**Exploring Shana Tova Cards**

Have you ever received a Shana Tova card for the Jewish New Year? Nowadays it is less common to send cards in the post, especially Shana Tova cards; people usually greet their friends and family with text messages and emails.

But not so long ago it was customary to send cards to friends and family for Rosh Hashanah. These cards were often decorated with designs and pictures portraying the festivals of the month of Tishrei (the first month in the Jewish calendar) or other Jewish motifs. Sometimes, however, the cards showed completely different designs.

Let's explore some Shana Tova cards.

**Stage 1 – Searching for a Card**

First, look for a special Shana Tova card.

You can find a collection of cards in different places:

* [National Library education website (English)](http://www.nli-education-uk.org/#!new-year/c1c3h)
* [National Library education website (Hebrew)](http://tinyurl.com/n9bfrqz)
* [National Library general website (English)](http://tinyurl.com/oodnfwu)

You can also look for interesting Shana Tova cards in your personal collections or in other places on the web.

**Stage 2 – Exploring the Card**

Complete this worksheet for the card you have chosen.

Give the card a title.

If you are working on the computer, copy the picture of the card to here!

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When was the card published?

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Where was the card published?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is the topic of the illustration

(festival, Jewish tradition, Zionism,

landscapes etc.)?

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Describe the illustration in detail. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Copy any texts that appear on the card. If they are in Hebrew, translate them.

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What elements on the card hint to the time or place where the card was printed?

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What interesting things can you learn about Jews of that time or place from the card?

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What questions come to mind from examining the card? How can you find the answers?

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**Stage 3 – Create a Card of Your Own**

* After completing the worksheet, look at the cards your friends examined.
* Think about the different ways people decorated Shana Tova cards.
* Plan a card of your own. Think about the illustrations and the texts you would like to include in the card.
* Now you can create a card using paints, pens and pencils or the computer.

Shana Tova!