



Information Packet

2024-2025

Mrs. Nechama Farkash

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www.ganipreschool.com

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Welcome to Chabad's Jewish Preschool "Gani Preschool of the Arts"! Serving the educational needs of children 18 months to 5 years, we look forward to opening up new worlds for your child in fun and stimulating ways. Here at "Gani" Preschool of The Arts, we are committed to creating a warm, friendly and happy environment for your child, while assisting your child in developing a strong positive awareness of his/her Jewish identity. Aside Judaic themes and holidays, the curriculum at Chabad Preschool will expose the children to a wide range of experiences including art, movement, pre-writing & reading skills and early math skills, which are all integrated into our hands-on learning centers. Chabad's Gani Preschool is committed to excellence.

When dropping off your child, you will find caring teachers, who above all, will shower the children with love and affection. We offer a creative Jewish learning atmosphere where your child's individual style of learning will be valued and nurtured. We will encourage your child to explore the world, to learn to be part of a group, and to solve problems in a constructive manner. Learning at our school is self-rewarding, joyous and non-competitive.

We invite you to call me to discuss any questions or uncertainties regarding your child's preschool education whenever you feel it necessary.

We look forward to a fully cooperative relationship, and a very successful school year.

Nechama Farkash

Director of admissions/ Program director

425-985-8996

OVERVIEW

Philosophy

Gani Preschool of the Arts is a place where young children receive a warm and enriching preschool experience providing them with the foundation to grow socially, emotionally, and intellectually. Our goal is to create a preschool environment that integrates the history and traditions of Judaism with a broad spectrum of secular topics. Gani teachers promote the values of respect and responsibility in a positive and encouraging manner.

Children who attend our preschool develop into proud and productive Americans knowledgeable and aware of the richness found in their Jewish heritage. Through developmentally appropriate activities, children gain the opportunity to learn and perfect newly acquired skills. Our teachers recognize that children learn best when they experience the world firsthand utilizing all of their senses to participate in learning. At Gani Preschool of the Arts children are encouraged to create, explore, and discover in the safety of our nurturing environment.

Objectives

- ... To provide a setting in which your child will feel safe and happy
- ... To use your child's interests and experiences as the basis for learning and activities
- ... To help your child develop a love for learning; a love that is deep, wide and ever growing
- ... To provide opportunities for your child to learn academic skills through day-to-day activities

... To encourage your child's love for books and foster Hebrew pre-reading skills appropriate to his/her stage of development

... To encourage your child's creativity and artistic expression.

... To encourage your child to ask questions, which will be answered sincerely and honestly

... To develop your child's social skills in both one-on-one and larger group settings

... To encourage your child to work independently and with his/hers peers

... To provide materials, equipment and provocations that peek their curiosity

... To foster an environment with caring and committed adults to help you child get the most out of school and him/herself.

Targeted areas of development:

1. Language skills, Receptive and expressive communication, function in a group and language appreciation
2. Perception and fine Motor skills.
3. Movement and Gross motor
4. Social emotional learning
5. Reading Readiness that is age appropriate.
6. Number concepts
7. Science
8. Jewish Holidays, rituals, symbols and foods
9. Prayers and Blessings
10. Hebrew introduction
11. Jewish values rooted in Torah and Mitzvot

Sample Morning schedule

Time	18m-3 years	Time	years 4-5
8:30 – 9:30	Choice time/sensory .prov	8:30 –9:30	Choice time/sensory .prov
9:30 – 10:00	Transition time	9:30 – 10:00	Morning circle
10:00 –10:30	Breakfast	10:00–10:30	Breakfast
10:30 -11:00	Circle time	10:30- 11:00	Learning circle/social emotional
11:50 –11:00	Outdoor exploration	11:45 – 11:00	Instructor Lead Centers & Steam
	On a rainy day:* Music, games, indoor gross motor	1:00 – 11:45	Transition/Outdoor Exploration
12:00 – 11:50	transition	12:30 –1:00	individual/small skill focus group
12:00 –12:30	Lunch	1:30 –1:00	Lunch
2:30 – 12:45	Nap time	2:30 – 1:30	Rest time
3:00 – 2:30	Snack time	3:00 – 2:30	Enrichment
3:30 – 3:00	Choice time & art	3:15 – 3:00	Snack time
4:15 – 3:30	Outdoor Exploration	4:15 – 3:15	Outdoor Exploration
4:30 – 4:15	Transition & dismissal	4:30 – 4:15	Transition & dismissal

Infant room: We create a schedule based on the needs of each infant, following their rhythm and evolving developmental stages

Sample unit on Tu Bishvat

Circle time: Sing "Happy Birthday" to the trees, flowers, and plants. Introduce the Seven Species: wheat, barley, figs, dates, grapes, olives and pomegranates. Try to bring in a variety for the children to taste. Graph the results of the children's preferences on a large sheet of paper and display. Shnat Shmita
Read "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein. Brainstorm how many types of trees the children can list.

