

## Facts about Peace Garden

### Location

Havurah Shir Hadash  
185 N. Mountain Ave. in Ashland.

### Facility

Our beautifully appointed classroom opens onto a spacious patio and lawn with trees, garden, play structure, and sand box. The beautiful mountains of Ashland surround us.

### Enrollment and Class Size

Ages 3 – 5

Up to 10 children - our intimate group creates a lovely feeling of coziness while providing just enough diversity.

### Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
9A.M.- 12:55 P.M.

### Contact

Call Leah Avital Cohen for current fees  
541-488-8887 or 541-301-2398



### Parent Participation

Parents are invited to participate in special celebrations and to share their special talents in the classroom. We also welcome parental involvement in a myriad of ways that contribute to the building of strong community, a core value at the Gan. Your participation is the best way to model community building for the children.

### Director/Teacher

Leah Avital Cohen is a credentialed early childhood educator with nineteen years experience teaching in diverse classroom environments at both secular and Jewish preschools. Her training includes educational kinesiology, brain gym, Montessori, and Waldorf education. She has traveled and studied abroad, lived with her family in Israel, and speaks Hebrew. Linda's teaching experience includes eight years in the S.F. Bay Area, and she is commencing her twelfth year with Peace Garden.

# Peace Garden

Gan Neve Shalom

## Preschool & Kindergarten



Honoring the beauty and spirit of childhood

"We are each of us angels with only one wing...  
And we can only fly embracing each other"

Luciano De Crescenzo

## Introduction

We are a play based, child-centered preschool, influenced by various educational philosophies, and deeply inspired by the Waldorf approach. The program is holistic, imparting a love and respect for Mother Earth, and enriched by Jewish and universal spiritual values. The day includes indoor and outdoor creative play, arts and crafts, felting, sewing, spinning wool, singing, movement, dance, story telling, gardening, cooking, and baking.



## Philosophy

The child-centered curriculum of Peace Garden is based on the trust that the young child, when provided with a loving and nurturing environment, will blossom as beautifully and gracefully as a flower. Each child in her uniqueness will develop in her own time...at the perfect moment.

Our function as teachers is to carefully observe, listen, and gently guide the child in order to meet his needs without imposing our will upon him.

With this in mind, we provide an environment that will invite the child to explore, interact, and discover the world and her relationship to it. We offer help when needed, enthusiasm for joyous endeavors, encouragement through struggles, and firm loving support through challenges.



Our program is created with sensitivity, respect, and is developmentally appropriate for the young child. Young children have absorbent minds, and the spirit of Judaism will manifest through their experiences of our school community.

They will learn to be stewards of Mother Earth through the garden they plant and tend, experience the miracle of nature through the harvest they reap, and share the food that they have prepared together. They will live the values that are essential to build strong community as well as a strong sense of self.

At Peace Garden children are offered a safe haven to revel in the sacred place of childhood. Each day provides structure and order without rigidity. There is always room for spontaneity as it arises.

## Who we are

Peace Garden, a Havurah program, is operated independently by Leah Avital Cohen.

We honor and welcome diversity and do not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, religion, or diverse family structure.

