



2026 FAMILY GUIDE



www.goldenslippercamp.org



Jewish Federation
of Greater Philadelphia

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WELCOME

Dear Campers and Families,

Welcome to Golden Slipper Camp!

Since 1948, hundreds of children ages 7 to 15, along with our local and international staff, have come together at Golden Slipper Camp (GSC) for a fantastic overnight camp experience. Nestled on 600 beautiful, wooded acres in the Pocono Mountains, GSC is a uniquely wonderful place—welcoming, exciting, and full of opportunities for growth and connection.

At GSC, we believe in the power of community, friendship, and personal development. Rooted in Jewish values and traditions, we are committed to creating a safe, inclusive, and nurturing environment where campers can be their authentic selves. We foster a strong sense of community, teamwork, and respect. Campers are encouraged to try new things, strengthen existing skills, and build lifelong friendships that feel like family, all while growing confidence, resilience, and independence.

We offer a wide range of activities, nearly 30 in total, incorporating athletics, aquatics, adventure, and the arts. Athletic activities include sports like basketball, gymnastics, soccer, lacrosse, archery, and field hockey. Aquatics activities at the lake and pool. Adventure experiences such as high ropes, axe throwing, and campouts. Finally, the creative arts include music, drama, LEGO robotics, podcasting, and stop-motion animation. Golden Slipper truly has something for everyone.

This Family Guide outlines who we are as an organization, what you can expect from GSC, and how we can work together to ensure a successful and meaningful summer for every camper. It serves as the foundation of our partnership with families and highlights the shared responsibilities that help make our camp community thrive.

We encourage open communication and value your feedback. Our team is always here to support you, and we welcome your questions, concerns, and suggestions at any time.

Together, we will make summers unforgettable.

Friends, friends, friends, we will always be!

Warmest regards,

Camp Directors

Matthew Freedman & Stefany Marshall

CONTACT INFORMATION

Golden Slipper Camp

164 Reeders Run Road
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
(570) 629 - 1654

Always available at www.goldenslippercamp.org

STAFF CONTACT

Our year-round professional staff winter contact information

Matthew Freedman – Camp Director – mfreedman@goldenslipper.org
Stefany Marshall – Camp Director – smarshall@goldenslipper.org
Kristin Grapes – Director of Camper Enrollment – kgrapes@goldenslipper.org
Jennifer Scarlata – Director of Camp Administration – jscarlata@goldenslipper.org
Sam Zeruth – Director of Facilities and Operations

Summer contact information June-August

Matthew Freedman – Camp Director – mfreedman@goldenslipper.org
Stefany Marshall – Camp Director – smarshall@goldenslipper.org
Camp Office Manager – campoffice@goldenslipper.org

Summer Office

Golden Slipper Camp's office staff appreciate the importance of providing your family with great service and responding to your questions and concerns. The office staff knows the camp well and will do everything to address your needs. If the office staff are unable to assist you, they will take detailed messages and forward them to the most appropriate team member, who will return your call as soon as possible.

Telephone Policies & Office Hours

We kindly request that calls be made to camp between **9:00 AM** and **6:00 PM**, while our office staff is on duty. In the event the person you are trying to reach is unavailable, a message will be passed along to them, and your call will be returned. Our goal is to return each call within a few hours of when it was received. Outside of those hours and/or if our office staff is occupied, please leave a message and calls will be returned as soon as possible.

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR CHILD

All correspondence should be sent as follows:

Camper's Name
Golden Slipper Camp
Bunk number or letter
164 Reeders Run Road
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Mail

Campers are required to write home twice a week. Of course, campers are welcome to write home more frequently, but there will be two mandatory Letter Writing Days per week. We feel it is important for families to hear directly from their campers. Campers enjoy getting letters from home, so make sure families are mailing letters, as well.

Please send pre-addressed and stamped envelopes or postcards with your child. This is the best way to ensure you receive all your campers' mail. We recommend campers pack enough stamps and stationery to write home 10 times.

