



Parent's Handbook

Summer 2018

Dear Parents:

Welcome to the 2018 season of Camp Gan Israel Weston! We are delighted you're joining us, and we hope that you and your children will have a wonderful experience. The counselors and staff at Camp Gan Israel are eager to meet your children. We have many new and exciting programs planned for this year.

CGI is committed to providing a superb day camp experience for Jewish children in the Weston area. We offer outstanding athletic, enrichment, and creative arts programs under the guidance of instructors who are highly qualified in their fields. Family-oriented programs are also a very important aspect of our camp, and we encourage parental participation in these special events.

Our excellent facility provides everything we need for all our summer camp activities. Equipped with large outdoor fields, a playground, a lunch area, an art area and bunkrooms, our campers enjoy a wide range of activities all in a safe and comfortable environment. For swimming, we will take the campers to the Weston YMCA.

We hope this booklet provides you with all the necessary information regarding camp. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please feel free to call and discuss them with us any time. Our office number is (954) 349-6565.

****Remember – All forms, waivers, and payments for camp must be received by June 18th. If you haven't already taken care of these items, please do so quickly!**

We are looking forward to an exciting summer!

Sincerely,

Rabbi Mendel Kesselman
Director

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CAMP LOCATION

Located at Chabad Lubavitch of Weston Campus, 18501 Tequesta Trace Park Lane in Weston, the camp has access to individual bunkrooms, a lunch area, a multipurpose room and an art area for all our camp needs.

DATES AND TIMES

Camp begins on Monday, June 18th, and runs through Friday, August 3rd. The summer is split into two sessions: June 18th through July 13th (4 weeks), and July 16th through August 3rd (3 weeks). There will be no camp on Wednesday, July 4th.

In order for your child to fully benefit from the scope of available courses, we encourage his/her participation in a full session. However, if this is impossible, customized sessions are available.

Camp begins daily at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. To assure that the children are properly supervised, please avoid dropping off your child earlier than 8:50 a.m.

Pre-care is available from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., and after-care is available from 3:45 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. should you wish to take advantage of this service. Please see page 6 for more information.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- Camp Administrative Office: (954) 349-6565
- CGI camp director phone: (954) 348-5850
- E-mail: director@cgiweston.com; cgi@cgiweston.com
- Web: www.cgiweston.com

TUITION AND FEES

Tuition fees cover all activities and trips. There is a fee for "optionals" such as late nights and Shabbatons which are billed upon individual participation.

Mini-Gan (Entering Pre-K 2, 3 and VPK Grades)

	9am – 1pm	9am – 3:30pm
First Session	\$750	\$1,025
Second Session	\$575	\$775
Single Week	\$200	\$275
Full Summer	\$1,300	\$1,675

Gan Israel (Entering K – 5th Grades)

First Session	\$1,025
Second Session	\$775
Single Week	\$275
Full Summer	\$1,675

Pioneers (Entering 6th, 7th & 8th Grades)

First Session	\$1,025
Second Session	\$775
Single Week	\$275
Full Summer	\$1,675

All tuition fees must be paid (or a payment schedule arranged) prior to June 18th, along with submission of all necessary forms. There are no refunds for cancellations, sick days, etc. If you need to arrange a scholarship or payment plan, you are welcome to do so by calling the camp office.

SAFETY

All our counselors are trained in CPR and First Aid. We strive to maintain counselor/camper ratios that far exceed those mandated by the State. Certified lifeguards and swim instructors (in addition to counselors) supervise swimming and, when on field trips, contact is maintained with the base camp by means of mobile communication.

In case of a medical emergency, G-d forbid, parents (or guardians) and family doctors (listed on the registration papers) will be contacted immediately.

As an extra safety measure, we would like all of the children in Camp Gan Israel to wear a camp t-shirt every Tuesday and Thursday. Each child will receive a T-shirt on his/her first day of camp. To purchase additional T-shirts, you may do so on our website at www.cgiveston.com prior to June 15th. Extra T-shirts cost \$12 each.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS AND MEDICATION

In order to maximize your child's camp experience and provide proper care, please notify us of any special needs, challenges, or conditions (i.e. social, behavioral). This will allow us to address these needs properly and eliminate unnecessary difficulties. (Please note: this information will be kept confidential.)

The camp has a staff member dedicated to overseeing and administering medication and dealing with health-related concerns. All medication to be administered during camp hours must be clearly marked with camper's name and be provided in its original container. A separate note containing dosage instruction and parent's signature must be sent as well. If you would like to discuss your child's health situation, please call Rabbi Mendel at the camp office.

