



CAMPER HANDBOOK

GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF OUR COMMUNITY

Welcome to our Camp Zehut Summer Camp Community. The Hebrew word *Zehut* means identity and one of our purposes is to help each camper form a positive Jewish identity. We strive to create an environment where every camper feels as if they are an important member of our camp. Campers are not only asked to participate, but to contribute to camp in a meaningful way each day. Whether it be showing initiative on a sports field or by expressing kindness to a fellow camper, We feel strongly that each camper should have positive and productive interactions throughout their day.

We have 5 basic principles which we ask all campers and staff to be aware of at all times. These principles are the backbone of a successful summer and we feel strongly that every camper should understand Camp Zehut's guiding principles and live by them while at camp.

5 PRINCIPLES

RESPECT- We ask that all campers and staff respect each other, our camp spaces, and the programming every day.

COMMUNITY- Camp Zehut is a place with common shared values and themes and taking part in a positive and energetic way is essential to our success.

INCLUSION- Every camper and staff member has an obligation to encourage their fellow Camp Zehut campers to feel welcome and part of the greater camp community.

IDENTITY- Personal growth is highly encouraged and every camper should feel safe and accepted for who they are at all times while at camp.

ACCOMPLISHMENT- Every Camp Zehut camper should go home every day with a sense of pride in having attempted new things and engaging with others in new and exciting ways.



DROP OFF AND PICK-UP

Temple Judea: Solael Room

9:00 am – Drop-Off

4:00 pm – Pick-Up

Drop-Off Instructions:

Each morning, there will be staff members outside the Solael Room welcoming you and your camper. We strongly urge you to arrive at camp on time each day. You must exit your car, drop your child off at the Solael Room, and sign in on our daily sign-in/out sheet with your initials and the time you drop off.

Pick-Up Instructions:

For safety purposes, only individuals that are listed on the Camper's Authorized Pick-Up List will be authorized to pick up your child. Until the Zehut team gets to know each person picking up, you and/or any individual on your Authorized Pick-Up List will be asked for photo identification. **If you want to add a new Authorized Pick-Up, please ensure that you update your online Camp Profile, and let Marissa Subar, Director of Camp, and Lindsay Pomerantz, Assistant Director of Camp, know as soon as possible by e-mail or phone.** Please let your new authorized pick-up know to bring photo identification. Authorized pick-ups must exit their car, pick up campers at the Solael Room, and sign-out on our daily sign-in/out sheet with their initials and the time the camper is picked up. Pick-up will always be held at the Solael Room unless otherwise specified. To ensure the safety of our campers, Authorized pick-ups must check in with a Camp Zehut staff member before leaving with campers.

Camp Zehut Contact Information:

Marissa Subar, Director of Camp Zehut

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Lindsay Pomerantz, Asst. Director of Camp Zehut

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LIFE AT CAMP

DRESS CODE, CAMP T-SHIRTS, and ATTIRE

We ask that all campers come to camp appropriately dressed for a day of fun active programming. There are days that your camper will get dirty and wet so we always suggest packing an extra set of clothes. Please be appropriate in attire choices for all age groups. Please pack **closed-toed water shoes** for water play. In order to foster a cohesive bond between campers, staff, and the greater camp community, we ask that camp t-shirts be worn on Wednesdays. Wednesdays are our Special Guest Day for PK – 1st grade campers and our field trip day for our 2nd–6th grade campers. For safety purposes on field trips, if a 2nd–6th grade camper forgets to wear their camp t-shirt Camp Zehut will provide a t-shirt and parents will be billed for the shirt. Each camper will be provided with 1 Camp Zehut t-shirt free of charge. If you would like to purchase more than one t-shirt, please e-mail Marissa Subar, Director of Camp Zehut, at 818-758-3800 ext. 117.

SWIMMING/WATER-PLAY

Safety of our Campers is our top priority at Camp Zehut. We will have a Lifeguard on Duty at all times during Water Play and/or Swimming. Campers will be broken up into two groups (Swimmers vs. Non-Swimmers) and are not permitted to join in the other's group during their swim period for safety purposes. We ask that you pack **close-toed water shoes** for Water Play activities to prevent injuries.

FRIDAY PROGRAMMING

We will honor Shabbat in our last 30 minutes of camp with a special Shabbat celebration each week. This will include singing, Shabbat blessings, a campfire style story told by our Temple Judea clergy, and other special moments. We invite parents to join their Campers for this last 30 minutes of camp on Friday.

VALUE BRACELETS

Throughout the summer, Campers will receive the opportunity to collect Value Bracelets that represent important Jewish values at the end of each day. These values include: Spirits, Friendship, Courage, Leadership, Humility, and Kindness. Each day, bracelets will be given out to Campers. From Day 1, we will reiterate to Camp as a whole that at Camp Zehut, we are a FAMILY! Being a family means being happy for one another! Each day, we will be sure to be sensitive in reiterating that just because a Camper may not have received a bracelet that particular day; it doesn't mean we don't see the INCREDIBLE things that they do! The goals of these bracelets are to: build a spirited community, reinforce positive self-esteem, and to inspire our Campers to live each day as a *MENSCH*!



WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP EACH DAY

It is required that all campers bring a backpack to camp each day filled with the things that they may need each day. We strongly encourage parents to follow the supplies list for the safety, happiness, and comfort of their camper.

- Filled Water Bottle (to be replenished throughout the day)
- Bathing Suits/ Swim Shirts
- Towel
- Change of Clothes (an entire extra outfit including undergarments)
- Hat
- **SPRAY** Sunscreen (your camper should already have applied sunscreen before arriving at camp)
- Swim-Goggles
- Athletic Shoes (Please do not send your child in sandals)
- Close-toed Water Shoes
- Lunch Box (with lunch packed for them)
- Extra Snacks (in case your camper doesn't like what we have provided)

LUNCH

Campers should come with lunch prepared and packed at home. We are Kosher-style at Temple Judea, thus please DO NOT mix any milk with meat products, pack shellfish, or pork products. We also ask that you do not include items that can spoil easily.

If a camper forgets their lunch and we cannot get in touch with a parent, we will provide a lunch to your camper and you will be billed for that cost.

Pizza Fridays will be on every Friday and we will provide Pizza and salad. In order to sign-up for 1 or even ALL Pizza Fridays, please CLICK HERE: [Pizza Friday Sign-Up!](#)



SNACKS

Camp Zehut will provide campers with two light snacks throughout the day. One snack will be at approximately 11:00am and the other snack will be at approximately 3:00pm. Our snacks will be as sensitive to any camper allergies as is possible.

If your child has many food allergies or is a picky eater in general, we ask that you provide extra snacks for the day in your camper's lunch box.

Camp Zehut is committed to providing healthy snacks when possible and we feel it is important to promote healthy eating choices to our campers.

Sample Weekly Snack Schedule (subject to change)

	AM	PM
Monday	Annie's Fruit Snacks	Cheez-Its
Tuesday	Pirate's Booty	Gogo Squeeze Apple Sauce
Wednesday	Nutrigrain Bars	Goldfish Crackers
Thursday	Pringles	Annie's Fruit Snacks
Friday	Nutrigrain Bars	Assorted Chips



CAMPER CODE OF CONDUCT

At Temple Judea's Camp Zehut, we have full confidence in our Campers' ability to bring out the best version of themselves! In doing so, we expect all Campers to adhere to the following code of conduct. In order to foster an inclusive, kind, and cohesive camp environment, Campers will be held to certain behavioral standards as denoted in our code of conduct. Before each summer, all Campers must agree to the following "Code of Conduct" before coming to camp. It is imperative that all staff, campers, and volunteers act in accordance with these norms in order to have a safe and successful summer.

- Toys from home are prohibited at Camp Zehut – we have more than tons of fun materials and EACH OTHER to provide and fun, meaningful, and engaging experience while at Camp Zehut! If a Camper has a comfort item that makes him/her feel safer and more at ease please talk to Director of Camp Zehut, Marissa Subar, and this comfort item can remain in his/her backpack during Camp hours.
- Cell phones are strictly prohibited at camp. If a camper is found with a cell phone, even if using it as a clock, flashlight, or camera, the item will be confiscated and returned upon pick up. Electronic devices including tablets (that are not strictly e-readers), laptops, PDA's, hand held game consoles, etc. are not allowed at camp and will be confiscated and returned upon pick up.
- Unkind, offensive, threatening, profane and/or abusive language is unacceptable. This behavior will not be tolerated in any manner. Any act of physical or verbal aggression, against a fellow camper or staff, can result in reports of behaviors, meetings with parents/Directors/Rabbis, and/or expulsion from Camp if behavior continues.
- Bullying, exclusion, theft, or any other activities that endanger the health and physical and/or emotional safety and well-being of those at camp are unacceptable and are grounds for dismissal.
- Campers may be dismissed from the program for entering a designated space of the opposite gender at any time. Campers may also be dismissed for intentionally leaving the campus/field trip designated spaces at any time.



FIELD TRIPS (2nd – 6th Grade Only)

Campers in 2nd-6th grades will have the opportunity to go on an interactive and fun field trip each week. Our field trips are meant to not only be fun, but meaningful and engaging as well. We want our campers to be learning and having a great time while representing our camp off-campus in the best way possible. Campers should come wearing their camp T-shirts and bring the same backpack and supplies they use every day at camp. We ask that campers bring their own lunch.

Campers in 2nd-6th grade are **strongly encouraged** to attend field trips, as they are a meaningful, robust, and FUN aspect of the Camp experience. We understand that some campers enjoy being “home” at TJ, however for the full experience of growing with Zehut, we ask that if your camper feels hesitant about Field Trips, that you first speak with Director of Camp Zehut, Marissa Subar, before opting out.

