

Early Childhood Education

Summer Camp 2026

Family Guide



Need Assistance? We are here to help you.

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DOCUMENTS + FORMS

All documents and forms required for ECE are on our [website](#). This includes:

- Emergency Card if you have any changes (allergies, people permitted to pick up your children, address, etc.) or your child is new to camp.
- Copy of your child's updated vaccination records.
- About Me (updates from current families as needed and new forms for incoming campers).
- Medication Consent Form (as needed for directors to administer meds at school).
- Order lunch from The Café any day! Orders due by 9:30am each day. Monthly menus and the ordering link are available on the JCC website under the Early Childhood tab.

Immunization Policy

For the health, safety, and welfare of both the staff and students, the Tucson J follows all of the Department of Health Services vaccination requirements for students entering our program. Documentation of compliance, from an M.D. or D.O. with these requirements shall be provided to the center for all students upon entry to our programs. The center will monitor on-going vaccination compliance. This follows the standards and policies of the American Academy

of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control, and the American Council on Immunization and Prevention. There are no religious or personal exemptions to this policy.

T-SHIRT

Every camper will receive a camp t-shirt on their first day. All campers are encouraged to wear their camp t-shirts for Shabbat each Friday.

AUTHORIZATION TO PICK UP

There must be written authorization before a child is released to anyone other than the child's guardian. Space is provided on the emergency information card for you to list the names of other adults who may pick up your child. Photo ID is required for anyone the faculty is not familiar with.

CLOTHING

While faculty will try to keep clothes reasonably clean, camp is a place to have fun and participate in messy activities. Please do not send your child to camp in "good" clothes.

- All children need multiple extra sets of clothes in case of accidents or spills.
- Children 4 years and older may need two labeled swimsuits each day. One should be worn to camp and the other, along with underwear, should be packed in a backpack. Your child will also need a towel labeled with their full name.
- Tennis shoes (sneakers) are recommended. No dress shoes, jellies, or sandals should be worn. Only closed toe shoes will offer protection from rocks and sharp sticks.
- Personal sunhats are assigned to all children in our program. Please tell your child that you expect them to wear their hat during outside activities.
- On Splash Pad days, send your child to camp with non-slip water shoes or keep a pair at camp in their cubby. Water shoes are required to go to the splash pad.
- Make sure your child's clothes, especially socks and underwear, are labeled with both first and last names.

DIAPERS

Children still in diapers (as well as children not completely toilet trained) must wear a swim diaper covered by plastic pants when in either the pool or the Splash Pad. This will keep the pool and the Splash Pad sanitary for everyone.

SHABBAT

Fridays at camp are special times for all campers and staff to participate in and enjoy our Shabbat gatherings with Jennifer Greenberg. Challah will be served!



CAMP 2026 CALENDAR

- Week 1: May 26-29*
- Week 2: June 1-5
- Week 3: June 8-12
- Week 4: June 15-19
- Week 5: June 22-26
- Week 6: June 29-July 2*

Week 7: July 6-10
Week 8: July 13-17
Week 9: July 20-22**

*No camp on Monday, May 25th (Memorial Day) or Friday, July 3rd (In observance of Independence Day)

** Week 9 has been shortened to account for teacher relief days. This week will be prorated.

ECE OFFICE

The ECE office is open during regular school hours, 7am-6pm. Our direct line is 520-615-5437. If we are not available when you call, please leave a message and phone number on our voicemail and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

CHECKLIST OF CAMP NEEDS

All items below should be clearly marked with **child's first and last name**.

- ☐ Complete change of clothes (a few sets)
- ☐ Dairy lunch with utensils and drink
- ☐ Swimsuit
- ☐ Extra swimsuit (afternoon swim for pre-k)
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Towel
- ☐ Underwear
- ☐ Plastic pants for campers not yet toilet trained
- ☐ Water bottle
- ☐ Non-slip water shoes – REQUIRED FOR THE SPLASH PAD
- ☐ Wet/Dry Bag for wet swimsuits – not required

