

Dear Camp Families,

Welcome to JCC Camps 2024!

JCC Kids Club Camp is held at Joaquin Miller Elementary School (known as JM) in Oakland, at 5525 Ascot Dr, Oakland, CA 94611.

Camp @ JCC East Bay is held at the JCC in Berkeley, 1414 Walnut St, Berkeley, CA 94709.



We are all looking forward to the terrific summer ahead. As a parent, your participation in your child’s camp experience is important. This Parent Handbook is useful as a reference for camp procedures, weekly schedules, and daily activities. Both new and returning parents are strongly encouraged to take the time to read this handbook as some procedures have changed from years past. This handbook applies to both camp options, in Oakland and in Berkeley.

We look forward to a fantastic summer! Feel free to inquire about adding sessions as the summer goes on, should you find that you just can’t get enough!

If you have any questions, please contact us at **(510) 482-7278 for camp in Oakland and 510-848-0237, ext. 131 for camp in Berkeley**, or by email for both camps at **summercamps@jcc eastbay.org**.

All the best,
Your JCC Camps Team!

Important Contact Information

Camp @ JCC East Bay (Berkeley) Phone Number: **(510) 482-7278**

JCC Kids Club Camp (Oakland) Phone Number: **510-848-0237, ext. 131**

Call for attendance, authorized pickups, general information

JCC East Bay (Berkeley) Main Line: (510) 848-0237

JCC Camps Emails

Kids Club Camp - Dane Fox-McGraw: danef@jcceastbay.org

Camp @ JCC East Bay - Sonia Brin: sonia.brin@jcceastbay.org

Aaron Atlas (CPO): aaron.atlas@jcceastbay.org

General Camp Office: summercamps@jcceastbay.org

Program Goals and Outcomes

Create Lasting Connections

- Treat campers and other staff members with respect.
- Devote substantial time each session to creating a group with meaningful relationships.
- Create activities that allow campers to get to know each other and encourage them to meet new people.

Practice Life Skills

- Promote situations where campers must make choices, work as a group, and practice their listening skills.
- Positively reinforce demonstration of these skills.
- Explicitly teach these life skills as part of every activity.
- Incorporate life skills into your Jewish identity and learn how they connect to Judaism (*Berkeley only*)

Set Goals, Take on Challenges, and Succeed

- Ask campers to set individual goals at the beginning of each session.
- Meet each camper where they are, and push them a little bit farther.
- Always challenge ourselves to create new activities and new approaches.
- Set campers up for success by choosing activities that are age-appropriate, explaining thoroughly, and teaching the steps needed for success.
- Explore one's own Jewish identity (*Berkeley only*)

Cultivate Cultural Identity

- Honestly explore our own relationship to our cultural identity and share what we learn with campers.
- Discuss the importance of learning about history and keeping your culture alive.
- Introduce campers to Jewish culture and practice through games, art, Hebrew language, blessings, and Shabbat celebrations (*Berkeley only*).
- Focus our thematic programming on Judeo-Christian values and their universal applications.

Express Creativity

- Create opportunities for campers to work creatively, whether in an art project, solving a puzzle, or cleaning up lunch.
- Reward and model creativity.
- Explore what it means to live Jewishly, and how that varies from one person to the next, from one family to the next, and from one community to the next (*Berkeley only*)

Introduce the Outdoors and Respect the Environment

- Model care for the environment in our camp practices.
- Teach campers to respect our immediate environment by cleaning up after themselves, taking care of supplies, and avoiding waste.
- Expose campers to the natural resources of the Bay Area and spend time outdoors!

Camp Fees

Camp fees are determined each year and are subject to change yearly. Sessions must be paid in full or you MUST be enrolled in an automatic payment plan before the first day of camp, including any specialty fees.

Refunds are not available for partial sessions or days missed. We cannot make up for missed days in another session.

If you should need to cancel, add, or change choices of a session, please email summercamps@jcceastbay.org. Please let us know by Thursday of the week prior to the start of the session. Refunds cannot be honored after May 24th, however, we will work with you to reschedule weeks, if necessary. Sessions have limited space available and changes or additions will only be made based on availability.