List of Field Trips

- Wednesday, June 20th: Tour of Dodger Stadium – Wear your finest LA Dodgers Hat and get ready to sing “Take Me Out To The Ball Game” on the bus!
- Wednesday, June 27th: 6 Points Sports Camp - We have the honor of hanging out at URJ Six Points Sports Camp for a fun day of sports intensives and games. Learn more about Six Points by heading to www.6pointssports.org!
- Wednesday, July 4th: No Field Trip due to abridged week of Camp
- Wednesday, July 11th: Beach Day at Paradise Cove – What screams “SUMMER” more than the beach?! Please ensure you bring all of the items listed on Page 5. Paradise Cove is equipped for Field Trips with lifeguards and private areas. Our staff will keep our Campers together, hydrated, “sunscreened”, and everyone will have a BLAST!
- Wednesday, July 18th: California Science Center – An LA Classic! We’ll also be given a tour of the Space Shuttle, “The Endeavor,” complete with a silly demonstration of how Astronauts use the restroom in space!
- Wednesday, July 25th: 6 Points Sports Camp Take 2! See above description.
- Wednesday, August 1st: Beach Day at Paradise Cove Take 2! See above description.
- Wednesday, August 8th: MIT (4th – 6th Grade ONLY) – Universal Studios: Cost \$120.00. Even if your MIT is NOT enrolled in this week of Camp, he/she is welcome and encouraged to join us on this special day to celebrate what they have accomplished this summer!



Camp Zehut MIT Program for Incoming 4th – 6th Graders

What does “MIT” stand for?

“MIT” stands for “Madrachim In Training.” The Hebrew word, “Madrachim” means “Guides.” At Temple Judea Religious School, our talented, mature, and hard-working high school Teacher’s Assistants are called our Madrichim. We like to think of our incoming 4th-6th grade campers as our youngest Jewish guides at Camp Zehut, lighting the way for our even younger campers, all while finding their own inner strength, voice, values, leadership skills, and Jewish identity.

What is special about being in the MIT Program at Camp Zehut?

The MIT Program offers our eldest members of camp a chance to lead, plan activities, and have unique privileges and responsibilities in our camp family. They will receive their own unique Camp Zehut MIT t-shirts and super official name badges proudly representing their title as an MIT. This marks our first year with the MIT Program at Camp Zehut at Temple Judea, so these upcoming MITs will be considered our MIT Founding Mothers and Fathers of this robust, new leadership program!

What is the goal of the MIT Program at Camp Zehut?

To build confidence, leadership skills, community, kind and giving hearts... and of course, to HAVE FUN!!!

How does my child become an MIT?

Upon joining Camp Zehut, you and your incoming 4th-6th grader will receive an e-mail with information regarding the MIT Program. On your MIT’s first day at Camp Zehut, he/she will have their very own MIT Induction ceremony, complete with their Name Badge/Title, MIT T-Shirt, a bag of supplies that they’ll need to carry out their role, and of course, LOTS of cheers from the entire Camp community!

What types of activities will my MIT be doing throughout the Camp day?

What’s unique about the MIT program is that it can really be tailored to each individual Camper’s hobbies and personality. MIT’s may assigned to help Staff with Sports, Art, and other Chugim (Groups), and Activities throughout the day. They can choose to give announcements during Morning and Afternoon Ruach. They can lead with small but helpful activities such as line-leading and leading cheers, or choose to run their own activity alongside our Counselors and Directors. The MIT Program leaves wiggle room for small nuances by simply leading by example the characteristics of what it means to be a Mensch, or larger activities such as leading an activity. The possibilities are endless!

Is the MIT program optional?

Yes. Although we’d love for all of our incoming 4th – 6th graders to take part in this special opportunity, we understand that not every camper will be interested, and we encourage each camper to be authentic to him/herself! If your camper decides not to take part in the MIT program, your child will still experience the rest of the MAGIC that Camp Zehut has to offer!

Are there any extra fees associated with being an MIT?

At the end of the summer on Wednesday, August 8th, we will be taking ONLY our MIT campers on a field trip to Universal Studios Hollywood to celebrate their hard work, newfound friendships, and individual growth! Even if your MIT camper is not enrolled for that particular week, he/she is still more than welcome and ECNROUAGED to join us that day if they were in the MIT program at all throughout camp! There is a \$120.00 fee associated with this field trip (If you have an annual pass, the fee is \$20.)

We encourage you to sign up ASAP for this field trip. You can sign up by registering clicking here! [MIT Universal Studios Sign-Up!](#)



Special Letter from the Director

Dear 2018 Camp Zehut Families,

I can't express how excited, joyous, and honored I feel to be sharing the experience of Camp Zehut with your child! We have so many exciting and engaging activities to share, but what I'm most excited about is the connection, friendships, memories, and FAMILY that Camp Zehut will magically create.

My team and I are here to provide a top-notch level of care for your children. If at any time you have any question or are looking for support in any way, please feel free to reach out to any of our Counselors, Directors, Rabbis, and of course, to me directly. Back in "my day," Lilo & Stitch was all the rage, so I'm going to leave you with a quote that always speaks to my Camp soul: "Ohana means Family, Family means no one gets left behind!"

I can't wait to watch our Camp Family grow and flourish this summer! Get ready to make some memories and WELCOME HOME to CAMP ZEHUT!

Peace, Love, ALL the Camp Zehut Spirit,

Marissa

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Please click the following link to e-sign that you have read and agree to adhere to the Camp Zehut Parent Handbook:
[2018 Camp Zehut Parent Handbook Signature Form](#)