MEDICATION

Please inform the faculty when your child is on medication. We encourage you to administer it at home whenever possible. Arizona State Law permits us to dispense prescription medication only if the medication is in the original packaging with the prescription attached. Prescriptions will also be required for over-the-counter medication if it is being used outside of the recommended age group/ dosage (ie. Liquid Tylenol for an infant). Should your child need medication while at school, you must complete a [Medication Consent Form](#). Medication and Medication Consent forms must be dropped off at the ECE office. Medication and supporting documents must be checked before being left at the J. Directors administer all medications in the ECE office. **Do not send medications in your child's lunch box (this includes vitamins).**

NON-ESSENTIAL ITEMS FROM HOME

Please do not send toys, make-up, or other valuables with your child to camp. Expensive playthings may become lost or broken and children often have a difficult time sharing "special" toys. Additionally, weapons, toys that promote

violence, or small toys (less than 6 inches) have no place in camp. Your child's teacher will let you know when it is appropriate for toys from home to be brought to camp.

REFUND POLICY

Tuition will be adjusted if a child is ill for one month or longer with medical documentation. There are no refunds for time missed due to vacation. Please refer to the camp brochure for more detailed information.

PHONE CALLS

If you have a special concern, your call can be transferred to the classroom. It is not always possible for a teacher to leave the activity with the campers to answer the phone. If you leave a message with the ECE office, your call will be returned as promptly as possible. You are also welcome to send your child's teachers a message in the Brightwheel app if they are unable to answer the phone. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher or the director, as your comments and constructive criticism are always welcome.

SUNSCREEN

Please apply prior to dropping off your child at camp. Leave a container (labeled with first and last name) for additional application. We do not allow the use of aerosol sunscreen as it can be dangerous if inhaled.



EMERGENCY INFORMATION

We certainly expect this summer to be a healthy and safe one; however, situations may arise that are beyond our



control. Make sure emergency medical information is on file and up to date in Brightwheel and with the ECE office. An emergency card is mandatory for **all** children. This form must have the names of people we can call if your child becomes ill as well as the name/ phone number of your child's pediatrician. If your child has not attended the JCC preschool, please send in a copy of their up-to-date immunization record.

HOURS

The program is open Monday through Friday from 7am to 6pm with scheduled camp activities for children beginning at 9am. Whenever possible, please have your child at camp for the start of the day's activities at 9am. The latest drop off is 10am. Staffing is based upon the number of children registered in each program. Should you need to extend your child's day, please call ahead and we will accommodate you to the best of our ability.

ILLNESS

Faculty recognizes individual health needs and will call you if necessary. Colds, coughs, and runny noses are common occurrences and infections can be contagious before a child has any symptoms. Please consider the other

children attending camp when deciding whether or not your child should or should not attend due to illness. We are all working toward providing a healthy environment and appreciate your cooperation. As a general rule, children who are too ill to swim do not belong in camp. The Health Department lists the following guidelines for exclusion from a childcare setting (a child may return if a physician states they are not contagious and/or after being fever/ symptom free for at least 24 hours):

- **Fever only** within the past 24 hours (temperature: 100.4° or higher).
- **Respiratory difficulty:** experiencing rapid breathing or severe coughing and is making a high-pitched croup or whooping sound after they cough. Child is unable to lie down comfortably due to continuous cough.
- **Diarrhea:** two or more episodes within a 24-hour period.
- **Vomiting:** one or more episodes in 24 hours.
- **Eye/nose:** thick discolored mucus or discharge draining from either.
- **Sore throat complaints:** especially when fever or swollen neck glands are present.
- **Skin rashes:** undiagnosed or contagious/persistent itching or scratching of body/scalp.
- **Unusual color to eyes or skin:** yellow tint to eyes or skin (jaundice).
- **Unusual color to:** stools (gray or white) or urine (dark, tea colored). These symptoms can be found in hepatitis and should be evaluated by a physician.

SELF-SCREENING AND WELL CHECKS

We require all families to self-screen all members of the household before entering the building. Do not bring your child to camp if they have symptoms or are awaiting test results. Contact a director for returning to camp protocols. Staff are required to conduct well checks on all children at the time of drop-off. They will ask the family to return home or visit the ECE office if symptoms are apparent.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

For specific medical needs, please contact the ECE camp office at 520-615-5437. It is important for your child's well-being that you notify your teacher of any allergies or special medical concerns. If your child wears hearing aids or glasses, the teacher will take special care to help them maintain responsibility for these items. Unfortunately, we cannot replace broken or lost items.