If a camper is going to be absent for any reason, please notify the camp office by phone or email. If a camper is absent for two days and no call is received, we will attempt to contact the parent/guardian to find out why the camper is absent.

Campers dismissed from camp due to a violation of the Behavior Expectation Contract will not be offered refunds.

2024 Camp Calendar

Session 1 Kids Club Camp	June 3-June 14 (2 weeks)
Session 1 Camp @ JCC East Bay	June 10-July 3 (3.5 weeks)
Session 2 Kids Club Camp	June 17-June 28 (2 weeks)
Session 2 Camp @ JCC East Bay	July 8-July 19 (2 weeks)
Session 3 Kids Club Camp	July 8-July 26 (3 weeks)
Session 3 Camp @ JCC East Bay	July 22-Aug 2 (2 weeks)

Wednesday, June 19

All Camp Closed for Juneteenth

Monday July 1st-Wed July 3rd Kids Club Camp Closed
Thursday, July 4th-Friday July 5th All Camps closed

Camp Hours and Drop off / Pick up

AM Care 8:30am-9:00am
Camp Day 9:00am to 3:30pm
PM Care 3:30pm-5:30pm

This following schedule represents the general idea of how a day at Camp will run.

8:30am	Drop off for morning care campers
9:00am	All campers drop-off
9:15am	<i>Boker Tov!</i> and/or Morning Circle
9:30am	Group activity, followed by snack
10:30am	Group activity or choice activity
11:30am	Clean up/prep for lunch
12:00pm	Lunch and free play at camp or a local park
1:30pm	Wind down activity, followed by snack
2:30pm	Group game time
3:15pm	<i>Laila Tov!</i> and/or Closing Circle
3:30 pm	Pick-Up or extended care
5:30pm	Extended care ends

JCC Kids Club AM Drop Off and Pick Up (5525 Ascot Dr, Oakland, CA 94611) between 8:30-9:00 for AM Care, and 9:00-9:15 for Camp and 3:30 pick up from camp, or between 3:30-5:30 for EC

- For drop off, please park in the JM lot or in any available street parking, and walk through the gate on the south side of the school to the MPR (multi-purpose room). Staff will be available to greet them inside the MPR. Only campers enrolled in AM care may enter prior to 9:00am.
- Pick up at Joaquin Miller School begins at 3:30pm. For campers leaving at 3:30, please follow the above instructions above. For PM care, we will call for your child from inside the MPR. Only campers enrolled in PM care may remain past 3:30pm.
- Early or Late Pick-Up: If you plan to pick up your camper earlier than 3:00pm, or know that you will be later than 3:30pm, please call the camp cell-phone number **(510) 482-7278** to update us accordingly. We would prefer not to have any early pickups between 3:00-3:30, please.

Camp @ JCC East Bay Drop Off and Pick Up (1414 Walnut St, Berkeley, CA 94709) between 8:30-9:00 for AM Care, and 9:00-9:15 for Camp and 3:30 pick up from camp, or between 3:30-5:30 for EC

JCC Kids Club PM Pick Up at 3:30 for Camp, and until 5:30 for PM Care

- For drop off, please park in any available street parking, check in with security, and enter the JCC through the main entrance. Turn to your left, and you will drop off your camper in the courtyard. Staff will be available to greet them inside the courtyard. Only campers

enrolled in AM care may enter prior to 9:00am.

- Pick up at camp begins at 3:30pm. For campers leaving at 3:30, please follow the above instructions above. For PM care, we will call for your child from the courtyard. Only campers enrolled in PM care may remain past 3:30pm.
- Early or Late Pick-Up: If you plan to pick up your camper earlier than 3:00pm, or know that you will be later than 3:30pm, please call the camp phone number **510-848-0237, ext. 131** to update us accordingly. We would prefer not to have any early pickups between 3:00-3:30, please.

