

KOL TIKVAH



SUMMER FUN

By: Rebecca Finklestein, Rosh Edah

It has been a fun-filled month for Edat Tikvah!

Our days have been jam-packed with exciting activities. Each morning we start our day with tefilot (prayers). Sometimes we get to do our tefilot on the agam (lake), meditate or join other cabins to experience meaningful tefilot together! After tefilot, we have breakfast, then boating activities and swimming lessons at the agam, before heading to lunch. In the afternoons, we enjoy our 'chug activities', like ceramics, woodworking, biking and cooking. Next is sport and Israeli dancing. This is always a highlight of the day, where we play baseball, soccer, basketball, volleyball and Zumba. The fun doesn't stop there...after dinner we always have an exciting evening activity, like Camp Ramah Family Feud, yoga or a scavenger hunt. Though this is what our "Yom Ragil" (regular day) looks like, these days are anything but 'regular.' They are always filled with engaging activities, keeping us entertained and looking forward to a good night's sleep at the end of the day.

Despite some rainy weather, Edat Tikvah has participated in all of the amazing agam activities at Ramah, such as water

skiing, tubing, canoeing, kayaking, paddle boarding and sailing! Many of us are on our way to passing our swim levels during our daily swimming lessons.

Though we love the yom ragil activities, we have also participated in many special activities. As always, a fan-favourite was Yom Sport, where Edat Tikvah had the opportunity to show off their ruach (spirit) with the rest of the camp. Some other awesome activities include field trips to go strawberry picking and bowling.

Even with all the fun we've already had, there is still far more planned for the next few weeks, like our camping trip. We will canoe out to an island, make delicious food over a fire and sleep in tents. So far, we have had an extraordinary summer filled with activities, trips and friends. We can't wait to see what is in store for us, as we know it will be nothing short of incredible!

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Tikvah Program 2017



The Tikvah Program is a six-week program for teens with developmental disabilities, ages 12-21. The program provides recreational, social, and educational experiences for campers. While campers of the Tikvah program enjoy the usual swimming, hiking, sports, and arts and crafts, they also attend daily services, study Hebrew, and learn Jewish customs. Each camper is integrated into the ongoing activities of camp according to his or her abilities. The program includes a vocational education component for young adults ages 18-21. For additional information: (416)789-2193 or tikvah@campramah.com

AVODAH: OUR VOCATIONAL PROGRAM

By: Maya Albin, Rosh Avodah



Avodah at Camp Ramah in Canada is off to a great start! The Avodah program provides vocational opportunities for campers who are eighteen or older in the Tikvah program. This kayitz, there are fourteen campers involved with the Avodah program. They are all doing amazing work across camp and having tons of fun!

One large Avodah initiative is the “Keepin’ it Kosh’ Café”, which operates three days a week in the Moadon Tzevet (staff lounge). Campers welcome customers, take their orders, and prepare hot and iced coffee that staff can’t get enough of! In addition to coffee, campers bake treats to serve at the Café, providing campers opportunities to cultivate their culinary skills. Efrat, a camper in the Avodah program, loves working in the café as a baker and a barista, because “it makes [her] excited to work, because [she likes] to say ‘welcome to the Café’ and give coffee to everyone”.

In addition to our baristas and bakers in the Café, campers develop many other skills through the Avodah program. In the chadar (dining hall), campers set tables for their friends in Tikvah, Hanhallah, and other cabins several times a week. Campers also help kitchen staff clean up, by spraying and wiping down the Tikvah tables after meals. Outside of the chadar, our campers can be seen working within other edot (units) in camp, from teaching Rikud (dance) to Nitzanim campers, to helping take care of the children in the Gan. In the words of one of our campers, Julia, “Avodah makes me feel happy and useful because I’m really good with kids”.

Avodah also takes place in the office, where campers sort mail and assist office staff with various tasks. Some campers also help take staff dogs on walks around camp! Additionally, our campers are a huge help to housekeeping staff through their help sorting lost and found. Beyond our camp community, our campers are working for local businesses, such as Taylor Strawberry Farms. Our campers have been busy putting stickers on the lids of strawberry boxes, which are then sold across the province.

It has been an amazing experience revamping and expanding the Avodah program this summer so far, and I can’t wait to see campers continue to thrive over the next few weeks. Through the Avodah program, campers develop transferable vocational skills while simultaneously bettering our camp community.



