

Lesson Plan for Year 1, Lesson 13

Aim To know how becoming a Bahá'í can improve one's behaviour, and identify some things we should do

Objectives

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

- a. say why we should read from the Writings, and pray, each day
- b. write the name and date of Naw-Rúz
- c. remember to say "thank you" when given anything

Materials

- Guest speaker for 6
 - *The Virtues Guide*
 - Cards and colouring materials, maybe lists of the nine Holy Days to stick in centre of card and glue to stick it
 - Worksheet for each student
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1. Game/News – Game: "What is on my back?"
Pin a name on the back of each student without letting them see it. They must try to find out what the name is by asking each other questions, to which the answer must be yes or no. (You might have to help at first with questions, and maybe with answers.)
2. Mark Homework
3. Virtue – Courtesy.
Use ¼ of what is in *The Virtues Guide*.
4. New Topic – The individual in relation to themselves
Ask each student what they did yesterday, and then ask if they are happy that they did all the right things. They don't have to admit publicly to specific wrong things, but should admit to themselves and promise to try to improve their behaviour. Bahá'u'lláh says that we should all think over what we have done each day; the implication being that we try to become better people. If we are honestly trying our best to improve, then we have no reason to fear the next world, in fact we should look forward to it.
5. Writings – [Hidden Word #31 from Arabic, in worksheet for daily reading.]
"O SON OF BEING! Bring thyself to account each day ere thou art summoned to a reckoning: for death, unheralded, shall come upon thee and thou shalt be called to give account for thy deeds."
6. Activity – Invite a guest speaker to explain briefly how he/she became a Bahá'í, or to relate some aspect of local history. Include how becoming a Bahá'í can improve one's behaviour.

7. Story – e.g. Naw-Rúz in “9 Holy Days” (see separate page).
8. Music
Sing ABC on “Loving Hands” tape (this is a good one, on tape the children echo a lot of the singing, your students can do the same.)
9. New Topic – *Daily prayer*
This is a Bahá’í law. By saying a prayer, normally an unselfish one, not asking for anything, but simply praising God, one is showing love for God. (Emphasise the last bit, there are missing words to fill in on worksheet.)
10. Activity
Each student to say a small prayer, or part of a prayer, from memory. If they don’t know one, teach them one now.
11. Writings
“Regarding children at fifteen a Bahá’í is of age as far as keeping the laws of the Aqdas is concerned – prayer, fasting, etc. But children under fifteen should certainly observe the Bahá’í Holy Days, and not go to school, if this can be arranged on these nine days.”
Shoghi Effendi, 25-10-47, cited in *Lights of Guidance*, p.154.
12. Activity
Make some Naw-Rúz cards (assuming Naw-Rúz coming soon), or make a reminder card about the Nine Holy Days on which Bahá’ís should not work. (Teacher will probably have to write them, or provide a typed list that can be stuck in the centre of the card, but students can decorate round the dates.)
13. Worksheet
14. Revision of this lesson
15. Set Homework
Read.
Copy two sentences about dates.
Fill in two missing words.
Remember...