

## Audio Puzzle

### Overview:

In this sharing circle, participants will make whatever sounds they want to simultaneously, then work together to analyze a recording of their cacophony to identify the sounds each person made. This simple, two-part activity promotes energetic and noisy play, *and* quiet listening and focus.



### Objectives:

- Practice listening and paying attention to sounds that aren't normally noticed.
- Prepare for more engaged in-nature activities where students can isolate and identify different sounds they hear.
- Distinguish different sounds, even if it's unclear what they are (unknown sounds can be repeated instead of named).

### Materials:

Any kind of recorder, including a phone app.

### Activity:

1. Gather the group of participants in a circle. Adults can join, too!
2. Have one person prepare a recording app on their phone.
3. Now, ask everyone in the group to make one sound of their choosing at the same time for 30 seconds. The sound could be anything! Noises like cars, birds, wind, humans chattering... just don't tell anyone what it is.
4. After the 30 seconds, everyone should sit in silence and listen to the entire recording.
5. Participants should then try to guess what sounds they heard. Can they identify what the sound was? What sounds did they miss?
6. Participants can also step outside and spend time focusing on sounds they hear in nature and trying to identify all the different sounds. They can log the sounds and share with others what they heard!

**Target Age:** K-2 and elementary school, multigenerational

**Time to Prep Activity:** 5 minutes

**Time to Complete Activity:** 10-15 minutes

**Perfect for:** Indoors (at home, in the classroom, in the library...)

**Other activities that connect:**

If you want other activities with the same feel, but a bit more engagement, try *What Creature Are You?* For a more hands-off experience, you can try *Spot the Difference*. If you want to do something outdoors and be more involved, explore the outdoor activities like *Nature Bingo*, *Senses*, or *One Square Yard*.