Bunk1 Bunk Notes and Bunk Replies

Bunk1 is not only a photo gallery, but also a direct messaging service. Bunk Replies allow you to receive a handwritten response from your camper directly into your Bunk1 account. You have the option to purchase stationery prior to camp or add a Bunk Reply stationery when you send a Bunk Note. The stationery will be uniquely bar-coded and linked to your Bunk1 account. Additional information and Bunk1 instructions will be shared with families before the start of summer.

CAMP STAFF

Each summer, over 100 counselors, junior counselors, and specialists come together to create an unforgettable experience for our campers.

Our senior administrators, head counselors, and village leaders are experienced camp professionals who provide leadership and support across all areas of camp life.

Many of our staff are Golden Slipper Camp alumni, trained through our Counselor in Training (CIT) program. All staff are carefully interviewed and selected by the Camp Directors based on their enthusiasm, experience, and qualifications. Cabin counselors are high school graduates, with most pursuing degrees in Education or related fields.

Activity Instructors are skilled students or professionals who bring both expertise and a strong understanding of working with children.

We maintain a camper-to-staff ratio of 5:1, in line with American Camp Association (ACA) standards.

Campers are supervised in person 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

STAFF TRAININGS

All staff participate in a one week, pre-camp Orientation & Training program. In-service education is provided to staff throughout the summer. We are constantly coaching and supporting every member of our staff in an effort to always optimize and enhance our quality and consistency of supervision.

Our lake and pool staff participate in American Red Cross Lifeguard training on site every summer. Our high ropes course staff are also trained by a licensed and certified agency.

AMERICAN CAMP ASSOCIATION ACCREDITATION

Golden Slipper Camp is a fully Accredited Camp of the American Camp Association and meet or surpass all required standards. For more information, please visit <https://www.acacamps.org/accreditation>

SECURITY AND PROTOCOL

Our year-round staff and seasonal staff, along with expert consultants, invest significant time and resources into developing and refining safety protocols. These procedures are regularly reviewed to ensure the highest standards of safety across the camp. All staff are thoroughly trained in our incident response plans. For added security, the campgrounds are equipped with monitored cameras, dedicated security guards, and multiple gated entry points. For more information, please contact the Camp Directors.

EMERGENCY WEATHER

Golden Slipper Camp has comprehensive emergency weather plans in place to ensure the safety of all campers and staff. Our team is thoroughly trained in these procedures, which are documented and regularly reviewed. In the event of severe weather, campers will be relocated to secure, designated areas on campus. While it is extremely rare, if conditions require camp to close, families will be notified immediately by phone and asked to promptly pick up their child/children.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Improving and optimizing the health and wellness of our community is our top priority. It is vital that we receive detailed and accurate wellness and medical information about your child. Doing so allows our wellness and administration staff to deliver exceptional, around-the-clock attention and care to our community.

Our healthcare facilities are well equipped and staffed 24/7 with an expert medical team available for your child. We employ several full-time nurses. Our summer staff are also certified in first aid, CPR, and the use of an AED. We call upon the services of a physician for minor injuries or illness, and in the event of a more serious condition, we are 2 miles from the nearest hospital and there are multiple urgent care facilities within 15 minutes.

While your child is at Golden Slipper Camp, you can be assured that his or her safety is our priority. We take every precaution to ensure that the well-being of your child is paramount in every activity.

Some of the practices we follow include:

- Golden Slipper Camp adheres to and often exceeds, the American Camp Association (ACA) safety guidelines
- The ratio of five campers to every counselor or staff member ensures optimum conditions for both physical and emotional well-being
- All staff participate in a comprehensive training program to be prepared in case of an emergency, and more importantly, preventative measures
- Established accident and emergency procedures are documented and practiced

MEDICAL INFORMATION AND FORMS

GSC uses CampSite to store all medical information for your child. Your child will have their own individual portal that securely handles the transmission of sensitive and confidential material.

Please share any special health, dietary, psychological, behavioral, or learning concerns that may affect your child's camp experience. The more detailed information, the better we can support your child's needs. All shared information is kept confidential and only accessible to appropriate administrators and wellness personnel. We view this as a partnership in caring for your child throughout the summer.

