

Rosh Hashanah and Tashlich



The Jewish people are instructed in the Torah that “in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall observe complete rest, a sacred occasion, commemorated with loud blasts” (Leviticus 23:24). This is the holiday known as Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. Rosh Hashanah is called many names - Day of Remembrance, Day for Sounding the Shofar, and sometimes called the Birthday of the World.

On Rosh Hashanah Jews are commanded to hear 100 blasts of the shofar (a ceremonial horn, usually from a ram). While there are many traditions associated with Rosh Hashanah, one of the most significant is the ceremony of *Tashlich*, which means to cast or throw. Bread crumbs are thrown in moving water from a natural source to symbolically represent casting away sins of the past year, so that we can start the New Year with a clean slate.

Apples and Honey

Try out multiple types of apples and honey as a fun, family friendly taste test. Have participants vote on the winners, and send home a lucky winner with a gift basket full of the top choices.

Bathtub Tashlich

Leading up to Rosh Hashanah, use bath crayons to write or draw things you are sorry about in the tub or a classroom water table, and then wash them away. This is a great lesson in starting fresh with an opportunity to cleanse our souls. To learn more about this meaningful tradition: Pjfor.me/about-tashlich.

Challah in the Round

Challah is delicious no matter what the shape, but there is something about the traditional round Rosh Hashanah challah, dipped in honey, seems extra sweet and special. Check out this great tutorial for a how-to: Pjfor.me/round-challah-how-to.

Red Light, Green Light

Help children learn the different sounds of the shofar ([tekiyah](#), [shevarim](#), and [teruah](#)) by playing this game. Enlist children’s help to call out the names of each sound. With each blast, children move the appropriate number of steps. Tekiyah means one step, shevarim is three, and teruah is nine quick little steps.



Challah Cover

Using apples and pomegranates as stamps and red grape juice and pomegranate juice for paints, create a special class challah cover. Wash and enjoy your tools as your snack and once the challah cover dries, it can be used for holidays and Shabbat all year long. At the end of the year, hold an auction to raise money for a local charity, and the family with the highest bid gets to take it home.