



### Chots' Shot

And just like that the curtain comes down on another week of J Day Camps. It always amazes me how much we do in one day at camp and how fast the days seem to go by. I have often said that camp is the greats learning platform there is. I think this is true for several reason, one being the fun format camps use to teach. Our number one teaching tool is play. I think another reason for the success of camp is we give campers some choice in what activities they do.

I recently read an article written by Doron Krakow, the CEO of the JCCA of North America. I think Doran said it best...

“Summer camp is the most effective, voluntary, repeating, immersive educational experience there is, bar none. And while effective, repeating and immersive are important, voluntary is the thing that makes it stand out. That kids come under our care and under our auspices to be transformed, and when we have finished with them at the end of a summer or session the clock is already running in their head counting the days until they return.”

Happy Father's Day to all the Camp Dads. Hope you all have a wonderful day.

Happy Camping

Chots

## Quick Hits from around **Camp!**



### Hyman Multin Multi Sports Camp

Campers worked through the heat to learn a new sport called Midnight, which is a mix of Dodgeball and Sharks & Minnows. The twist is that the player who throw the balls can hide behind a barrier as the running players turn around. This added element of surprise gives extra excitement to the game.

This week's tournament comes across the pond from the Emerald Isle. Gaelic football is one of the most popular sports in Ireland. This game is fast paced and allows the players to score by either kicking or throwing the ball into a goal. Channeling their inner Irish, teams took on names such as Leinster, Munster, Leicester, and Dublin. As the teams vied for supremacy it was the teams that worked together through using their passes to set up good shots that rose to the top.



### Camp Sidney R. Baer

Our amazing specialists came up with fantastic activities this week for our Baer campers. They made quesadillas with Miranda in cooking. In Nature, campers made pirate hats and then Chris led them on a treasure hunt for rare pirate gems. Campers designed picture frames, rocks and puzzles in art with Brooke. For teambuilding with Jillian, campers played a name game with a giant soccer ball, and three ball soccer where by the color of your shirt you could only touch certain balls. And in sports with Shane, campers stayed cool with drip drip drop (a version of duck duck goose), floor hockey, Mr. Wolf, animal zoo, and basketball.



### Teen Camp

We took advantage of the nice weather on Tuesday to explore Forest Park and indulged our sweet tooth with some Ted Drewes ice cream! We got physical on Wednesday and Thursday on field trips to Flying Spider and Upper Limits. We can't wait for next week to go on more field trips, participate in color wars and to bond at our overnight lock-in!

## Camp Nat Koplur

Some campers went off the diving board during swim lessons on Thursdays. We're super proud of them! Nature class studied tree rings to determine ages. Art celebrated Father's Day by making [redacted: you'll have to wait to find out!] A big shout out to Rabbi Brad for joining Camp Koplur this Friday at Shabbat! Enjoy the week! Next week's Wacky Wednesday is Sports Day! Wear your favorite team jersey and we will have some fun sports games set up including Gaga and Three Sticks games played in Israel.



## Essman Katan

This week, our Mitzvah Monday brought us shmirat adamah, the idea of protecting nature. We practiced taking care of plants on our playground, and even planting some new ones with Ms. Marty. We talked about how we treat the animals -- even bugs!-- on the playground and we continued the theme of respect from last week by caring for all the natural wonders we encountered during our discovery time.

We also flew through the week with projects in art, our regularly scheduled swimming and splash pad visits, story time with Dr. Steve, yoga with Ms. Renee, gym with Coach Jansen, and more. We were so busy that we decided to wear our pajamas to school for our Wacky Wednesday dress up! It was great to have so many friends participate.

Our campers are having a blast as they work together to learn how to respect and protect each other, as well as the environment we live in. They can be seen helping each other, holding hands, valuing the camp environment, and so much more. We love having your kiddos with us each and every day, and their smiling faces and laughter keep us excited for the weeks to come!

## Gymnastics Camp

This week the campers were grouped by their beginning skill level. They learned team building skills that included games that challenged their self to work together as a team. The counselors guided the campers to advance in their skill based levels. Skills such as forward/backward rolls, cartwheels, safely and properly jumping from the spring board to the vault block, learning new jumps and skills on the high and low beam, and learning fun new skills on the bars. They performed a cheer they learned this week for the entire Camp at Shabbat. Campers had the opportunity to show off what they have learned this week and had fun together as a group.





## Camp Essman Gadol

We made new friends and participated in a lot of super fun activities. Our art projects included magazine collages, watercolors and “stained glass.” In team building we did the human knot which was super silly and formed strong friendships. In TAG, which is our Jewish activity, we learned all about Tzedakah which is giving back to charity. As a camp we voted to donate our collections to the Humane Society and on Friday the decorated boxes came back with tons of money for the pets.

During focus on Monday the campers had the option to play soccer or make melt-a-beads! On Wednesday we all came together as a camp for Essman Extravaganza where we came up with fun group names and had a friendly competition of Family Feud. Although everyone loved the fun games we played, campers had a blast cooking a delicious cheesy bread for their tasty treat. We enjoyed participating in swim lessons and having free swim. And lastly, at Shabbat we learned more new songs led by our song leader and enjoyed watching our camper slideshow! Thanks for a great week!



## Scott Gallagher Soccer Camp

We focused on developing proper techniques and individual ball skills to build confidence in the field. The campers also competed in various activities like 3-on-3 tournaments, soccer tennis and World Cup for prizes each day. Campers brought a positive and competitive attitude all week that resulted in a successful camp.

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