



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **SHA'AR HEBREW LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM**

#### **Q: What is Sha'ar?**

A: Sha'ar is a Hebrew language immersion program at Ramah Day Camp of Greater Washington, DC. Sha'ar groups will be embedded in our youngest division, Shorashim (entering K and 1<sup>st</sup> grade). All aspects of the camp day will be conducted in Hebrew, giving children an opportunity to gain proficiency as they participate in the myriad activities—swim, sports, arts and crafts, and more—that make the camp day so magical.

#### **Q: Can my child attend for one session only?**

A: In order to get the most from this immersive Hebrew experience, children must attend for the full camp season. Please call our office to discuss your specific situation further.

#### **Q: My child doesn't know any Hebrew. Can s/he participate?**

A: Yes! The program will include children at all ability levels. Your child can be a Sha'ar camper whether s/he knows only a word or two or s/he has already been in a Hebrew nursery, kindergarten, or elementary school environment.

#### **Q: How many campers will be in the Sha'ar program with my child?**

A: We are launching this program as a pilot this summer. Our goal is to enroll 10 campers in the Sha'ar group, which will be embedded in the larger Shorashim division for the majority of camp activities.

#### **Q: Is there an additional fee for participating in Sha'ar?**

A: There is an additional tuition fee of \$250 per camper, which will cover the costs of materials and professional staff.

#### **Q: What does Sha'ar mean?**

A: The word Sha'ar serves as an acronym for the Hebrew words "Sfat Ivrit b'Ramah" (Hebrew language at Ramah) and means "gate" or "portal." Talented Israeli and American counselors will be leading the way as these campers go forth—playing, running, singing, sliding, and scoring, hakol b'ivrit (all in Hebrew)!

#### **Q: I still have some questions. How can I find out more?**

A: We suggest that you register your child if you think that s/he is likely to attend, as space is limited. If you have any pressing concerns or questions, you may call the Ramah Day Camp of Greater Washington, DC office at (301) 500-8251 and speak with Rabbi Rami Schwartz, Camp Director.

*Sha'ar DC is part of the National Ramah Sha'ar Hebrew program.*