Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center
JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS
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Glickman • Galinson Early Childhood Education Complex
Overview

Since 1945, the JCC has served as a hub of Jewish life in San Diego, becoming a cultural, educational and recreational destination, providing a place for meetings and countless projects and programs. Over the years, the JCC has continually evaluated and evolved to meet the changing needs of the community.

Glickman-Galinson Early Childhood Education Complex

The Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS offers a wide range of high quality programs and services for families of young children within the Glickman Galinson Early Childhood Education Complex. Three generations have created and actively participated in our stimulating and enriching programs.

Sheva Center – Learning Community

We have recently joined JCC preschools across the nation in embracing and redefining excellence in early childhood education by utilizing Jewish elements and lenses as our framework for daily activities. This has served to reinforce our long standing tradition of a strong Judaic curriculum.

Sheva, which means seven in Hebrew, is a powerful number in Jewish thought and practice. The Sheva framework employs seven core principles of early care and education and as well as using seven Jewish lenses to explore universal values. Our teachers, in partnership with parents weave these values throughout their day.

One example is the Jewish lens of Tikkun Olam- Repairing the World. We demonstrate and reinforce this with the children in several ways. Children are encouraged to perform mitzvot (commandments) that benefit others and weekly explore the concept of tzedakah – bringing justice to the world. Even our preschoolers can participate in bringing redemption to the world and understand that they, themselves can affect positive change through small kind acts.
Nierman Preschool (18 months-5 years old)

JCC’s Nierman Preschool is a play-based, nurturing environment that utilizes emergent curriculum and focuses on children’s interests and learning needs. Our primary goal is creating community through building trusting relationships with children, teachers and families. Affectionately referred to as “My Happy Place” by the actively engaged parents, each day includes group activities, music, art, and team projects as well as individual, creative exploration. The Preschool celebrates Jewish values, traditions, weekly Shabbat, and holidays. Along with the experienced and qualified faculty in the classrooms, specialists provide Spanish language instruction, gym, music and science to all the children. A School Counselor, Occupational Therapist and Inclusion Director also provide direct support to the families, children and educators. Our teacher to child ratio is 1:6 and 1:5 in the Totalehs (youngest children) which enable children to receive individualized attention.

Every classroom is an extraordinary learning community that inspires a love of learning and a celebration of Jewish identity. Children between the ages of eighteen months old through five years, old make friends and become the unique individuals they are meant to be. Our goal is to create an environment where each child develops a greater sense of self, a respect for others and a lifelong love of learning. Children are well prepared for kindergarten through school readiness activities.

Preschool Hours: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

SPECIAL FEATURES

Totalehs

One classroom is devoted to our youngest children from ages 18-23 months. This highly solicited program offers individual attention, which promotes the social, physical, emotional and intellectual development of the children.

Explorers

Uniquely designed for the oldest children at the preschool, this classroom offers a rich spiraled curriculum geared to promote skill development and social independence to enhance kindergarten readiness.

Spanish Immersion Classes

Parents can choose to have their child in a Spanish Immersion classroom. Classes are taught by fully trained, Spanish speaking early childhood educators. Children develop an understanding of the language and are encouraged to express themselves in Spanish.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)

Our 3-5 year old students participate in weekly STEM lessons in our lab. Our STEM lab is equipped with state of the art age-appropriate tools for exploration in biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, and mathematics.

For 4–5 years old students, we introduce more advanced subjects such as electricity and basic coding. All lesson plans utilize our “learning through play” philosophy, and are aimed at developing the scientific method of thinking.

Extended Care

Kid Konnection (KK) offers flexible extended care before and after school. Parents can feel confident about leaving their children with our professional staff, who oversee the children’s nap/quiet time and play.

M–Th: 7:30–9:00 a.m., 1:00–5:30 p.m.,

Extended Care: Friday-same but until 5:00 p.m.

Food

Daily dairy lunches (meat free) and delicious challah for Shabbat can be ordered.

Facilities

Our complex houses 16 classrooms, a central outdoor playground, a separate toddler playground, a Children’s Garden Sanctuary, a kitchen and a STEM lab. Classes also utilize the Astor Judaica Library, David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, Viterbi Family Gallery and the Jacobs Family Family Gymnasium.
**ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS FOR 0–5 YEARS OLD**

**Shalom Baby**
Shalom Baby celebrates the arrival of Jewish (affiliated, non-affiliated, and interfaith) newborns and welcomes them to the San Diego Jewish community through gift baskets, play groups, social events, holiday celebrations, and resource guides. This is a free program.

**Viterbi Baby Book Club**
Designed for 10–24 month-olds, the Viterbi Baby Book Club promotes pre-literacy for our youngest children. This hour-long bi-monthly program includes group storytelling, flannel board stories, Shabbat celebration, art projects, and music.

**PJ Library**
PJ Library mails monthly award-winning books that celebrate Jewish values and culture to Jewish children (affiliated, non-affiliated, and interfaith) 6 months through 8 years old. This is a free locally funded program.

**Little Mensches**
Little Mensches was created to provide Jewish children (affiliated, non-affiliated, and interfaith) between the ages of 4 and 8 with an opportunity to “give back” in a hands-on, engaging and fun way. Our mission is to “make the world better one mitzvah at a time,” through monthly community service programs. This is a free locally funded program.

**“Wee Play” (9-15 months)**
Babies and parents share engaging developmental experiences in a group setting. New friends and connections are made which last a lifetime. Music and movement, sensory experiences, Shabbat and Jewish holidays are celebrated. Wednesday from 11:30 A.M.–1:00 p.m. This outstanding program is offered at no cost. Registration is required as sessions fill up quickly.

**Tot ‘N Company (16-23 months)**
Enjoy this precious preschool adventure with your toddler while connecting with other parents and sharing family experiences. Participate in music, art, movement, outdoor play, gym, Shabbat and Jewish holiday celebrations. Wednesdays and/or Fridays 9:00–11:00 A.M.

**Enrichment Classes (3-5 years old)**
Sports, music, art, yoga, handwriting, karate, cooking, foreign languages, dance, science and math are among the outstanding series of classes offered each afternoon on a rotating schedule throughout the school year. Many children from Nierman Preschool participate however, any child between the ages of 3-5 can enroll as well. Preregistration is required. Contact the office for our latest schedule.

**Security/Safety**
Security and safety are our top priority. Our full time Security Director and security guards remain vigilant in maintaining and updating security enhancements to keep the JCC and all in attendance safe. We are also very fortunate to have the San Diego Police and Fire Departments next door as our neighbors with whom we share a close and supportive working relationship.