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THE JEWISH CAMP DIRECTOR'S AI STARTER KIT

A Practical, Values-Driven
Guide to Integrating AI into
Jewish Camp Life

WELCOME TO THE AGE OF AI AT CAMP



AI can't replace the ruach (spirit) of camp — but it can help us run smarter, not harder.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is changing how we work, plan, and communicate. For Jewish camps, it offers exciting opportunities to streamline operations, free up staff time, and spark creativity — without losing our human touch.

This starter kit is designed to help you explore AI safely, ethically, and effectively while staying grounded in the Jewish values that guide our leadership and community life.

Whether you're brand new to AI or already experimenting, this guide will help you start small, stay thoughtful, and scale responsibly.

You don't need to be an expert. You just need curiosity, attention, and a willingness to explore. This guide is here to help you do just that — step by step, in ways that are doable and meaningful.

We don't have all the answers yet, and that's okay. What matters most is starting the conversation, modeling curiosity, and guiding your camp with values in mind. The rest we can figure out together.

Warmly,
Sarah Robinson Levy



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WHY AI? WHY NOW?

Across the education and nonprofit worlds, organizations are using AI to work smarter, freeing time for the human work that matters most — connection, creativity, and care.

At camp, AI can:

- Save time by automating repetitive tasks like summarizing notes or drafting messages.
- Inspire creativity through idea generation for programs, themes, and training.
- Enhance communication by helping staff write clearly and consistently.

But there's one thing AI can never do: replace relationships, judgment, or heart.

5 AI PROJECTS TO TRY BEFORE SUMMER

Small, tangible, low-risk ways to begin experimenting with AI at camp.

Parent Communication Assistant

1

Use AI to draft weekly parent emails, reminders, or FAQs then edit for tone and accuracy.

Example Prompt: *You are a parent liaison at a Jewish summer camp. Write a 150-word parent reminder email about packing lists and medication forms. Use a friendly, upbeat camp tone.*

2

Staff Training Support

Generate sample discussion questions, icebreakers, or reflection prompts for orientation.

Example Prompt: *You are a director of a Jewish summer camp. Create five short reflection prompts for staff orientation about living Jewish values at camp.*

3

Program Ideation Partner

Brainstorm new program ideas that align with your camp's mission or theme weeks.

Example Prompt: *You are a program director at a Jewish summer camp. Generate 10 creative evening program ideas for middle school campers that incorporate teamwork and Jewish values.*

4

Policy Draft Helper

Draft or update internal policies then review for alignment with your values.

Example Prompt: *You are the director at a Jewish summer camp. Draft a short policy outlining appropriate AI use by summer staff. Include sections on privacy, transparency, and respect.*

5

Meeting & Planning Summaries

Upload meeting notes (no personal data!) and have AI summarize key decisions and next steps.

Example Prompt: *You are an administrator at a Jewish summer camp. Summarize this staff meeting transcript into 3 key takeaways and 5 action items.*

Remember!

Always remove or anonymize camper and staff information before uploading text into an AI tool.

AI VALUES REFLECTION TOOL

Bringing Jewish Values into the AI Conversation

Use this tool to ensure every use of AI reflects the heart of your camp's mission. Discuss it with your team when piloting new tools or processes.

Jewish Value	Guiding Principle	Guiding Questions	Camp Example
B'tzelem Elokim Human-Centered Leadership	AI should enhance, not replace, meaningful human connection and judgment.	- Does this AI tool empower staff and strengthen relationships, or does it depersonalize work? - Are we ensuring that human leadership remains at the center of decisions?	Using AI to draft camper birthday letters, but having counselors personalize each message before sending, keeps the warmth intact.
Achrayut Responsibility	AI use should be clear, documented, and accountable.	- Are campers, staff, and families aware when AI is being used? - Who reviews and approves AI-generated content?	Sharing in your parent email that parts were drafted with AI (reviewed by staff) models transparency.
Tzedek Justice	AI should promote fairness and inclusion.	- Could this tool create or reinforce inequity? - Have we considered diverse perspectives in how this tool is implemented?	Checking that AI-generated program ideas are inclusive across age, ability, and background.
Shmirat Halashon / B'tzelem Elokim Privacy & Protection	AI must safeguard personal and sensitive data.	- Are we protecting camper and staff data from misuse? - Does this use of AI respect individual dignity and consent?	Avoid inputting names, photos, or stories that could identify campers or staff.
Emet Integrity & Authenticity	AI should reflect the camp's voice, mission, and spirit.	- Does this output accurately represent our camp's tone and values? - Are we clear about what is human-created versus AI-assisted?	Reviewing all AI-generated content before sharing ensures it "sounds like us."
Bal Tashchit Stewardship & Sustainability	Use AI responsibly to enhance—not replace—the stewardship of camp resources and people.	- Is AI being used efficiently and ethically? - Are we balancing innovation with tradition?	Using AI to streamline administrative tasks so staff can focus more on camper experience.