SUNSCREEN

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to apply sunscreen on your child in the mornings before camp. Please send a bottle of your preferred sunscreen along with your child for reapplication throughout the day. Counselors will reapply sunscreen at noon and after swimming.

COMMUNICATION

Please feel free to share your feedback, suggestions, or critique 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 director meets weekly with each counselor to discuss the status of every child. We will attempt to contact you during the camp season to discuss any areas of concern that you may have. Parents and campers can view photos and updates relating to camp activities on our website at www.cgiveston.com

To assure your child's safety at all times, parents wishing their child to be released during camp to anyone other than themselves or their designee on file must make prior arrangements with the Camp Director.

EARLY & AFTER CARE

Extended early and after care is available by making prior arrangements with the camp office. One specific door will be open for morning and after care; please inquire upon registration.

Morning care is available from 8:00 a.m. and after care is available until 5:30 p.m.

When dropping off your child, please make sure to fill out the drop-off notification form with the time of your drop-off and your signature. Extended care fees are \$25 per week for Early Care and \$25 per week for After Care. Combined early and after care is available to campers at a total price of \$45 per week.

You must register for early care or after care with the camp office in advance.

ORIENTATION & EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Camp Gan Israel aims to involve the entire family in the camping experience. We have organized several family programming events and look forward to your participation. Please hold the following dates for family programs, with details to follow:

CGI Challah Bake for Campers and their Families

Friday, July 13th – @ Camp Gan Israel

CGI Family Picnic and BBQ

Wednesday, July 18th – @ Camp Gan Israel

PROGRAMS

Mini Gan (children entering *Pre-K 2, 3 and VPK*)

Carefully designed as a camp-within-a-camp, this division broadens the children's horizons and at the same time is mindful of their age, emotional needs, etc. Our Mini Gan allows for the "TLC" under which our youngest campers flourish. This division grows with your child, expanding its programming to fit our elementary schoolers' new interests in "big kid" activities as they join the Gan Israel division in many programs.

Gan Israel (children entering *K – 4th Grade*)

Our second division is fully integrated into the camp program and benefits from our coaches, swim instructors, artists, specialists, and features trips, such as Planet air sports, Uncle Bernie's and Miami Seaquarium, and expanded nature programming.

Pioneers (children entering *5th – 8th Grade*)

Campers in this division have the opportunity to participate in our special adventure programming which includes: an overnight camping trip, a grand trip at the end of the summer and much more.

PROGRAMMING: AN OVERVIEW

Our goal is to provide a wide array of sports, swimming, field trips, arts, and educational programs for our campers. Each week generally includes two trip days (such as Pines Ice Arena, Kaboom's, Miami Seaquarium, Uncle Bernie's, etc.) and three swim days. Activities include Weekly Specialty Programs, Sport-of-the-Week, Clubs, Team & Leadership Games, and other group activities and instructions.

The camp calendar provides a glimpse of the exciting activities we have planned for your children. A detailed schedule will be sent home with your child prior to each week of camp.

TRIPS & EXCURSIONS

The camp provides snacks, food, drinks, etc. for all trips. **Please Note: Children should not bring money on trips.**

Paradise Cove: Paradise Cove;s newly renovated facility now holds the "Paradise Pipeline" – a waterslide complex featuring 4 great water slides. In addition the campers can float along the tube ride and enjoy the water playground fit for all ages.

Miami Seaquarium: Miami Seaquarium offers nature at its best showing the beautiful animals of the sea and their incredible talents. Children are blown away by the exciting leaps and jumps their dolphin and whale friends make in front of their eyes.

Pines Ice Arena: All campers will get to skate across the ice at the Pine's Ice facility with their favorite counselors during this fun, high-action trip.

Uncle Bernie's Amusement Rides: The success of this trip has caused us to lengthen our session and take our campers there for a full day. Riding the rides and roller coasters at Uncle Bernie's always brings smile to the faces of CGI campers.

Strikers: All campers will put their hand-eye coordination to the test when they enjoy an afternoon of bowling fun.

Monkey Joe's: Our campers will enjoy this indoor family fun center for play with giant inflatable, arcades and ropes course style games.

And MORE!

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

At CGI, we provide opportunities for campers to customize their Camp experience and choose the activity of their choice. This year's choices include:

Art: Throughout the summer our campers will be working hard on a masterpiece to bring home. Many art techniques will be put to use in the creation of our masterpiece.

CGI Book of World Records: Campers will test their limits by trying to break world records! How many apples can you bob for in one minute? How many campers can we get to jump rope all at once?

Israeli Dance: With the help of dance warm ups, campers will get into the dance routine and learn some great Israeli dances to present to their family and friends.