Please be prepared to provide the following required information:

- Accurate and up-to-date contact information and emergency contact information
- Camper's insurance and prescription card
- Any allergies, dietary restrictions, or physical activity restrictions
- Immunization record
- Health History forms completed by a doctor
- Details of ongoing medical, therapeutic, emotional, or family-related concerns

IMMUNIZATION POLICY

The health, safety, and well-being of our entire camp community is our highest priority. In alignment with Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines and recommendations from pediatricians nationwide, GSC requires all campers, staff, and employees to receive age-appropriate routine vaccinations.

The following immunizations are required by 28 PA. CODE CH 23.81:

- Four doses of tetanus (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday), usually given as DTP, DTaP, DT, or Td
- Four doses of diphtheria (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday), usually given as DTP, DTaP, DT, or Td
- Three doses of polio vaccine – oral (OPV) or injectable (IPV)
- Two doses of measles and mumps and one of rubella (MMR) vaccine – one after 12 months of age and second doses of measles, mumps vaccine (preferably given as MMR)
- Three doses of hepatitis B vaccine – the first two doses given one month apart, and the third dose six months after the first dose
- Two doses of varicella vaccine (chicken pox), the first dose administered at 12 months of age or older, or history of disease documented in writing by a parent, guardian, or physician

For children entering Grade 7 or older:

- 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) (if 5 years has elapsed since last tetanus)
- 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)

Not required, but strongly recommended:

- The administration of the Hepatitis A vaccine according to the standard AAP/CDC vaccine schedule. Please consult with your doctor about the recommended AAP/CDC schedule for the Hepatitis A vaccine
- Hepatitis A vaccine according to the standard AAP/CDC vaccine schedule. Please consult with your doctor about the recommended AAP/CDC schedule for the Hepatitis A vaccine
- Influenza vaccine
- COVID-19 vaccine

Exemptions:

- Documentation required from a physician prior to the start of the summer program to exempt an individual
- Documentation must be provided if an individual does not vaccinate due to religious beliefs

BE ADVISED, individuals with exemptions may be excluded from the camp program, at the direction of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, in the unlikely occurrence of an outbreak of a non-immunized disease that occurs.

CONSENT TO TREAT YOUR CHILD IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY

By sending your child to Golden Slipper Camp, you give permission for our medical personnel to treat and make decisions regarding your child's health. In the event of illness or injury requiring additional care, campers will be taken to St. Luke's Hospital, located just two miles from camp, or to one of several urgent care facilities within a 15-minute drive. Families will be notified if a child has to be taken off campus.

Our policy is to contact the family if a camper:

- Becomes ill and must stay overnight in the Wellness Center
- Is taken off property to the hospital or urgent care facility for treatment, tests and/or x-rays, etc., due to illness or injury
- Must visit a dentist / orthodontist or other medical specialist
- Has visited GSC's Wellness Center 5 times in a session for any reason
- Requires prescription medication

HEALTH CONDITIONS THAT REQUIRE REMOVAL FROM CAMPER POPULATION

Please do not send your child to camp if they have a fever, severe cough or cold, a communicable disease, or head lice. For the health and safety of our community, Golden Slipper Camp reserves the right to temporarily send home any camper who arrives with, or develops, a contagious condition or serious illness or injury. Based on the guidance of our medical team and/or consulting physician, campers may be sent home from camp for any of the following reasons:

- Conjunctivitis (Pink eye)
- Communicable disease (e.g., chicken pox, impetigo)
- Non-compliance with prescribed medication for more than 3 days
- Severe injuries
- Persistent high fevers unresponsive to medication
- Persistent bed wetting (pullups are not permitted)
- Severe lice infestation
- Any other condition deemed necessary by the Camp Directors

HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROTOCOLS

- **Medication:** Camper prescriptions and medications must be purchased through the pill pack service. All medications are stored at the Wellness Center and administered exclusively by camp medical staff.
- **Doctor and Hospital Visits:** Family will be contacted, and the camper will be transported to the nearby hospital or urgent care facility.
- **Dental and Orthodontic Appointments:** For dental/orthodontia visits, the family will be contacted to decide if picking up the camper to take them to their practitioner at home or if camp staff should attempt to schedule an appointment with a local practitioner is the best option to address the matter.
- **Allergy shots:** If your child requires allergy shots during the summer, please provide the supply of medication and syringes for our medical staff to administer the medication as directed.
- **Medic-Alert Bracelet:** If your child has a medical condition or allergy that requires immediate recognition in an emergency, such as a reaction to specific medications, foods, or a chronic health issue, we strongly recommend that they wear a Medic-Alert bracelet. These can be obtained through the MedicAlert Foundation or your local pharmacy.
- **Glasses/Contact Lenses:** Children who wear glasses and/or contact lenses should bring an extra pair to camp, in case of breakage or loss. Please be sure to clearly label all frames and contact lens cases.
- **Head Lice:** Every camper will have a mandatory head check for lice prior to boarding the buses. Campers being driven to camp will be checked by camp staff before going to their assigned bunk. Parents must remain with the camper until the head check is done. After 48 hours at camp, there will be a second mandatory head check of all campers and staff. Village leaders will organize a system to have lice checks done in the village during rest period. Any questionable campers will be sent to the Wellness Center for confirmation. If a camper is found to have nits/lice at this check, they will be:
 - a. Treated with an FDA approved Louse Buster at the Wellness Center
 - b. Parents will be billed for any treatment that is not covered by insurance

CAMPER POLICIES

When preparing your child for camp, it is paramount that they understand Camp's rules which govern camper behavior. Discussing the rules at camp and how they are expected to behave throughout the summer is a fantastic way to set your child up for a successful camping experience.

PROHIBITED ITEMS AND BEHAVIORS

1. No fireworks (this includes sparklers, smoke bombs, etc.); weapons or firearms are permitted in camp.
2. Campers are not permitted to leave camp property except with a staff member for medical treatment.
3. Campers are not allowed to possess cell phones, or any other electronic equipment with cell phone service or access to the internet.
4. Alcohol, drugs, and tobacco items are strictly prohibited. This includes e-cigarettes, vapes, or any other electronic smoking device.

ANY CAMPER, WHO IS DISCOVERED SMOKING, TAKING DRUGS, OR CONSUMING ALCOHOL IN VIOLATION OF THE ABOVE RULE, WILL BE IMMEDIATELY EXPELLED FROM CAMP. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS, AND THERE WILL BE NO REFUND OF FEES. LOCAL AUTHORITIES MAY ALSO NEED TO BE NOTIFIED.

5. No medications, supplements, and/or vitamins may be kept in cabins. All medications, supplements, and/or vitamins will be collected and stored at the Wellness Center and distributed by medical personnel.
6. Violence, physical aggression, or threats of any kind will not be tolerated. We expect every camper to interact appropriately and respectfully with all members of our camp community.
7. Campers are expected to always use appropriate language.
8. Campers are expected to keep camp clean and free of any vandalism or graffiti.
9. We expect campers to be in their assigned locations at the right times (stay in cabins at night, report to correct activities, always be supervised, etc.).
10. Campers are expected to participate in all aspects of camp programming.

THE CAMP DIRECTORS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO DISMISS ANY CAMPER, WITHOUT REFUND, WHO WILLFULLY DISREGARDS THESE RULES, OR WHO ENDANGERS THE SAFETY OF HIMSELF/HERSELF OR OTHERS, DESTROYS CAMP PROPERTY OR THE PROPERTY OF ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE CAMP COMMUNITY, OR WHO OTHERWISE FAILS TO MEET THE CHARACTER AND INTEGRITY REQUIREMENTS OF GOLDEN SLIPPER CAMP.

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

At Golden Slipper Camp, bullying is inexcusable, and we have a zero-tolerance policy against all types of bullying.

Bullying is when one or more people continually exclude, tease, taunt, gossip, hit, kick, or put down another person with the intent to hurt another. Simply put, **bullying is being mean, on purpose, over and over again.**

Everyone comes to camp to have a great summer, and every camper and staff member deserves the best possible summer experience. Golden Slipper Camp leadership addresses all incidents of bullying seriously. Families will be notified if their child is involved in an incident involving bullying.