Authorized Pick Ups, Walking Home, Absences

- Please make sure you have completed the authorized pick up page on Ultracamp, where you enrolled. We will only dismiss campers to those listed on it. If a person other than those listed will be picking up your child, please notify the camp office, preferably in writing (via email).
- Campers over 12 may walk home alone from Berkeley, provided a signed letter is on file allowing them to walk home unattended when camp dismisses.
- Please notify us of all absences and/or scheduling changes by 8:30am by emailing summercamps@jceastbay.org or calling the appropriate camp phone number.

Clothes and Belongings

What to Wear and Bring Each Day

- *Masks are optional.* If you are more comfortable wearing one, please send extra.
- Wear your camp t-shirt each Friday.
- Comfortable clothing and a light jacket or sweatshirt for cold mornings.
- Tennis shoes/sneakers (closed toed and heeled).
- Wear and pack sunscreen - camp staff will help reapply throughout the day as necessary. Please let staff know if we are **NOT** to use camp sunscreen, and only use yours.
- A backpack (everything should fit inside to avoid carrying multiple items).
- A water bottle, and a lunch that does not require refrigeration (you may pack ice packs). **Please keep your lunches nut free.** Camp will provide 2 snacks daily.
- Suggested: A change of clothes to leave at camp (especially for TK & Kinders).
- Suggested: On hot days, please consider sending swimwear or a change of clothes in case we play water games.

Please Avoid Sending:

- Sandals or flip flops.
- Nice clothes you do not want to get dirty.
- Cell phones, iPods, smart/apple watches, and any other hand-held gaming devices.
- Personal sports equipment or toys from home.
- Animals/pets.
- Weapons of any kind.
- Clothes or toys that promote war, violence, racism, homophobia, transphobia or sexism.
- Anything that will make your child upset if lost or broken.
- Money - There is no need for money at camp.

Label all clothing and belongings and Lost & Found

- PLEASE label all items that your child brings to camp (including lunches). This includes shirts, shorts, pants, sweatshirts, jackets, shoes, etc.
- While traveling to different sites, staff will make every effort to keep the campers' belongings together and to ensure that no child leaves any items behind. Nonetheless, we strongly discourage bringing any items of value to camp, as things get lost, broken, or possibly stolen. The JCC East Bay is not responsible for any lost items. Lost & Found items are collected and placed in a large bin in the camp office.

Standards of Behavior

Camper Behavior Agreements

The JCC East Bay is a place where all campers can feel safe, nurtured and accepted. Being in a community means understanding that it's important to think about the whole group's needs in addition to our own! In order to facilitate a healthy and positive environment for all, the following behavioral standards of are expected for the campers:

- We check in with a counselor(s) before leaving any space or entering a new area.
- We respect each other's personal space and bodies.
- We listen to instructions from counselors.
- We do not run away from counselors at any given time.
- We eat snacks outdoors only and we don't play while eating.
- We use respectful & appropriate language with counselors and other campers.
- We use positivity to lift each other up and encourage each other.
- We clean up thoroughly after any activity before moving on to the next activity.
- We treat Camp materials and other people's items with care.
- We hang our backpacks & jackets on hooks, not on the ground.
- We take turns.
- We include new campers in games and activities.
- We help friends when they need it.
- We follow community group agreements
- We do our best to solve conflicts peacefully, and ask counselors for support.
- We use good Sportsmanship

Behavior Expectations

- Ridiculing and teasing are not allowed. Campers are reminded about this policy in a gentle but firm manner.
- Physically violent and aggressive behavior is not allowed. A child will be sent home immediately if they are involved in a serious physical altercation.
- Aggressive and vulgar language is not allowed. Campers are reminded about this policy in a gentle but firm manner.
- Graffiti and any other action that damages the premises may result in charging parents for the damage.
- A camper who compromises the effectiveness of staff (i.e. non-cooperation) will be dealt with in a gentle but firm manner.
- Elopement - Our number one priority is always the safety and well being of our students. If a student elopes offsite or to an unsafe area during programming, they will be sent home on a red card.