Mad Science: Nothing is cooler than seeing 2 basic household items combining and creating a scientific concoction. Children will learn science the fun way through experiments and crafts that they will not stop talking about.

Food Art: Campers will create beautiful and unbelievable models (animal, Bird, Statue, Face etc) with food.

Mini-Chefs: Get ready to mix, measure, and create as Shaindy Schapiro leads our budding chefs on a taste bud voyage and culinary adventure!

Woodworking: In this class campers will learn how to assemble pre-cut pieces of wood into works of art! (Woodworking safety will be taught prior to learning how to assemble and sand projects.) Students will make and paint an assortment of wood-based projects.

SPORTS PROGRAM

Sport-of-the-Week is a series of sport courses that vary throughout the summer and are given two times during the week.

VALUES & JUDAIC PROGRAMMING

Our Judaic programming is designed to instill campers with a love for Judaism, pride in their Jewish identity, and the flavor of their heritage. Songs, stories, and laughter fill the days along with engaging activities, hands-on projects, and crafts.

Theme of the Summer: Every summer Gan Izzy has a theme that keeps everyone on track. This year our theme is "12 Torah Tools to Build a Better World".

CGI Challah Bake: This is a chance for our campers to share a glimpse of the special spirit, love, and friendship that reigns at CGI with their whole family while making delicious Challah! Who doesn't love that?!

SWIMMING

Swimming Lesson Sign Up!

Camp Gan Israel is committed to providing a top quality swim program. All campers have the option of signing up for swimming lessons at Camp Gan Israel for an additional cost of \$65 for the full camp session. Swimming lessons will take place 2 times a week for 30 minutes and are taught by certified instructors followed by free swim.

Open swim will take place for all campers who are not participating in lessons. Please make sure to send a swimsuit and towel in a tote or plastic bag with your child every day of camp, unless otherwise noted. Since there are water activities almost every day at CGI, please have all bathing suits and towels marked with permanent ink or labels. **Please note that wet towels and suits should not be left on camp grounds overnight.**

YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS

Campers are assigned a cubby in which to keep their belongings during camp. Please send along an extra change of clothing for water activities, and sunscreen (to remain in camp throughout the summer). In order for campers to be able to participate in all activities, it is crucial that they wear gym shoes at camp.

Many children share the same size and brand of clothing. Please mark all clothing, swim suits, towels, caps, and accessories that your child may bring to camp with a **permanent laundry marker** to avoid loss.

There is a special Lost & Found for lost articles, and it is reviewed every Friday. Please alert us if your child has lost an item. The camp is not responsible for items lost during camp, but we'll do our best to locate them. We strongly urge you not to send expensive items to camp.

LUNCH

Included in camp tuition is a nutritious hot lunch that the students enjoy. Following is the weekly menu:

Baked Ziti Salad Fresh Fruit Water and Juice	Spaghetti Bolognaise Fresh vegetables Fruit Water and Juice	Pizza Fresh Vegetables Fresh Fruit Water and Juice	Choice of Sandwiches (To be taken on our trip) Fresh fruit Water and Juice	Fish sticks Rice Corn Fresh Fruit Water and Juice
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TRANSPORTATION

Pick up & drop off will take place at the back entrance of Chabad of Weston.

The drop-off area will be supervised beginning at 8:50 until 9:00am, and pickup from 3:30 until 3:45pm. Counselors will escort the children to and from the car. Please be mindful of the fact that many cars will be arriving at once and we need to keep the cars flowing quickly and smoothly without backing up the street.

If you need to discuss an issue with the director or counselor, please park in the parking lot.

If you would like to make a change in your child's transportation routine, such as having them transported by a friend, please send along a note to their counselor.

NOTE: DROPOFF AREA IS NOT SUPERVISED BEFORE 8:50 a.m.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How does my camper find lost items?

Please mark all belongings with your camper's name and bunk. This is very important since shirts are identical and individual items are difficult to identify without a label. Lost & Found items are available each day in the office. Please contact us in writing, by phone, or by e-mail regarding specific items.

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

If you have to pick up your camper during the day, please notify our office. Once we are aware of your arrival time, we can arrange to have your camper ready 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 activity. All visitors will be directed to the camp office 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.

What does my camper need each day?

Campers should have a change of clothing, water bottle, sunscreen and gym shoes at the camp at all times. A bathing suit and towel should be sent every day. We supply all sports and safety equipment such as tennis racquets, mouth guards, shin guards, etc. Counselors will apply sunscreen upon request.

Can my camper bring precious items to camp?

Campers should **not** bring jewelry, radios, iPods, expensive toys, or any valuables to camp. Camp Gan Israel supplies everything campers may need.

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.