Camp Ruach is a unique Jewish day camp open to rising first through eighth graders from all backgrounds and cultures. At Camp Ruach, we emphasize creating lasting friendships, developing great memories, and building a better world. Ruach means “spirit,” and our camp is jam-packed with it!

Whether they are here for one week or the whole summer, Camp Ruach campers come away having grown and changed, carrying a newfound sense of confidence and self-assurance. Everyone is celebrated here! Our energetic Camp Ruach staff works and plays with our campers to ensure that they feel safe and nurtured as they have the time of their lives!

For any camp questions please contact Camp Director Tuxedo Smedley at (828)253-0701 ext. 107 or by email at daniel@jcc-asheville.org

REGISTRATION STARTS FEBRUARY 3!
Register online at jcc-asheville.org

Camp Ruach (8:30 AM – 5:30 PM) $280
Gesher for Middle Schoolers (8:30 AM – 5:30 PM) $300
Camp Tikvah (9 AM – 3:30 PM) $355
Gesher Tikvah (9 AM – 3:30 PM) $400

CAMP TIKVAH
FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM

The only summer day camp of its kind in Western North Carolina, Camp Tikvah enables children on the autism spectrum to enjoy the fun and community of Camp Ruach in an individually monitored and highly structured program. At Camp Tikvah, each one-week session is interwoven with Camp Ruach and enables these awesome kids, through inclusion and integration, to participate in as many peer activities as are individually appropriate.

Specially trained camp counselors continuously monitor each camper’s sensory environment to help facilitate communication, socialization, community, and fun. All Camp Tikvah staff complete an intensive training with Camp Tikvah Program Consultant, Jennifer Lingle, M.Ed., the director of Autism Educates. Between our Tikvah counselor team and dedicated Tikvah LITs, we strive to provide a 1:2 staff/child ratio.

Camp Tikvah is open to rising 1st graders and up. To ensure it is the right setting for each child, families must be interviewed prior to the completion of registration. Email daniel@jcc-asheville.org for information.

Weekly Rates:

- Camp Ruach (8:30 AM – 5:30 PM) $280
- Gesher for Middle Schoolers (8:30 AM – 5:30 PM) $300
- Camp Tikvah (9 AM – 3:30 PM) $355
- Gesher Tikvah (9 AM – 3:30 PM) $400

EACH WEEKLY SESSION IS AN adventure
filled with fun & games, swimming, crafts, nature & music
and ending with the celebration of Shabbat.
Camp Ruach
Bonim: Rising 1st – 2nd Graders
Kochavim: Rising 2nd – 3rd Graders
Chaverim: Rising 4th – 5th Graders
   Nine one-week sessions enable your camper to create lasting relationships while giving you scheduling flexibility. Each week, campers participate in a special event, go on an exciting field trip, pick Chugim (choices), and swim almost every day!
   While we encourage you to send campers for multiple weeks to maximize their Camp Ruach experience, one-week sessions allow you to customize their camp experience to fit your summer needs.

Gesher for Middle Schoolers
Rising 6th – 8th Graders
   Gesher provides a place for middle schoolers to explore responsibility in a fun, empowering atmosphere. Every week, Gesher campers will participate in a hike, a field trip, an overnight, and a service project!

New Extended Hours!
   The Camp Ruach and Gesher day now runs from 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM, instead of the previous 9 AM – 3:30 PM.

Leaders-in-Training (LIT)
Rising 9th & 10th Graders
   The Camp Ruach Leaders-in-Training (LIT) program gives rising 9th and 10th graders professional development and leadership training experience. LITs play an essential role at Camp Ruach and Shalom Children’s Center by helping counselors and teachers with their programs. LITs earn a weekly stipend while learning what it means to be a professional.
   The LIT program offers three 3-weeks sessions (June 8th – June 26th, June 29th – July 17th, and July 20 – August 7th). To be considered, applicants must be able to work for an entire session as well as attend the staff training week (June 1st – 5th). LIT spaces are limited and highly sought after.
   Applications can be submitted online beginning in March.

For LIT Program information, contact Mariah Schweiger, at 828-253-0701 ext. 105, or email mariah@jcc-asheville.org.

Chugim (Choices)
   Chugim enable campers to customize their own summer experience. Every Monday morning, campers select special activities to participate in throughout the week. These Chugim teach kids valuable skills, allowing them to push themselves and grow their abilities. This summer, Chugim will include Chaitz v Keshet (Artery), Teva (Nature), and much more!

Friday Lunch B’yachad (Together)
   No need to pack snacks or lunches on Fridays! All campers enjoy a delicious meal complete with camp traditions such as songs, awards, & RUACH (spirit).

Shlichim
   Each summer, two visiting Israelis participate in Camp Ruach to share Israeli culture with campers. This year the shlichim will be joining us for all nine weeks of camp! If you want to boost your kid’s camp experience, consider hosting the Shlichim for a week or two in your home. Contact daniel@jcc-asheville.org for information.
2020 CAMP SCHEDULE

Highlights...

Week 1, June 8–12: B’resheet Ruach
(Creating the Spirit of Camp)
• Field Trip: Restaurant Tour
• Special Event: Camp-wide Capture the Flag
• Night Programing: Gesher Late Night

Week 2, June 15–19: Haggadah (Legends)
• Bonim & Kochavim Field Trip: Gem Mining
• Chaverim & Gesher Field Trip: Ropes Course
• Special Event: Ruach Relay
• Night Programing: Gesher Overnight; Chaverim Late Night

Week 3, June 22–26: Mischakim
(Games, Games, Games)
• Field Trip: Arcade
• Special Event: Kid-made Arcade
• Night Programing: Gesher Overnight

Week 4, June 29–July 2nd: L’Chakor
(Explore)
• Field Trip: Cave Tour
• Special Event: Israel Day
• Night Programing: Gesher Overnight; Kochavim Late Night

Week 5, July 6–10: Chayot (Animals)
• Bonim & Kochavim Field Trip: Zoo or Farm
• Special Event: Ruach Relay
• Night Programing: Gesher Overnight

Week 6, July 13–17 Ruach’s Ruach
(Spirit Week)
• Bonim & Kochavim Field Trip: Park
• Chaverim & Gesher Field Trip: Camp 6 Points
• Special Event: Maccabiah Games
• Night Programing: Gesher Overnight; Chaverim Late Night

Week 7, July 20–24: Mayim
(Water Week)
• Bonim & Kochavim Field Trip: Water Park
• Chaverim & Gesher Field Trip: Water Park or rafting
• Special Event: Wacky Water Olympics
• Night Programing: Gesher Overnight

Week 8, July 27–31: Mishpocha (Family)
• Field Trip: Community Engagement
• Special Event: Seth Olson “You Can Make a Difference Day”
• Night Programing: Gesher Overnight; Bonim & Kochavim Late Night

Week 9, August 3–7: Chagigah (Celebration)
• Special Event: Camp Carnival
• Night Programing: Gesher Camp Out; Chaverim Overnight