Repetitive occurrences of any of the above behavior after warnings may result in expulsion from Camp @ JCC East Bay without a refund. Parents will be notified prior to any action being taken.

Warning system

Verbal warning: This is given to a student after being asked to stop a behavior or action more than once.

Yellow Card: (*Not a literal card*). Students are given one after continuing behavior after the first given warning. This warrants a conversation with student's grown up at sign out. A yellow card can be given if a student uses unsafe behavior such as: pushing, shoving, slapping, kicking, punching.

Red Card: (*Not a literal card*). Students are given this after continuing the same behavior after a yellow card has been given. Students will have to take a break from the yard and will have to be picked up early. A red card can also be given to a student if they draw blood/ cause serious harm to another student or staff member.

Please communicate any special situations to the Camp team. We want to be in communication with you about special family events or situations that might affect your child's behavior at camp in order to make the experience as successful for them as possible.

Health and Safety

Staff Responsibility

- All Camp @ JCC East Bay Lead Counselors and administrative staff are certified in First Aid and CPR, and have undergone training in safety and emergency procedures.
- Each group carries a first aid kit and emergency info at all times.
- Attendance is taken at the beginning of the day and all absences are noted.
- Campers are always provided with plenty of water and nutritious snacks.
- Counselors have a counting system to ensure the presence of all children in their group, especially when offsite.
- The Camp @ JCC East Bay Admin team is in constant communication with all groups, regardless of their location, via our cell phones.
- Counselors will help reapply sunscreen (either provided or from the JCC). Please ensure that camp knows if your child may be allergic to sunscreen, or if you would prefer that we not use our sunscreen.

Medication

- If your child needs medication at any time, it must be given to the camp office in its original container (no plastic bags, please!) with:
 - A note naming the medication
 - An explanation of what it is for
 - When it should be given to your child
 - A parent's signature
- Medication will be dispensed only under the specific direction of a licensed physician.
- Please do not send any medication in your child's belongings.
- You should have signaled on your camp registration form whether you wanted your child to receive over the counter medication.
- All over the counter medication will be administered at the indicated dosage and at the

discretion of a Camp Manager.

- Parents will always be notified by phone before any medication is administered, unless in an emergency situation.
- It is crucial that you indicate any known allergies on your medical form.
- If your child appears to be sick, you will be called to pick them up from camp.

Injuries at Camp

- For injuries such as scrapes and bumps, our camp staff will fill out and send home a form called an "Ouch Report," which provides information about where the injury is located as well as information about how the injury occurred and what care was provided.
- For more serious injuries, your child's counselor or administrative staff member will phone to inform you of the injury. An Incident Report will be completed and sent home.
- Any injuries to the head or face will always include a call home.

General Health Policy

- The JCC East Bay reserves the right to refuse participation to any camper deemed by executive staff to be at elevated medical or emotional behavioral risk.
- The JCC East Bay also reserves the right at any time to request clearance from a licensed medical or mental health professional to allow participation at camp.
- Contagious diseases, including Covid-19, must be reported to Camp by the parent as soon as the illness has been diagnosed so that other parents may be notified of the possible exposure.

Covid-19 Health Policy

- If the camper or anyone else in your household has been diagnosed with Covid-19, please tell a Camp Manager immediately. Campers may return after 5 days with a negative rapid test, and symptom free.
- If the camper or anyone else in your household is exposed to Covid-19, please tell a Camp Manager. Please monitor symptoms, and take rapid tests. Exposure does not require missing camp, but please be mindful about sending campers who may be sick.
- Please do not send your child to Camp if they are experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms.

Additionally, a child with any of the following symptoms may NOT attend Camp.