Learning at Camp

By: Elisha Berger and Sarah Caplan (Yahadut teachers)

We are so excited to be teaching Tikvah yahadut this kayitz. The campers are so enthusiastic about learning and are off to a great start! Each week we explore a different Jewish theme in yahadut through stories, song, art and discussions.

Last week we talked about Bal Tashchit/taking care of the environment. We started off the week reading The Giving Tree and discussed the different ways of taking care of the environment. We went outdoors, picked out things from nature (leaves, twigs, etc) and made art with them. We also read The Lorax, and each camper wrote a letter or drew a picture showing how they would take care of the earth. We finished off the week with a planting activity and planted fresh herbs. We are excited to take care of them and watch them grow this Kayitz!

This week we are beginning to discuss Tzedaka and learning that tzedaka is more than money but other kind acts you can do for someone. The campers drew pictures and presented the different ways they have given tzedaka in the past. They also made and decorated their own Tzedaka boxes! In upcoming weeks we will also be talking about different Jewish holidays and a favourite - Shabbat!

We are so thrilled to be co-teaching yahadut this summer and are looking forward to our continued learning this kayitz!!



NEW CAMP MEMORIES

By Guest Columnist Bracha Feder

I came to camp this summer with wondrous images of my years at Ramah decades ago. As vivid as they remain, I suspect new ones will prevail; images of my time with Edat Tikvah.

How uplifting it was to start my morning one Shabbat joining Edat Tikvah for Tefillah. The campers helped raise my voice as they enthusiastically sang each prayer. In the afternoon during Midrash L'Shabbat, after reading an Agnon story with the campers, they shared thoughtful and insightful questions and answers. It was an opportunity for me to see things in a new way. When we pass each other and they ask if I'll read another story, I am heartened.

The Tikvah campers' friendliness and the conversations they initiate are so touching.

Everyone in our camp community is enriched by their ruach, joy, and energy.





TIKVAH TUTORING: AN INTERVIEW

By: Shalna K., Julia L., and Julia S.

Hi! My name is Julia Slater, and I have been learning with tutors for 9 years. It is very fun, and I learn a lot of things that I enjoy. I learned about Judaism, Tikun Olam, Hebrew words, and the different holidays and their stories. I have also learned the meaning of different prayers, like Or Chadash and Birkot HaShachar. My favourite parts of tutoring was meeting my new tutors this year, and spending time with them, learning with them and overall having so much fun. For me, tutoring is important for learning Hebrew, getting to know people around camp, and making Judaism creative. I learned a lot about Tikun Olam and the ideas of world peace. Overall, I had a great time with my tutors and learning about interesting things.



Our Tikvah Tutoring Experience

By: Leah R. and Orly P.K.M.

This tutor session, we learned so much together. We learned about the parashot of the week. We did Israeli trivia, and we learned new Hebrew words. We had fun walking around camp and learning about the places around us. We also got to learn and teach new songs.

Being a tutor has helped us become closer with the Tikvah campers and create incredible bonds with them. It has been an amazing experience, and has given us a new sense of purpose and more responsibility. We cannot imagine spending our summer any other way than being a tutor every day. Thank you for giving us this amazing opportunity!

My thoughts on Camp and on Tutoring

By: Efrat A.

I love Camp Ramah. My favourite activity is agam, and I love to water ski. I love my tutors. I also love sport. My favourite is baseball. I like to spend time with my tutors at tuck. I love playing, singing, and sitting with my tutors. They are amazing. I love Orly and Leah. Thanks for giving them to me!

WHAT IS TUTORING?

Tutoring is a way for Tikvah and Magshimim campers to learn together. During Yahadut, some Tikvah campers are matched up with a small group of Magshimim campers. It is really beautiful when the campers learn new things from each other. Subjects of learning range from Hebrew Skills to studying Torah, to holidays. It is a meaningful experience for all.

A LETTER TO TIKVAH

Dear Tikvah,

Going into being a Tikvah CIT, we each had our own personal expectations as to how the summer would be. We all knew it would require much patience and commitment, but we didn't expect to have this much fun! From waking you up in the morning to bringing you back to the cabins at night, every minute spent with you brings us joy. Though it can be difficult at times, we wouldn't change our positions for anything in the world!

One thing we can't get enough of is seeing the huge smiles on your faces, especially when you go skiing and tubing! In addition to this, we adore watching you dance at Chavaya, and doing your Avodah. We enjoy seeing your friendships grow and develop, creating lifelong bonds. We can't wait to have more adventures with you!

To all of your counsellors, and your Rosh Edah, Rebecca Finklestein: we have so much respect for what you do, and we know your campers appreciate you as well. Casey and Adam: thank you for creating such a wonderful program and allowing us to be CIT's for your incredible campers.