CAMP AI READINESS SELF-ASSESSMENT

Is Your Camp Ready for AI?

Check your readiness with this quick 10-point tool:

- ☐ We have clear policies about technology and data use.
- ☐ Staff understand basic AI tools and privacy guidelines.
- ☐ We have time to pilot and reflect before scaling up AI projects.
- ☐ Our leadership supports ethical innovation.
- ☐ We evaluate AI tools through a Jewish values lens.
- ☐ We've identified 1–2 areas where AI could save time.
- ☐ We review and revise all AI-generated content before use.
- ☐ We have a designated person responsible for oversight.
- ☐ We talk about values, not just efficiency.
- ☐ We're committed to experimenting and learning together.

Score yourself:

8–10 = Ready to experiment responsibly!

5–7 = Start small and focus on training.

0–4 = Begin with foundational policy and learning.



PROMPT STARTERS & TEMPLATE

Start Here - Prompt Starters:

- “Help me organize...”
- “Summarize this text in...”
- “Brainstorm 10 ways to...”
- “Draft a first version of...”
- “List potential improvements for...”

Tip: Save great prompts in a shared camp library so everyone benefits.

Bonus: Build Your Own Prompt Template

Role + Task + Context + Tone + Output format + Guardrails

Example:

You are a camp communications director. Write a warm, 150-word weekly update for parents sharing highlights from week two. Use a cheerful tone, include three bullet points, and remind parents about Shabbat visitors’ day. Do not include any personal camper details.

PRIVACY & POLICY CHECKLIST

Top 5 Non-Negotiables Before Using AI:

1. Never input camper or staff names, photos, or identifying information.
2. Check if your organization has a policy — and align with it.
3. Label AI-assisted materials clearly when shared externally.
4. Keep human review in all outward-facing communication.
5. Use only secure, reputable AI platforms.



NEXT STEPS

What's one area where AI could save your team time before next summer?

**Start with one small project this month!
Experiment, reflect, and share what you learn.**

Getting started with AI can feel overwhelming. It's new, fast-moving, and sometimes confusing.

That's why I created this guide — to give you clear steps to get started.

And, you don't have to figure it out alone. I invite you to reach out so we can schedule a time to connect and discuss how to approach AI within your camp. Together, we can:

- Talk about what you are already experiencing with AI and where guidance is needed.
- Identify challenges or concerns you might have around values-driven AI usage.
- Map out simple, actionable steps you can take to lead your staff through your AI journey.

We're all learning as we go, and you don't have to navigate this alone. Let's take the next step together.

Reach me at: Sarah@SarahRubinsonCC.com

About Sarah

Dr. Sarah Rubinson Levy empowers excellence and innovation in education, partnering with clients to achieve the level of quality and distinction they desire for their Jewish organizations - serving as a strategic project manager, thought partner, and/or content expert.

With over 20 years of experience, including a master's and a doctorate as well as certificates in Day School Education, Jewish Leadership Studies, Jewish Educational Leadership, and Executive Coaching, Sarah helps leaders look towards the future, elevating their in-house teams and resources to foster effective, joyful, future-ready environments through a process that focuses on clarity, strategy, and execution. Her focus on AI includes certificates in Elements of AI and Responsible AI as well as a TEDx talk titled "Why AI is the Catalyst We Need to Change Education Forever."

She is a proud Colorado native and currently lives in Denver, CO with her four (Jewish camping) kids, beta fish, and leopard gecko and is always more than happy to weigh in on the best place to ski.



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