

SOUND MAP

One of the central prayers in Judaism is the *Shema*, the declaration that G!D is something to be heard. This activity will give you a chance to practice listening like a deer, exercise your sense of hearing and reflect on the *Shema*.

DURATION 15 minutes
AUDIENCE 6 years +
SETTING Outdoors
THEME Awareness

SHEMA SOUND MAP

1. Cup your hands around the back of your ears in a triangle shape, like a deer's ears. Close your eyes and listen for a moment.
2. Take a Shema Sound Map and go find a spot to sit in, alone.
3. Make an X in the centre of the map to represent yourself.
4. Use your deer ears to focus on listening to the sounds around you. Draw pictures or write what you are hearing, indicating the location of the sounds by where and how close or far you draw them in relation to the X (i.e. you!).
5. Share your maps with each other and discuss what kind of nature and human-made sounds you heard. How do you think this spot would have sounded 100 years ago? Does this change your understanding of the Shema prayer?

MATERIALS

- Pencils or markers
- Shema Sound Map (attached)



Take a picture of your adventures and share it on social media! Tag us @[ShoreshTO!](#)

Follow us on [Facebook](#) or check out our [blog](#) for more Jewish nature-based activities you can do at home!