- Conjunctivitis (pink eye)
- Excessive sneezing or coughing
- Unidentified rash
- Ear infection not seen by a physician
- Lice (please see lice policy below)
- Strep throat
- Chicken pox
- Flu or common cold

Camp @ JCC East Bay follows the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Lice Policy. The policy is as follows:

GUIDELINES ON HEAD LICE PREVENTION AND CONTROL FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHILD CARE FACILITIES, 2009

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recommends that schools and child-care facilities maintain an active educational campaign for parents on the accurate diagnosis and correct treatment of head lice cases to prevent transmission of lice in schools and reduce lost school days due to head lice infestation. Head lice, while a significant social problem, do not transmit disease to humans. Traditionally, head lice policies in schools emphasized that a child infested with head lice could not return to school until no nits were found in their hair (“no-nit” policy). There is no evidence that a no-nit policy prevents or shortens lengths of outbreaks (Pollack et al., 2000, Williams et al., 2001). The American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Association of School Nurses, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are all opponents of classical no-nit policies (Frankowski and Weiner, 2002; Schoessler, 2004).

In light of current research, CDPH now recommends a no-lice policy. This policy includes early detection of head lice infestations through routine screening, distribution of educational material to school staff and parents on head lice, nit combing, and treatment of children with live lice.

Child Protective Services

In the State of California, all professionals who care for children, including Camp @ JCC East Bay staff, are required by law to report “reasonable suspicion” of child abuse to either a law enforcement agency or a county child protective agency. Camp @ JCC East Bay staff are experienced and trained in assessing situations which may lead them to make a child abuse referral. Camp @ JCC East Bay is committed to maintaining a safe environment for children and for serving our children and families in the best way that we can. For situations in which we would have to make a referral to either law enforcement or protective services, we will attempt to make the process as supportive as possible.

Emergency Evacuation

Camp @ JCC East Bay has developed an extensive Emergency Preparedness Plan to provide the best care for your children in case of natural disasters or human threat. This plan has been developed in conjunction with the Berkeley Police Department. Counselors have been trained in appropriate emergency procedures, as well as how to comfort and care for children in an emergency. Each camper unit is equipped with food, water, blankets and first aid supplies. It is important that the information on your “authorized to pick up” form be accurate, as your child may be released to only people on this form if you cannot reach the facility or evacuation site.

In case of an emergency during camp, the Camp @ JCC East Bay staff will attempt to call parents. Please be sure that all of your phone numbers are current and on file in the camp office. Camp @ JCC East Bay will also use its email list to send out communication, so please make sure all email contacts are up to date.

Judaic Programming (for Berkeley only)

Shabbat

On some Fridays it may be appropriate and enhancing for campers to come in costume. If this is the case, we will send a note home early in the week with costume suggestions. Fridays end with a Shabbat ceremony enjoyed by the whole camp and led by our song leader. This ritual generally occurs between 2 and 3pm on Fridays.

Hebrew at Camp

As you may have noticed, we use some Hebrew words to define people and places at Camp. Not only is this fun and interesting for the campers, it also allows them to feel comfortable with the sounds of another language. Below you will find a glossary of some Hebrew words used at camp translated into their English phonetic spellings. Please take advantage of this unique opportunity and have some fun with your children at home by using the Hebrew words when you talk about their camp experiences.

<i>Boker Tov</i>	Good morning
<i>Lila Tov</i>	Good night
<i>Erev Kef</i>	Evening of Fun
<i>Kumzits</i>	"Come Sit" - this is in Yiddish!
<i>Toda Raba</i>	Thank you very much
<i>B'vakasha</i>	Please/You're Welcome
<i>Slicha</i>	Excuse Me/Sorry
<i>Mazel Tov</i>	Congratulations
<i>Machaneh</i>	Camp
<i>Shabbat Shalom</i>	A Sabbath of Peace
<i>Shalom</i>	Hello, Good-bye, Peace
<i>Sheket</i>	Quiet
<i>Tov</i>	Good
<i>Yeladim</i>	Children
<i>Yom</i>	Day
<i>Tikkun Olam</i>	Repairing the World
<i>Kehillah</i>	Community
<i>B'hatzlacha!</i>	Good Luck—for a great summer with Camp @ JCC East Bay!

