

## **“Art for Learning” Uses Percy Jackson series and Kosher Food to turn kids on to Art and Culture**

Sheryl Intrator Urman, founder of Art for Learning, LLC, has taught Greek and Roman art enrichment programs in Moriah Day School, Yeshiva of North Jersey, and Torah Academy of Bergen County. Just recently she discovered that kids have been mesmerized by *Percy Jackson series of books*, written by Rick Riordan which has also been turned into a movie. Mrs. Urman has added a new weekly summer specialty program to her summer art camps that will combine an introduction to Greek and Roman Art with Percy Jackson’s adventures. The program participants will be asked to read excerpts from one of the books and Mrs. Urman will use the characters in the book as a springboard for exploring Greek and Roman history, culture, art and mythology. The program will include 2 days of travel trips. One of the trips will include a customized tour of the Greek and Roman Galleries at the Metropolitan Museum, which museum is featured prominently in the first Percy Jackson book. In addition to travel and learning, participants will create wonderful art projects based on Greek and Roman art themes.

Mrs. Urman’s summer programs feature other literature based week long programs. In the program entitled, “The Jewish Immigrant Experience,” kids are asked to read an excerpt of a “*Dear America*” book. In “Medieval Art,” the group reads portions of Sir Walter Scott’s “*Ivanhoe*”.

Since each program is only one week, she finds that preparation helps the kids get into the particular period to be covered. Urman says “Summer is a special time to relax and have fun, so it is amazing how many kids choose to sign on to my programs. Kids don’t see it as learning. By the end of the week they’re surprised and proud of how much they’ve learned.

Many parents send their children to traditional day camps, and take them out for one or 2 weeks to join this unique special interest series. For older kids who go to sleep away camp for one month, they enjoy the change up that Art for Learning provides.

This summer, Art for Learning will offer 36 week-long programs for children in grades 2-11. The art classes feature a variety of programs including Impressionism, Modern, Colonial, and Victorian. There is a program just on mosaics and another on the art of China and Japan. There is one called “Princess Experience.” Other programs focus on zoo and farm animals, dinosaurs, and fish. Each art program includes two field trips, to museums, mansions, botanical gardens or zoos. Art lessons are sometimes given in Central Park, in zoos, or on farms. Seven levels of Fashion are also offered. Teen Tour Travel Program, for students entering grades 7-11, also are offered. It includes five days of visits to some of New York’s most significant tourist spots.

All restaurant stops are Kosher.

For more information about Art for Learning, LLC., summer and after-school programs, visit [www.artforlearning.com](http://www.artforlearning.com) or call Mrs. Urman at 201-503-9796. “All our programs have been created to make life-long memories. Art makes learning fun,” she says.