DRESS CODE

We require each camper to dress in a way that reflects respect for the environment of Golden Slipper Camp and meets generally acceptable standards of cleanliness, neatness, and modesty. We suggest that families and campers discuss

levels of appropriateness before arriving at camp and remember that summer camp is a place where we play outside all day in the warm sun, get sweaty and dirty in the great outdoors. Dress for the weather.

Please note that clothing with inappropriate wording or graphics is not permitted. This includes, but not limited to, apparel that contains sexually explicit language or imagery, profane language, references to alcohol, drugs, or smoking, or divisive or political messaging. For bathing suits or any other clothing, camp staff may ask a camper to change if the item is deemed inappropriate.

TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS

Campers are not permitted to have a cell phone at camp under any circumstances. Cell phones and/or any electronics with cellular or Wi-Fi capability will be collected, labeled, and stored in the office safe until your child returns home.

LOST AND FOUND

Golden Slipper Camp does not assume responsibility for the loss or damage of items brought to camp. We return lost and found items regularly throughout the camp season. Please clearly label all belongings with your camper's first and last name. All items left behind at the end of the camp season will be laundered and donated to a charitable organization.

MONEY AND VALUABLES

Please do not send any items of high monetary or sentimental value to camp, including expensive jewelry, clothing, athletic equipment, or favorite belongings.

Each bunk has a party on the last night of the session. **We recommend \$5 be sent with your child to help pay for the pizzas and sodas purchased.** Waiter and Waitress campers go on a trip toward the end of the session. Although the cost of the trip is paid for by Golden Slipper Camp and will provide food options during the trip, campers may want to spend money. If campers bring money, it will be collected, labeled, and stored in the camp's office safe until used for the last-night pizza party or given to Waiter/Waitress campers on the day of their trip.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND INTERNET POLICY

The internet, social networking websites, and apps allow campers to communicate with the public. It has also become a place where cyber-bullying can exist, with children threatening and intimidating other children. Inappropriate internet behavior is dangerous and directly contradicts the camp's moral standards and mission. When not at camp, the guidelines below help ensure that all campers, staff, and parents remain safe and secure.

I agree to be respectful of the camp, its program, the campers, and its employees in all communications in my profile, blog, or other internet communications. I will not:

- Use obscenities, profanity, or vulgar language
- Engage in harassment, cyber-bullying, or intimidation
- Post comments that are derogatory to or about an individual person's race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or disability
- Engage in sexually explicit, suggestive, humiliating, or demeaning comments

Campers may contact staff directly on social media, provided they have their family's permission. We strongly encourage families to monitor campers' social media profile/account privacy settings to ensure camper safety. We also recommend families supervise campers' cell phone text messages and/or messaging applications to ensure camper safety.

LIFE AT GOLDEN SLIPPER CAMP

VILLAGES AND CABINS

Golden Slipper Camp accommodates children aged 7 to 15. There are six villages that function as mini camps, with campers bunking in cabins chronologically by birthdate.

- Vogelson (boys) and Strauss (girls) - youngest campers
- Kadden (boys) and Friends (girls) - intermediate campers
- Council Boys and Council Girls – oldest campers

Each village has its own Village Leader, a trained supervisor who oversees both the campers and counselors in each respective village. The Village Leaders have specialized knowledge of their age group. Clustering campers in villages ensures campers are able to get personal attention, all while providing convenient access to a variety of age-appropriate programs and activities.

Golden Slipper campers sleep in spacious, well-ventilated cabins with plenty of windows, and ample room for belongings. Each cabin has full bathroom facilities, with sinks, individual toilet stalls, and individual showers, with hot water, electricity, plenty of outlets, and round-the-clock supervision.

Campers work together to clean and tidy up their cabins every day! Practice making a bed, folding laundry, organizing clothing, and personal belongings. Campers will have storage spaces in their cabins and are responsible for keeping their area and bunk neat and organized (with their counselors' help). At the end of each week, the cleanest bunk in each village wins a pizza party!

