that you are joining us and confident that you and your children will have a most positive experience. The counselors and staff are eager to greet your children and we have many exciting activities planned.

CGI is committed to providing a superb day camp experience for Jewish children in both a safe and fun filled environment. We offer outstanding athletic, sports, and art programs.

By now you should have submitted your registration, release and trip forms along with full payment of tuition.

Enclosed, please find our schedule, lunch menu and the parent's handbook which will provide you with all the necessary information regarding camp. If you have any concerns, questions or suggestions, please feel free to call and discuss them with me at any time.

Looking forward to an exciting week!

Yours sincerely,

Mimi Kaplan
Camp Director

CAMP GAN ISRAEL

A camp should provide more than fun and games. A camp should be a place where children learn the importance of caring, sharing, tolerance, patience and working with others. A camp should bring out the best in each child's character and personality.

A Jewish camp should be a place where children can experience first-hand the richness, excitement & warmth of Judaism.

Camp Gan Israel aims to provide all this and much more.

Camp Gan Israel is part of the fastest growing network of Camps encompassing over three hundred Chabad affiliated camps internationally.

CAMP LOCATION

The camp is located at 45 Spruce St, Oakland, NJ 07436. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 63, Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417.

DATES AND TIMES

Camp runs from Monday, December 28th to Thursday, December 31st.

Camp begins at **9:00 AM sharp** and ends at **3:30 PM sharp**. Please be sure to drop off and pick up your child on time. Pick-up will be from the back of the school building. If your child will be picked up by someone other than a parent, a Release Form must be filled out before camp.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- Camp Administration Office: (201) 848-0449
- Camp on-site telephone number: Mimi: (201) 560-2640, Rabbi Kaplan: (201) 560-2502
- E-mail: admin@ganisraeldaycamp.com
- Web: www.ganisraeldaycamp.com

TUITION AND FEES

Tuition fees cover all activities, snacks, lunch, and trips.

All tuition fees must be submitted in full before camp begins.

Per Week: \$230

Per Day: \$65

Give a child a camp scholarship for \$230.

COMMUNICATION

Please share your feedback and suggestions regarding any aspect of the camp's program with us. Your input allows us to constantly improve and upgrade our program and we value it greatly. The counselors fill out daily progress reports for each camper and the director meets weekly with each counselor to discuss the status of every child.

Changes that need to be communicated to parents will be done in one of these ways:

- A flyer sent home in child's bag (please check bag daily.)
- An e-mail to parents (please check your inbox nightly.)

E-mail is an excellent way to communicate with us.

Photos of camp activities are uploaded to our website regularly for your viewing enjoyment at www.ganisraeldaycamp.com

During Camp Hours: 201-560-2640/ 201-560-2502

After Hours: 201-848-0449

Email: admin@ganisraeldaycamp.com

SAFETY

Safety is of primary importance. Contact between the Camp Director and counselors are maintained throughout the camp day by personal and mobile communication. We maintain low counselor / camper ratios.

In case of a medical emergency, G-d forbid, parents (or guardian) and a family doctor (listed on the registration forms) will be contacted immediately. If, however, we can not reach a parent or emergency contact immediately we will use our best judgment on behalf of your child.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS AND MEDICATION

If your child has any special challenges or conditions (i.e. social, behavioral), the knowledge of which would help us in caring for them and maximizing their camp experience, please bring them to our attention. It will allow us to address these needs properly and eliminate unnecessary difficulties. (Please note that this information will be kept confidential.)

We do not administer medication at camp.

DRESS CODE

All boys are encouraged to wear a Kippah or cap during camp. Please refer to the scheduled trips and dress appropriately. **Children attending the ski trip must wear multiple layers of clothing, hat, gloves, scarf and must also bring a sports helmet required for skiing.**

YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS

In order for campers to participate in all activities, it is crucial that they either wear or have a pair of rubber soled shoes in camp.

All clothing that is worn to camp or brought to camp should be marked with a permanent marker or labeled to avoid loss.

There is a 'Lost & Found' box in camp. Please alert us if your child has lost an item. The camp is not responsible for items lost during camp, but we will do our best to locate them. We strongly urge you not to send expensive gadgets or clothing to camp.

Campers are not permitted to have cell-phones in camp.

LUNCH

Kosher lunch is provided daily with bread and spreads available as an alternative. Please refer to the daily lunch schedule for details. Cold drinks and snacks are also provided throughout the day. If your child has any special dietary requirements, please be sure to discuss it with us prior to camp in order to make special accommodations.

FUN SHOPS

We offer Fun Shops, where the campers participate in activities such as:

- Sports Clinic directed by Coach Pete of Superdome Sports
- Ceramics
- Baking
- Cooking
- Art: crafts, wood shop, beading and guided art

FIELD TRIPS

The camp will be going on trips and excursions outside camp grounds. Please refer to the trip schedule. The trips' cost is included in the camp tuition. However, if you wish to give your child extra trip money, we advise that it be put in the care of the bunk counselor. The children are transported on licensed school busses by Jordan Transport of Butler, NJ.

ROLLER SKATING / BLADING

The campers skate or rollerblade at the roller-rink in Florham Park, NJ. CGI 'rents-out' the rink for the duration of the trip.

IMPORTANT: *Children must wear socks and bring a sports helmet in order to participate in the trip.*

LIFEPLEX

The LIFEPLEX entertainment complex features swimming, tennis, rock-climbing, jumping castles and dance revolution.

BOWLING - The Campers walk next-door to the school building for Bowling at Holiday Bowl.

SPECIAL EVENTS & SHOWS

GAMES 2 GO

The campers will have the games come to them. Games 2 go has a wide variety of games & fun for the campers to enjoy.

DUCT TAPE ART

The campers will takes plain rolls of duct tape and transform them into masterpieces completely unrecognizable from the roll of tape sold in your local hardware shop. They will have a chance to create brightly colored wallets, briefcases, headbands, purses, bows. Costumes, I-pod cases, and cell phone cases.

DINOSAURS ROCK

Campers will "see & touch" an extensive glittering and crystal-filled exhibit of museum-quality Rocks, Minerals & Gemstones and participate in an interactive educational & entertaining show, presented by DINOSAURS ROCK experts.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I arrange to pick up my camper during the camp day?

If you need to pick up your camper during the day, please notify the office and we will arrange to have your camper waiting for you. We cannot release campers without parental permission.

When can I visit my camper?

Camp Gan Israel is open for parental visits every camp day. We suggest that you schedule your visit carefully as your camper may be involved in a field trip or other off-campus activities. All visitors must first meet with the Director for visitor registration and assistance.

What if my child does not want to participate in a particular activity?

No camper is forced to participate in any activity. However, we do urge campers to try all activities and take advantage of the complete program offered at Camp Gan Israel. We appreciate parental input and feedback on this matter.

Can my camper bring precious items to camp?

Campers should not bring jewelry, radios, expensive toys, etc. to camp. Camp Gan Israel supplies everything campers may need. Cell-phones are not permitted in camp.

How can I speak with my child's counselor?

A call to the camp office will answer most questions. Since counselors are constantly supervising groups and activities, messages will be taken at the camp office. Please leave your name and evening phone number and the counselor will return your call as soon as possible.