

# Links to All Sound and Noise Module Resources

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## NYC-Specific Resources

### [New York City Department of Environmental Protection](#)

The department webpage with ample resources to all of the different bureaus of the department as well.

### [NYC DEP Environmental Education](#)

The Environmental Education webpage has additional education modules, which include lessons, activities and resources on topics like NYC's water supply system, wastewater treatment process, and harbor water quality for students and teachers. Visit this webpage to learn more about annual education opportunities for your class, and field trips to the Visitor Center at Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.

### [NYC DEP Sound and Noise](#)

This is the department's webpage for information on the New York City Noise Code and Complaints, and other related laws and policies.

### [2010 Transit Noise Study](#) & [2010 Airport Noise Study](#)

Two studies done by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection. These are lengthy and comprehensive reports with large amounts of information and data.

### [Citygram New York City Sound Mapping](#)

Citygram-Sound Project is a collaboration between NYU Steinhardt, NYU CUSP, and CalArts and is a large-scale project that began in 2011. Citygram aims to deliver a real-time visualization/mapping system focusing on non-ocular energies through scale-accurate, non-intrusive, and data-driven interactive digital maps

### [Metropolitan Transit Authority \(MTA\) New York City Transit Noise Reduction Report](#)

New York City Transit's (NYCT) Noise Committee investigates noise and vibration issues that may affect the health, safety or quality of life of its customers and employees and the communities they serve, and it expedites any necessary mitigation actions. Every year the committee provides an annual report of the data collected the year prior.

### [New York City Noise Code Presentation](#)

Learn more using this presentation on the NYC Noise Code, noises in the community, and how noise is mitigated. This presentation also includes different resources, images, and charts.

### [NYC Environmental Noise Rules and Complaints](#)

This is the website that is used to report any noise complaint or any issue related to sound and noise. There are links for many different types of sounds or situations.

### [Noise Control for Nightclubs, Restaurants, Bars, and Cafes](#)

This is a list that is intended to provide owners of nightclubs, restaurants, bars and cafes who play music with information on a range of acoustical products, vendors, and professional services available to help control sound and vibration in their establishments and buildings.

### [NYC Open Data](#)

The newly-expanded City Record Online (CROL) is a fully searchable database for all the notices contained in the City Record newspaper – including schedules for public hearings, land-sales, and contract awards. All this data is now also available for download on the Open Data Portal, increasing New Yorkers access to important government information.

### [The Roaring Twenties: An Interactive Soundscape of the Historical Soundscape of New York City](#)

This is an interactive website that goes through the history of New York City and the different sounds that you can hear. There are many different links and types of sounds to click on along the way.

### [Soundscape: The Physical Sounds of Manhattan](#)

This resource recreates the infamous skyline based on soundwaves. Each of Manhattan's neighborhoods are rebuilt based on a single song, representative of its own musical history, with the height of the soundwave correlating to the strength of its music scene. From Lower East Side punk, to jazz and blues in Harlem, Soundscape visualizes the musical history of Manhattan.

### [Museum of the City of New York - Soundscape New York Exhibit and Sound Clips \(2015\)](#)

This exhibit in 2015 was a collaboration between professors at the University of Virginia. The exhibit allowed for an immersive audiovisual installation, combining the actual sounds of iconic New York interiors, such as Grand Central Terminal and the Seagram Building lobby, with visual animations projected on a panoramic screen.

### [Mayor's Office of Operations, Citywide Performance Reporting \(CPR\)](#)

Agency Performance Reporting is part of New York City's comprehensive Citywide Performance Reporting (CPR) tool. It represents a collection of critical performance measures from more than 40 city agencies in an easy-to-use online snapshot format. By using this tool you can search for measures of the services you are interested in, review statistics summarizing how well government is performing in different areas, analyze long-term trends, and review specific agencies' outcome measures.

### [Citywide Construction Noise Mitigation Rules](#)

This law established sound level standards for specific noise sources. This law also prescribes the methods, procedures and technologies that shall be used at construction sites to achieve noise mitigation whenever any one or more of certain construction devices or activities are employed.

# News Articles and Videos

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## Food Vendor, Restaurant, and Bar Noise

[“Mister Softee May Fall Under Cone of Silence”](#) (June 2004)

[“Those Ice Cream Truck Jingles are keeping New Yorkers Up at Night”](#) (June 2016)

[“Noise Complaints at 9<sup>th</sup> Ave Bar Lead to ‘Screaming’ Match with Neighbors”](#) (July 2016)

[“Inform NYC Business: Playing Music”](#) (January 2013)

## Vehicles and Transit Noise

[“New Yorkers plagued by Airport Noise see some Relief in Sound Monitors”](#) (June 2015)

- If you want to look into airplane noise you can also check out the [Webtrak](#), an interactive, real-time map of planes in the NYC area and ground level sound measurement.
- You can also look on the [Federal Aviation Administration website](#).