BUNK PLACEMENTS

All camper placements are made by our Camp Directors and Head Counselors. Campers are bunked chronologically based on each summer's enrollment. Please note that we do not take formal requests for bunk assignments. However, we will do our best to meet everyone's reasonable requests. Year-to-year bunks may look different, and we ask families to support their children by reinforcing that camp is a place for new and old friends to have fun.

JEWISH LIFE AT GSC

At Golden Slipper Camp, we model and live out our camp's Foundational Jewish Values:

- Respect - *Kavod*
- Loving kindness - *Chesed*
- Repairing the world - *Tikkun Olam*
- Family - *Mishpacha*
- Friendship - *Chaverim*
- Community - *Kehillah*

These values are a set of beliefs and practices that transcend any singular religion. Our dynamic foundation of cultural and communal acceptance is highlighted in our diverse staff, campers, and alumni.

Each morning starts with a communal gathering. At our flag raising ceremony, we take inventory of each member of our community and recognize the significant value each person adds to our camp family. We honor our nation and frame

our day through the lens of one of our core values. As we meet at the flagpole before dinner, when we reflect on how we demonstrated that value as we navigated that day at Golden Slipper.

Before and after each meal, we say a blessing in Hebrew and in English, helping our Jewish campers further cement their Jewish identity and exposing others to the Hebrew language. We also celebrate Shabbat, the Jewish day of rest, starting with a special dinner on Friday night. During Shabbat dinner, we recite a few extra blessings to welcome and celebrate Shabbat as we light candles, drink grape juice, and enjoy challah. To further celebrate the day of rest, we operate on a special schedule every Saturday to honor the sanctity of Shabbat through a schedule which is more relaxed and gives both campers and staff additional time to rest. Saturday evenings include service opportunities for multiple faiths and beliefs. Campers and staff are offered to attend Jewish (Havdalah), Christian, and Non-Denominational services.

We also host some Jewish programming throughout the summer with a Rabbi hosting various activities like Havdalah candle making or shofar creation. Our Israeli staff, (*shlichim*: emissaries) usually host an Israeli or International Day (in conjunction with our other staff from around the world) and bring programming which fosters a deeper connection and relationship to the modern land of Israel. Together, we build our own unique community different from any other camp.

These relationships have kept the alumni and members beaming with GSC pride since 1948!

CAMP PROGRAMMING

At Golden Slipper Camp, we offer a highly curated, diverse, and robust programming calendar. Each moment of your child's days and evenings will be filled with challenging and enriching programming designed to stimulate personal growth, teamwork, and a sense of community.

DAYTIME

- **BUNK ACTIVITIES** – each day consists of 5 or 6 activity period (2 or 3 scheduled by camp, 2 electives, and 1 general swim)
 - The 3 bunk activities scheduled ensure that campers get to experience all GSC has to offer and that each day offers a variety of activities. Camp activities include an instruction component led by experienced staff. All campers are expected to participate, to the best of their ability, in all activities. A large part of Golden Slipper Camp is trying new things.
- **ELECTIVES** - are chosen by campers and make up one period in the morning and another in the afternoon. Campers are given a list of all electives, and they rank their top three choices. Electives change weekly.
- **SWIM INSTRUCTION** – mandatory instructional swim periods are run according to American Red Cross (ARC) standards. Campers are leveled based on a swim evaluation to measure their swim proficiency and comfort in the water. During swim instruction, campers are divided into their leveled group for ongoing instruction and to help them improve their skills. Campers have opportunities to advance levels throughout the summer.

EVENING PROGRAMMING

Each day at GSC is capped off with an exciting evening program. Programs are age-appropriate and engage all campers and staff. When camp is in session, our social media will post the evening programming calendar.

OLYMPICS

A long-standing Golden Slipper Camp tradition is our Olympics. All campers and staff will be split into four (4) teams, assigned different colors, and will compete in both athletic and non-athletic activities. The Olympics are themed, with each team planning cheers, skits, and songs around the theme. Teams wear their colors and earn points for different conquests. At the end of the 3-day or 4-day competition, points are totaled, and the winning team celebrates by enjoying pizza and soda.

