



# Camp Shalom Shmooze

July 19, 2019  
Parshas Balak



## Rabbi Gold's Parsha Corner

This week's Parsha, Parshas Balak, tells us the story of Bilaam. Balak hires Bilaam to curse the Bnei Yisroel. On the way to curse them, Bilaam's donkey stops three times. Bilaam, who cannot see the Malach, beats and scolds his donkey. Suddenly, the animal turns to his master and asks, "Why are you beating me? Can't you see the Malach, holding a sword, blocking our path?" The Malach then reveals himself to Bilaam and adding instructions from Hashem with guidelines as to how to proceed with his mission. The Ramban asks, what was Hashem's point in performing the miracle of giving the donkey the power to speak to Bilaam? Bilaam could have seen the Malach and been rebuked directly??

Hashem intended to teach Bilaam a lesson. He should have understood that if Hashem can create a new creation, a donkey that can speak, then certainly Bilaam could be able to improve his power of speech by not cursing Bnei Yisroel. But Bilaam didn't listen to Hashem. The Ohr HaChaim explains that even if Bilaam had not cursed Bnei Yisroel, Bilaam knew that he would not try hard enough to change his evil ways and, therefore, Bilaam decided that it wasn't even worth trying. The lesson we learn from this story is that it is not always easy to do the right thing. This is something that usually takes a lot of effort to achieve. However, as Yiddin, we must always continue to try and do the right thing and never give up like Bilaam did.

## Reminders

- Please remember to send your child with a **refillable water bottle**, **sunscreen** and **snacks** every day. The children work up an appetite with their daily activities and get hungry. Only the Rishon children are provided with snack from the camp.
- **We are a nut and seed free camp.**
- All clothing should be labeled clearly with your child's name.

## Important Dates

### July 23

Shalom's Survivor

### July 24

Machane Travel Trip  
to Bowling

### July 24

Shlishi Travel Trip to  
Pizza & Packits  
Project

### July 25

Simon Sez

### July 25

Machane Travel Trip to  
Treetop Adventure

### July 26

Crazy Colors  
Dress Up Day

### July 26

Shlishi Travel Trip to  
Palisades Park Hike



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## NEWS AROUND CAMP SHALOM

What an amazing week in **Rishon**! We had so much fun swimming, creating, laughing with friends, and performing on stage. Rishon was very busy doing different activities such as Art, Tae Kwon Do, and various amazing sports. Our creative sides came pouring out during ceramics and fun with food. Nothing beats swimming in the pool to stay nice and cool. And finally, we had the opportunity to perform on stage for our Shalom's got talent. Can't wait for next week!

The first 4 weeks have flown by so fast and the **Sheini Girls** have been having a blast! Doing Science, music, swimming and sports galore, Theme Day, Fun with Food & Fashion, Art and so much more. We had trips to Rye Playland or Bounce U and this week we put on a talent show, too. The girls danced, sang, juggled and put on a skit - our first month in camp has been a real hit! For those who are leaving, we wish you the best and if you are staying- we can't wait for the rest!  
-Ilissa & Alyssa

As our leagues came to a close after 3.5 weeks, the banana stealing funky monkeys finished with a record of 13-3-3, the coco puffs finished 13-4-2, the foamy ducks 10-5-4, the flaming flamingos 9-7-3, Dove Gang 9-9-1, Revenge Raptors 9-9-1, Awesome Anteaters 7-10-2, Apple Fritters 5-11-3.

The playoffs began and they really showed it was anyone's game. After a double elimination, the Flaming Flamingos emerged as the first team making it to the Championship. In the second bracket, the Foamy Ducks and the Revenge Raptors will be battling it out first thing Friday morning in the semis with the championship set for 1:30 Friday afternoon! We had a great season and a number of very intense rounds of playoffs! We are looking forward to beginning again on Monday to kick off the second half!!

The **Sheini Boys** have had an amazing week at camp once again! Our dynamic team of counselors have kept the fun coming non-stop, all while making sure the campers remained hydrated and sun-screened throughout this heat wave. We saw some fantastic talents on stage this Tuesday including a hysterical skit from Yitzchak 3 and an adorable song from Avraham 1. Congratulations to both of these bunks for winning a slurpee party for their efforts! We would also like to congratulate Yitzchak 2 on winning our Benching competition with the Yaakovs. We are looking forward to seeing everyone next week and wish a terrific rest of the summer and goodbye to all those who are leaving for next half. Have a good Shabbos!

What a wet, wacky and whimsical week full of **Programming** at Camp Shalom! Week 4 brought out our Silly Socks and talented campers when they performed on the star studded "Shalom's Got Talent" stage! Entries came from near (Teaneck) and far (Nyc) to wow the judges with songs, dances, comedy, impersonations, magic and even some rollerblading tricks. (Yes...rollerblading is still around.)

Winners took home trophies for their bunks in the form of Slurpees to cool them down during this hot summer week. Now that's the REAL golden buzzer.



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## PARSHA Q & A

1) Who was the king of Balak?

מואב

2) Who was Bilam?

He was an evil, non-Jewish נביא

3) Why did Balak want to hire an evil Navi?

He heard that בני ישראל 's power is in their speech, (ie. Tefillah) so he wanted to curse them and cause bad things to happen to them. Cursing is done with speech.

4) What did בלעם say to Balak's messengers?

Sleep here tonight and we will see what Hashem says.

5) What did ה' tell בלעם in the middle of the night?

You may NOT go with them.

6) Who got בלעם's donkey ready?

בלעם himself woke up early to get it ready.

7) What did the donkey see on the road?

A מלאך with his sword stretched out.

8) What did the donkey do?

It stopped and started to walk off the road.

9) What happened to בלעם's foot when donkey saw the מלאך the second time?

It was smashed against the fence.

10) What did בלעם finally do to the donkey?

He hit the donkey.

11) What amazing thing did the donkey do?

TALK! "Why did you hit me these three times?"

12) Was בלעם able to curse בני ישראל? What did ה' make him do?

No. He gave them ברכות instead of curses.

13) What famous part of davening is from Bilam's Bracha?

מה טובו אהליך יעקב משכנתך ישראל

14) What was so "good" about the tents of Bnai Yisrael?

All openings/entrances were facing the same way showing how they were tznius (modest), and respected each other's privacy.

15) Who was פנחס? What did he do?

He is the grandson of Aharon. He killed Zimri and Kozbi because Zimri, a Jew, took Kozbi, a non-Jewish woman, to his tent to marry her.