

## Year 1, Lesson 8 – Lesson Plan

### Aim

- a. To become familiar with a Bahá'í teaching
- b. To learn about the Bahá'í Fund

### Objectives

*After fully participating in both the lesson and the homework, the student should be able to:*

- a. state that Bahá'ís are not in favour of anyone having too little or too much money
- b. know that Bahá'ís should give to the Bahá'í Fund

### Materials

- thick paper for students to make book, large selection of pictures cut from magazines, glue, scissors, wool to bind books; song page;
- music for meditation;
- worksheet;
- story page;
- activity page (Blessed is the spot);

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1. Game/News. – Parachute game. (join with year 4 if possible).  
[Note: See lesson 13 in Enlighten book 1 for further details.]  
If you have, or can borrow, a parachute for this, and have room to use it, that would be ideal. Otherwise make a circle of material, to suit what space you have, and the number of students. Make the edge reinforced by over-sewing several layers, and cut a small hole in the centre. (e.g. cut out of an old double sheet, or 2 single sheets joined together.) Lay it flat on the floor and everyone stands round it at equal intervals. Then all hold edge with 2 hands and obey instructions; e.g. all lift up slowly (as high as the smallest can reach), then down slowly, up quickly, down quickly; all walk to the left, then to the right; at some point ask them to choose what to do and then do it when you say “go”, point out the result of disunity. Young children can be invited to run under when parachute is up, stay while it goes down & up, then run out; could be all together if only a few, or according to something they are wearing etc.
  2. Mark Homework. – Check that the correct Messengers have been written next to each religion, if not write them now (2 each for Bahá'í and Jewish.)
  3. Virtue – Revise Moderation.[This quotation is also in worksheet for learning.]  
*“Overstep not the bounds of moderation, and deal justly with them that serve thee.”*  
Meditation on this quotation, today say nothing after it, music only for a minute.
  4. New Topic. Bahá'í teaching: Abolition of extremes of poverty and wealth. In the world today, a few people have a lot of money, while many people have very little. As an example to illustrate this, have some folded slips of paper in a container, one for each student; one has ‘rich’ written on it, the others are blank. Each takes a paper and unfolds it. The one who draws ‘rich’ sits at own table with large sheet of paper to draw on and a box of crayons, while the others share a table, have small pieces of paper, and only one crayon each, so they have to negotiate swaps to change colour. They are all asked to make a nice picture of a garden with different coloured flowers etc. After a while, ask if they think it fair that one has much more than the others.

Another example: rich/poor snack. Use same papers, re-folded, to get a different 'rich' person, who sits at one table and has a chocolate bar and a nice carton of juice, while the others crowd round another table with a plain biscuit each and a drink of water. Discuss how they feel about this; does it help them understand how people feel when they live in poverty all the time?

Read the quotation from the top of the worksheet (Paris Talks p.151) and discuss.

5. Activity. Make own book of "Blessed is the spot..."  
Provide each student with four A4 sheets of thick paper. These are to be folded in half together to make a 16-page booklet, and will eventually be joined with either a long reach stapler or wool threaded through holes made down the centre of the A4 sheets. It will be easier to work on the sheets while they are separate, but we must not forget where each page is, so having folded them together, write the page number (1 to 14) in pencil near the bottom of the centre 14 pages. The front and back cover pages will not have numbers. Give out the activity sheet with the words, this can now be cut up and the 14 pieces glued to the bottom of the correct pages. Then provide the pictures, or magazines from which to cut pictures; students try to find appropriate pictures for each page and glue them on. (if this takes too long, leave some for later.)
6. Story. 'Abdu'l-Bahá helping to relieve poverty (see separate page)
7. Music. sing "We are drops..." (see separate page)
8. Activity. (continued from above)
9. New Topic. Giving to the Fund (law); relate to parachute game and universal participation. Quiz: students respond to each statement with thumbs up if true, thumbs down if false; if all get one wrong, teacher explains; if some get one wrong, ask a student who got it right to explain.
  1. Anyone can give to the Bahá'í Fund. (F)
  2. You must be an adult to give to the Fund. (F)
  3. The Fund is an institution. (T)
  4. Universal participation means that every Bahá'í gives to the Fund every month. (T)
  5. Some of the Fund is spent on teaching other people about the Bahá'í Faith. (T)
  6. You should give a certain amount every Feast. (F)
  7. Some of the Fund is spent buying land and buildings. (T)
  8. If you are very short of money you don't have to give anything. (F)
  9. Some of the money is used to help poorer countries. (T)
  10. You should give something to the Fund every 19 days, even if you can only afford one penny. (T)
10. Activity. (continued from above, if necessary)
11. Worksheet. Give it out and read the first quotation while they follow the words.
12. Set Homework.  
Make sure they understand the 4 things to do. If this is the last lesson of the Autumn term, there is more likely to be a 19-day Feast for the students to attend before the next lesson; in any case what happens at the next 19-day Feast each student attends is to be reported at the lesson following it.
13. Revision. of today's lesson.