We are so excited for the next few weeks of camp!

Love,

Your CITs

(Benji F., Jacob W., Johnny G., Molly T., Orly S., and Sydney T.)



The National Ramah Tikvah Network and Amazing Israel are pleased to announce our first-ever Birthright Israel trip. This free 10-day Israel trip is open to current members of any of our Ramah Tikvah programs as well as to alumni. Applicants must be ages 18-29 and have never participated in a Birthright Israel trip. Tentative dates are December 18-29, 2017. ***The information below will help explain the step by step process of applying for the Birthright Israel trip.*** This trip builds on Ramah's distinguished, pioneering history of bringing members of the Tikvah community to Israel.

Ramah Tikvah Registration Summary

Process For Registration

1. Potential applicants should use the early sign up form using this link in order to get priority registration status: <http://bit.ly/AmazingIsraelRamahTikvah>
2. Make a note of this important date—September 5, 2017. General registration opens for winter trips on September 5, 2017 at 10 am EST. You may complete your application at this time. Use the referral code ***Ramah Tikvah***.
3. Applicants will be contacted to set up a Skype interview, which lasts approximately 30 minutes.
4. Applicants should upload their medical forms, including insurance policy and number, and passport copies by the due date. (We will share the due date when we have it.)
5. Once you receive your final acceptance, you may book domestic flights from your home town to John F. Kennedy Airport in New York. Tikvah staff will meet your child at his or her terminal and escort him/her to Terminal 4, the International Departures terminal. *Please be in touch with Amazing Israel prior to booking your flight; all domestic flights to JFK should arrive at least five hours before our El Al flight departs for Israel.*
6. Most participants will elect to return to the United States with the Tikvah staff at the end of the trip. If any participant is planning to stay in Israel to meet parents, siblings or other family members traveling to or living in Israel, here is information on extensions: <http://www.amazingisrael.com/pretrip-info/domestic-travel-and-flight-extensions/>
7. Consult the packing list, available here: <http://www.amazingisrael.com/pretrip-info/packing-list/>
8. Consult the trip insurance information here: <http://www.amazingisrael.com/pretrip-info/insurance/>
9. As the trip gets closer, we will provide a link to our Facebook Group. This will allow participants who have Facebook to begin to connect with other participants.
10. Feel free to check out sample trip itineraries here: <http://www.amazingisrael.com/pretrip-info/sample-itineraries/>
11. One week before the trip, you will receive an email confirmation about the trip. You MUST respond to this email, indicating that you plan to attend. You will then receive (if a weekend or holiday then a few days before this) a "JET PLANE update" by email with all of your departure information.

Other FAQ information can be found via our website at <http://www.amazingisrael.com> or contact us via email.

Feel free to contact Howard Blas, National Ramah Tikvah Director, with additional questions: howard@campramah.org; 413-374-7210.

GET TO KNOW US: These are our FAVOURITE meals at camp.



ALAN:

Bishul
Chutz



ALIZA:

Pizza



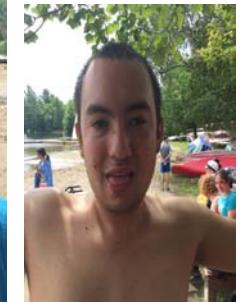
ALEX:

Friday night
Chicken



ALEXANDER:

Eggs



ASHER:

Pizza
Bagels



EFRAT:

Rice and
Chicken



EVAN:

Donuts



Evey:

Cinnamon
Rolls



FARB:

Pizza
Bagels



GEFEN:

Tuna and
Salad



JORDY:

Pizza
Bagels



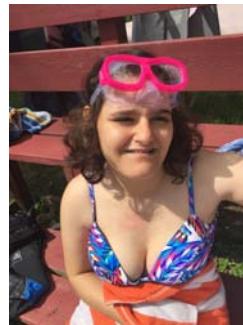
JULIA:

Veggie
Nuggets



KAYLA:

Egg Rolls &
Noodles



MADI:

Friday night
Chicken



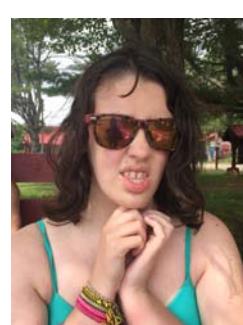
NOAH:

Pizza
Bagels



RANDY:

Cheese
Blintzes
Bagels



RUBY:

Pizza
Bagels