CAMP-OUTS

Each cabin has the opportunity to camp out under the stars during each camping session. On their night, bunks travel to the campout site where they'll enjoy team-building activities, roast s'mores, burgers, and hotdogs over a fire. Tents, sleeping bags, and all other supplies are provided so each camper can enjoy a true outdoor overnight experience.

BAR AND BAT MITZVAH TUTORING

If your child has an upcoming B'Mitzvah and requires time to practice, please contact the Camp Directors. Campers may schedule virtual tutoring session with their Rabbi, Cantor, or tutor and utilize the office to ensure uninterrupted practice. Please send any necessary materials to camp, including notes from the Rabbi or Cantor.

BIRTHDAYS AT CAMP

Every child celebrating a birthday at camp will receive recognition and lots of attention from the entire camp. The birthday camper will receive a cake after dinner, which is shared with their bunk, and the whole camp will sing “Happy Birthday”. If you would like to send special decorations or small gifts for the birthday camper, please contact the camp office in advance to make arrangements. The birthday camper will also call home after dinner on their birthday.

FOOD SERVICE

Our chefs prepare Kosher-style meals that are nutritious, plentiful, and offer variety. We can accommodate food allergies, gluten-free, and vegetarian diets. Alternative meals are always available at every meal. The breakfast bar/salad bar showcases alternatives or additional food items for anyone to enjoy. Breakfast alternatives offered include; cereal, cottage cheese, yogurt, fresh fruit, hard boiled eggs, and granola. Lunch/dinner salad bar includes; build-your-own salad, tuna salad, egg salad, humus, bean, and sun butter & jelly sandwiches.

LAUNDRY

Laundry is sent out once a week. Therefore, it is necessary for your child to be prepared with clothes for ten days (i.e. enough socks, underwear, towels, etc.). **CLEARLY MARK ALL ITEMS WITH YOUR CHILD’S NAME.** We suggest that any clothing that cannot be sent to the laundry (such as wool sweaters, new 100% cotton items) should not be brought to camp. Neither the camp nor the laundry service operator can assume any liability for lost or damaged laundry. The packing list below was updated in January 2026. The most up-to-date packing list will be provided to families via CampSite.

TIPS FOR PREPARING FOR CAMP

Most of our campers do not experience homesickness or adjustment difficulties. They tend to settle into the camp's daily routines in the first few days after their arrival. However, there are a handful of campers who do have a difficult time adjusting to camp life.

Some of the more common questions that children can/will ask before camp are:

- "Will I miss my family, my pet, my bed, my things?"
- "Will other kids like me?"
- "Will I make friends?"
- "Will I have fun?"
- "Will my counselors be nice to me?"

These concerns should not be ignored or dismissed. We suggest that you be as positive as possible.

Recognize your child's concern and calm their fears with encouraging words. For example, a parent might respond to a child's fear of missing home by saying, *"It's only natural to miss home a little (and we'll miss you), but you'll have such a GREAT time at camp, that soon you'll feel fine. When you get home, we can't wait to hear about everything you did, and about your new friends, etc."* Communicate in a positive manner.

Reinforce that camp is a wonderful, safe, caring place to be, and that if it were anything else, you would not be sending them there for the summer.

CAMPERS

What if I feel homesick?

Everyone feels homesick at one time or another whether they are new or not. This is totally normal! Missing home is natural when you are away from your family. We are all here to help you. In fact, many of us have been homesick! The one thing to remember is that these feelings will almost certainly pass.

Will the tooth fairy be able to find me at camp?

If you lose a tooth at camp, don't worry, the tooth fairy will find you, and the entire camp will cheer you on!

Do I have to clean up my bunk?

Yes, each bunk has a 'clean-up' that takes place daily after breakfast. You get about 45 minutes to make your bed, tidy up your clothes in your cubby, help clean the bunk, and get ready for your morning activities. The cleanest bunks in each village are awarded a special prize weekly!

What if I get my period for the first time at camp?

This is not something to be scared or embarrassed about. If you did not come to camp with the proper sanitary needs, we have you covered. Speak to your counselor and ask to be taken to the Wellness Center. The medical staff will be able to answer all your questions and take care of your needs. We can even call home for you to let your parents know.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Campers may either ride the buses to camp or be dropped off directly at Golden Slipper Camp. All pre-camp information, including details about the Philadelphia-area bus location, will be emailed to families.

