

THE TEVA

LEARNING

CENTER

מכון

למבנ

AN OUTDOOR-BASED
ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION
PROGRAM DESIGNED
ESPECIALLY FOR
JEWISH DAY SCHOOL
STUDENTS

IT'S EARLY IN THE MORNING, and your students are wading knee deep in a lake, dipping their nets in water to gather dozens of living plants and animals. They open their field guides and identify the names of the many creatures they have discovered. Recording their findings, they are reminded of a *midrash* they discovered at *shacharit* about the diversity of creation.

THAT AFTERNOON, your students learn about the food chain - who eats whom in the aquatic and land-based communities they have explored over the past few days. They play an exciting game in the woods, in which they role-play these relationships, working as a team to search for food, water and shelter - all the while "hunting" for prey and trying to escape their predators.

IN THE EVENING, after a hearty dinner, your students prepare for a lively debate, in which they utilize an imaginary tract of wilderness in a manner consistent with Jewish teachings. They are introduced to traditional Jewish texts about pollution, and are able to bring their newly heightened knowledge of the ecosystem into their study of *mishnah* and *chumash*.

NIGHTFALL. They daven *ma'ariv* under the stars, sing Hebrew songs, and retire to their cabins, to rest for another exciting day...