[“NYC Controller Scott Stringer wants ban on tourism helicopters, says they’re too noisy and don’t help the economy”](#) (July 2016)

## Community Noise

[“Noisy Neighbors: turning up the volume against the uproar next door”](#) (January 2010)

[“Resident Complaints sink Hudson River Park Rock Concert”](#) (January 2013)

[“Noise is a top quality-of-life Complaint in New York City”](#) (January 2014)

[“Cops write fewer tickets for loud disturbances as complaints rise”](#) (July 2016)

## General Noise

[“The Sounds of New City Circa 1920”](#) (October 2013) (Sound recordings in article)

[“Mapping New York’s Noisiest Neighborhoods”](#) (January 2015)

[“Yo, I’m Trying to Sleep Here! New York’s Wonderful Map of Noise”](#) (April 2013)

[“Pulsating Noise Maps of Seattle, New York, and San Francisco”](#) (October 2015)

[“A Sweeter-Sounding Jackhammer”](#) (YouTube) (December 2014)

[“Noise Reduction for Echopolis - Athens, Greece”](#) (YouTube) (September 2013)

[“Noise in NYC”](#) (YouTube) (February 2017)

## Links to Additional Resources for Teachers

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### [American National Standards Institute: Noise Exposure Safety Standards](#)

This is a guide of the standardization of measurement and assessment of noise levels, potentially leading to the determination that a noise safety program is required, or gauging the ongoing results of a noise safety program. Though cell phone applications can be used to give students a general idea of how noise metering works.

### [American Speech-Language-Hearing Association](#)

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association website has useful information concerning the way the ear works, the short term and long term effects of noise on the body, what you can do to protect yourself, and where noise comes from.

### [Better Hearing Institute](#)

The Better Hearing Institute's website provides a huge range of information under the categories of hearing loss, hearing solutions, and hearing loss prevention.

### [Brain POP](#)

BrainPOP has animated videos hosted by Tim and his robot pal Moby, interactive quizzes, and activities on hearing, sound, and many other topics.

### [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

Discussing noise and hearing loss prevention in the context of workplace safety and noise exposure, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention provides facts, statistics, and publications, as well as national goals and policies. The site also provides an interactive sound meter feature that has many different sound clips, which can be registered on the meter.

### [Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#)

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is a world leader in the study, appreciation, and conservation of birds. Visit their [All About Birds](#) webpage to learn more about how to identify bird species in your neighborhood. The site includes extensive information about many different bird species with helpful sound clips of bird songs and calls in nature.

### [Dangerous Decibels](#)

The Dangerous Decibels website has a number of fun interactive games related to hearing loss and sound and noise for children to play.

### [Data Logging Sound Level Meter](#)

This product is available at Home Depot. Using a cell phone application in the classroom is sufficient for educational purposes; however, these sound level meters are more sophisticated than the cell phone application and more similar to those used by NYC DEP.

### [Environmental Protection Agency \(US\)](#)

The federal Environmental Protection Agency's sound and noise website has general information about noise pollution, actions against noise pollution, and what the EPA is doing in regards to noise pollution. It also has links to many noise-related websites and resources. There is also a specific website just for [EPA Resources for Kids & Teachers](#).

### [GrowNYC](#)

GrowNYC provides free tools and services for New Yorkers to learn more about and improve our environment. It has a noise thermometer, an encompassing selection of publications about noise and the public health considerations of noise, and advice about how to help the problem.

### [H.E.A.R. \(Hearing Education and Awareness for Rockers\)](#)

This is a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to raising awareness of the real dangers of repeated exposure to excessive noise levels from music, which can lead to permanent and sometimes debilitating, hearing loss and tinnitus. Pete Townshend from the band WHO was an initial funding source for this organization.

### [It's a Noisy Planet](#)

A branch of the National Institute of Health, It's a Noisy Planet has resources for parents and their children. Their TweenZone includes quizzes, games, and videos that educate youth on how and why to protect their hearing.

### [Noise Pollution Clearinghouse](#)

With the wealth of information and resources on their online library, this website is ideal for student research projects. The Noise Pollution Clearinghouse's mission seeks to raise awareness and reduce the prevalence of noise pollution in the environment, focusing not only on human health and well-being but also on wildlife health and well-being.

### [World Health Organization](#)

Based out of the European office, WHO's website has data and statistics, recent news, and links to many resources and publications on the health effects of noise, including their Make Listening Safe campaign.

#### **For more information contact:**

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Flushing, NY 11373  
[educationoffice@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:educationoffice@dep.nyc.gov)

Also visit DEP's website at: [www.nyc.gov/dep](http://www.nyc.gov/dep)