Naturalistic/science:

- Bring live worms (purchase at local pet shop) into the classroom during the entire unit. Store them in a covered container with top soil. Provide magnifying glasses for children to observe them and explain their role in helping plants grow. During nice weather this activity would be done outdoors

- Plant grass heads using grass seeds, knee-hi's, and potting soil. Pour 1 teaspoon of grass seeds into the toe of the stockings, add one cup of soil, tie the top with a rubber band and place the stuffed stocking in a bowl. Saturate the "plant" with water, leaving it to soak overnight. Once dry, decorate with a funny face using markers or paint. Water it daily and it should begin to grow within 5-7 days. Have fun trimming its hair as the grass grows (winter). During spring and fall the children will experiment planting various seeds, herbs and plants in their outdoor planting boxes.
- During our walk outside, make tree rubbings with chubby crayons and thin typing or tracing paper.
- The parts of the tree - Roots, trunk, branches, leaves, flowers and fruits, and it's uses - Shadow, Oxygen, food, habitat for the birds and animals....
- Parts of the fruit
 - The fruits from the trees and the fruits from the field.

Linguistic:

- Hang a pocket chart on the wall with seven pockets, each depicting the picture and word of one of the Seven Species. Obtain samples of each specie (wheat and barley can be purchased from a dried flower store) and place each one in a Ziploc bag. Let the children insert the fruit samples in the appropriate pockets on the chart. Vocabulary usage both in English and Hebrew of unit words: Tree, Leaf, Flower, Fruit. Basket: An apple and an orange (Gold apple = תפוח זהב בעברית)
- The children guess what do we have in the basket.
- We will compare size and shape, color, texture - smooth or rough, pieces and seeds.
- We will peel the orange, smell, squeeze, taste....

Kinesthetic: poems and body motions for Hashkedia Porachat.... (The almond tree is blooming).

Mi rotze tapooach Zahav? Ani... Sheyavo Ely Veten lo Shai.... (Hebrew song).

Tapuz echad yashav Bahargaz.....

Interpersonal:

- Set up a garden center or flower shop in the dramatic play area. Provide gardening tools, rakes, cash registers, silk flowers, watering cans, gardening gloves and wrapping paper to wrap the flowers.

- Store of fruits and vegetables in the class, selling and buying
- Tasting different flavors of the fruits: Sweet, Sour, bitter....

Comparing different colors: orange, yellow, green..

Mathematical:

- Use Trix cereal or other fruit shaped cereal to graph the varying amounts of the fruit shapes. Draw a bar chart with fruit shapes below and the children can tally the totals by coloring the squares with crayons.

Spatial:

- Fruit stamp painting. Do stamp paintings with exotic fruits such as star-fruit or dates. Dip them into paints, design prints and label. (Use a fork to steady the fruits while painting.), painting an almond tree, paper oranges,

A tree with hands prints....., fruit mobile

Gani Preschool Calendar 2024-25

Please note: Gani Preschool observes Jewish and most Legal holidays. As per the parent handbook, reimbursements or additional days are not given for any days your child is not in preschool due to illness, holiday or family vacation.

August 28th,	First Day of Preschool
Wednesday, August 28th	4:00 pm Parent Open House, followed by Family picnic
September 2 nd	No school, Labor Day
Wednesday October 2 nd	12:30 dismissal– Erev Rosh Hashana
Thu-Fri October 3 rd , 4 th	No school Rosh Hashana
Friday October 11 th	12:30 dismissal– Erev Yom Kippur
Thu-Fri October 17-18	No school – Sukkot
Thu-Fri October 24-25	No school – Simchat Torah
Saturday November 16 th	Gani Families Havdala
Monday/Tuesday – November 25-26th	Afternoon Parent teacher conferences (full day of school)
Thur - Friday, November 28 th -29th	No school - Thanksgiving Break
Thursday December 19 th	Chanukah party (3:30pm)
Thursday Dec. 23 nd – January 3 rd	No school – winter break
Friday February 14 th	No school – Teacher professional Day
Monday February 17th	No school – Presidents Day
Thur. April 10 th – Mon. 21 st	No school – Pessach - spring break
Monday, May 19th	Afternoon Parent Teacher conferences (optional).
Monday, May 26 th	No school – Memorial Day
Mon.-Tues June 2 nd -3 rd	No school - Shavuot
Friday June 20 th	Graduation/End of year party Half day - Last day
Monday June 30 th	Gan Izzy Day Camp begins

Tuition

Tuition for the 2024-2025 **school year** is as follows:

Perachim - Infants

Garinim (child must turn 18 months upon starting the program)

Shorashim (child must turn 3 by August 31st)

	Shorashim 4s 5s	Garinim 2s, 3s	Perachim (walking-17months)
Full Time 8:30 - 4:30	\$17000 annual	\$17000 annual	\$20000 annual
Half Day 8:30 - 1:30 (Shorashim)	\$14250 annual		
Half Day 8:30 - 12:30 (Garinim)		\$12000 annual	
Before Care 8:00 – 8:30 am	\$800 annual (\$80 monthly)		

The annual tuition fee is divided into 10 installments and is paid via direct pay brightwheel for the first of each month from September through May. (Your June installment is the prepaid deposit that secures your spot)

Lunch: Children are served a hot, kosher, nutritious and wholesome daily lunch

A nonrefundable application fee of \$100 is required with each application for admissions. Each child is assessed a non-refundable last month tuition security fee upon enrollment

Application procedure

1. Follow Registration Link on our website via Brightwheel
2. Once your application has been reviewed and processed, registration fee will apply and you will receive all forms along with contract will be accessible via your Brightwheel account
3. A signed contract along with your prepaid last month tuition will secure your child's space.