LATE POLICY

We recognize occasional delays are unavoidable and allow a ten-minute grace period after your designated pick-up time. Your child's time will be extended at the rate of \$15.00 an hour. Please note that there is *no* grace period after we close at 6pm. Children picked up later than 6pm will be charged \$5.00 per minute.

LOST & FOUND

Articles without a label will be placed in the 'Lost & Found' container located in the Open Space. Items not claimed by the end of each week will be donated or discarded.

LUNCH

The JCC observes a Kashrut policy. Options include:

- **Dairy lunch from home.** Bring in a labeled sack to be placed in the refrigerator every day your child is registered for camp. Please refrain from sending soda or high sugar fruit juices.

Nutritious suggestions include:

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| ▪ Macaroni and cheese | ▪ Cottage cheese green pepper boat |
| ▪ Macaroni-tuna salad | ▪ Bagel with cream cheese |
| ▪ Tuna salad with crackers | ▪ Hard-cooked egg sliced on toast |
| ▪ Hard-boiled egg | ▪ Peanut butter stuffed celery |
| ▪ Pasta with/without sauce | ▪ Rice salad with fruit or veggies |
| ▪ Cold pasta salad | ▪ Neufchatel cheese on graham crackers |
| ▪ Peanut butter on saltines | ▪ Cucumber/cheese sandwich |
| ▪ Dip and veggies | ▪ Cottage cheese mixed with fruit |
| ▪ Fruit salad with cheese | |
| ▪ Cheese & crackers | |
| ▪ Deviled eggs with crackers | |
| ▪ Yogurt with fresh fruit or granola | |
| ▪ Veggies with salsa | |
| ▪ English muffin with cheese or peanut butter | |

- **Order from the Café @ the J.** [Café @ the J menus](#) are available on our website. Lunch orders should be completed by 9:30 am for same day ordering. Your credit card on file with the J will be charged. The menu for the children's lunches as well as the link to order is posted monthly on the JCC website under the Early Childhood tab. You can also scan the QR code below to order. Each day will have a hot lunch option or a PB&J option. If you need assistance ordering lunch, please contact the ECE office.



POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

Our goal is to work through different behaviors using methods that lead to a positive learning experience for the children. Children often have brief episodes of not listening or not getting along with others; these are considered normal occurrences and are handled immediately within the classroom. Alternatives are suggested and children are encouraged to "use their words."

Another goal is to be proactive, rather than reactive. When a disruptive behavior such as hitting or biting becomes an issue, we first attempt to change the environment so the undesirable behavior is eliminated. This may mean changing activities, classroom structure, or routines.

Conferences involving teachers and parents are often requested so ideas can be shared and individual behavior plans developed. Children, like adults, appreciate being recognized for a job well done. The use of rewards to shape behavior is usually effective. Alternative behaviors are reviewed with an adult and the child is quickly re-integrated into the group.

The plan is to provide your child with a safe, fun-filled, and challenging summer. To this end, we will offer a variety of individual and group experiences. We will encourage, but not require, participation. We would love to know about your child's reaction to his/her day. Your comments and assistance are always welcomed and appreciated.

COMMUNICATION

Teachers will be using JCC tablets, personal phones, email, and Brightwheel to communicate throughout the summer. Each classroom has Brightwheel for information, pictures, and engagement between the classroom and home.

SWIMMING

An integral part of our camp program is swimming! The Sports & Wellness Dept. supervises swim lessons utilizing American Red Cross Certified Water Safety Instructors and Lifeguards.

Swimming programs consist of a 30-minute instructional period two mornings a week in addition to scheduled Splash Pad times. Additional afternoon free swim periods are assigned to older groups. The goal is to help each child become comfortable in the water and to understand and follow basic water safety procedures. As the children develop swimming skills, special



attention is paid to the children who seem less confident in the water. A swimmer may remain at a particular level until they are capable of performing the skills required to progress to the next level of certification. It is not uncommon for swimmers to remain at the beginner level for an entire summer, especially if they are six or younger. One- and two-year-olds will utilize the wading pool

and Splash Pad for supervised water play. Children who are not fully toilet trained **must** wear plastic pants over swim diapers.