Temple University Ambler

580 Meetinghouse Road

Lot 3 & Field House

Ambler, PA 19002

1ST SESSION ARRIVAL:	June 25, 2026
1ST SESSION DEPARTURE:	July 19, 2026
2ND SESSION ARRIVAL:	July 22, 2026
2ND SESSION DEPARTURE:	August 15, 2026

PACKING GUIDE

CLOTHING LIST / PACKING GUIDE

The following is for your use as a **GUIDE** as you pack for camp. It is not a mandatory list. (See Parent's Manual). Please keep in mind that storage space is limited. **DO NOT OVERPACK!** Also, because laundry is sent out once per week, make sure your child is prepared with enough clothes for 10 days. (i.e. enough underwear, socks, towels, etc.) All items must fit into **ONE LARGE BAG or moderate bag and trunk**. We recommend that you use a large duffel bag or hockey bag. If you are having problems keeping with this please take note of all that you have packed to make sure it is essential. Remember, camp is an informal setting. Campers may also bring a backpack or knapsack with them to camp.

CLEARLY MARK ALL ITEMS WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME

We recommend a permanent/laundry marker, but other labels are okay too.

Items with a **◆** next to them are things children **MUST** bring. While quantities may vary, it is important that they have them in camp. Items with a **○** are optional.

MUST HAVES FOR 2026

- ◆ 2 sets of fitted twin sheets and a blanket or sleeping bag
- ◆ 1 heavy blanket
- ◆ 2 pillowcases
- ◆ 1 pillow

CLOTHING

- ◆ 20 pairs of underwear
- ◆ 12 pairs of socks
- ◆ 10-12 short sleeve shirts (Olympic colors; black, blue, white, red & green shirt will cover all the team colors)
- ◆ 3 long sleeve t-shirts
- ◆ 3 sweatshirts or sweaters
- ◆ 1 lightweight jacket/wind breaker
- ◆ 8 pairs of shorts
- ◆ 5 pairs of long pants and/or sweatpants
- ◆ 6 bathing suits
- ◆ 5 pairs of pajamas
- ◆ Dinner Dance attire (camps version of a formal dance)
- ◆ 2 hats (*visors are not hats*)

USEFUL ITEMS

- ◆ 1 large Duffel bag or 1 moderate duffel and 1 trunk (*for packing*)
- ◆ 10 clothes hangers
- ◆ Backpack
- ◆ Plastic Water Bottle
- ◆ Pens, Pencils and Pads
- ◆ Stationary, stamps or stamped pre-addressed postcards (*something to write home with!*)
- Books and magazines
- Stuffed animal
- ◆ Extra pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses
- ◆ Flashlight/Batteries
- Costumes
- Games (*non electronic*)
- ◆ Insect Repellent
- White shirt for Tie-Dye

TOILETRIES

- ◆ 1 comb or brush
- ◆ 2 deodorant
- ◆ 1 nail clipper
- ◆ 1 plastic drinking cup
- ◆ Shower Caddy (*to carry toiletries*)
- ◆ Sanitary Napkins/Tampons
- ◆ 1 bottle of shampoo
- ◆ Soap/Body Wash
- ◆ Sunscreen (*send lots*)
- ◆ Tissues
- ◆ 3 toothbrushes
- ◆ 1 tube of toothpaste
- ◆ 4 Beach Towels
- ◆ 4 Bath Towels
- ◆ 2 Wash Cloths
- ◆ 1 Laundry bag

SHOES

DO NOT BRING SHOES WITH HIGH HEELS!

- ◆ 2 pairs of sneakers
- ◆ Shower shoes (*flip-flops*)
- ◆ 2 pairs of flip flops

RAIN GEAR

- ◆ Rain Shoes OR Boots
- ◆ Rain Coat and/or an umbrella

DO NOT PACK: cell phones, expensive electronics, knives/weapons, suggestive clothing, expensive clothing, and e-cigarettes/vapes/juules as these items are not permitted at camp.