



2025 Jacobs Essentials #2: *Jewish Life*

The mission of Jacobs Camp is to create a vibrant, fun, and caring camp community that enriches and strengthens Reform Jewish identity and values while creating and maintaining lifelong friendships. Our campers truly love being Jewish and we strive every day to craft new ways to make Jewish learning an energetic and joyful part of the day. With the help of our dedicated team of clergy, educators and youth professionals, our kids learn about what it means to be a Reform Jew for themselves, their community, and the world around them. Being Jewish at camp isn't something extra, it's at the core of what we do.

Each summer, we choose a Jewish theme that guides our programming. This summer, we will have weekly themes to guide our learning and connections.

- **Week 1: Sakranut (Curiosity)** What's different about camp and home? Asking questions to get to know my cabinmates and counselors, leaning into new ideas
- **Week 2: Shalom Bayit (Peace in the home).** How can I help my cabinmates, solve conflict, and be an active community member?
- **Week 3: Yira (Awe)** a deep appreciation for all that we have, spending quality time together, being grateful for the little things at camp

In addition, we are always guided by the core values of Jacobs Camp, which include:

- **Hakarat Hatov** - A Culture of Gratitude
- **Hachnasat Orchim** - "Welcome Home" hospitality that makes each member of our community feel welcome and valued
- **Simcha** - Find your joy
- **Zerizut** - Make ordinary moments extraordinary

As always, our campers pour themselves into truly celebrating Shabbat and Havdallah together and are invited to share their creativity through meaningful, camper-led services. From the Shabbat Walk to Shabbat dinner followed by the fun of Israeli dances, our sacred day of rest continues to be the highlight of Jewish life at camp.

We sprinkle Hebrew education throughout camp life, and all of our campers participate in Kehillah, which is creative and fun Jewish programming that includes Israel education, shira (music), and t'fillah (prayer). [Israel education](#) is always evolving and age-appropriate as it relates to the current situation. At the end of the day, our focus is always on a love of being Jewish, and on connection with our Israeli counselors.