

## Lesson Plan for Year 1, Lesson 23

- Aim**
- a. to study the meaning of service
  - b. to investigate the first 3 types of spirit

**Objectives**

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

- a. talk about people who searched for the Báb
- b. state other forms of service
- c. know about the daily reading law
- d. differentiate between members of vegetable, animal, and human, kingdoms.

**Materials**

Pictures of vegetable, animal, and human, kingdoms (see 11.);  
Story page; and page of Writings for 10;  
Worksheet.

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1. Game/News  
Students choose any game from previous lessons. (Try to have any materials ready; if some not available, restrict choice – if one of these is popular choice, arrange to play it next time.)
  2. Mark Homework
  3. Virtue – Kindness (Use ¼ of what is in The Virtues Guide.)
  4. New Topic – Service to the Faith  
First revise Shaykh Ahmad, then ask questions about the story told in lesson 1.
  5. Writings  
*"By the righteousness of God, should a man, all alone, arise in the name of Bahá and put on the armour of His love, him will the Almighty cause to be victorious, though the forces of earth and heaven be arrayed against him..."*  
Bahá'u'lláh, cited in *The Compilation of Compilations, vol II*, p. 204
  6. Activity  
Discuss different ways of giving service: Shaykh Ahmad gave a big service all his life, the results were only apparent after he died; a NSA member gives quite a big service (but normally has a full-time job as well), and is able to see results; an ordinary Bahá'í should teach the Faith when possible, but balance that with work and family life, sometimes seeing results but often not! Also service to humanity is important.
  7. Story. Siyyid Kazim.  
(See separate page – simplified version of NCC, lesson 2, the full version is also on this web site.)
  8. Music – Four Kingdoms (“We Want To Grow Up” tape)
  9. New Topic – The idea of spirit [vegetable, animal, human]

10. Writings  
(Extracts suitable for this age are given below, a much larger portion of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s talk is on a separate page for teacher reference.)  
*“First the vegetable spirit... the power of growth... After this is the animal spirit... the power of the senses... The human spirit has the power of discovery... But the spirit of man has two aspects... If it acquires virtues it is the most noble of the existing beings...”*  
‘Abdu'l-Bahá, *Some Answered Questions*, p. 144
11. Activity – Sorting into different types of spirit (kingdoms)  
Have pre-cut pictures from magazines, showing humans, things with animal spirit (include birds, fishes, reptiles, insects), and things with vegetable spirit (include flowers, trees, fruit). Put them in a mixed-up pile on the table, students have to sort them into three types. While they do so, you can talk about them, especially if one is put in the wrong place.
12. New Topic – Learning to read the writings daily  
First discuss why we should read a small part of the Writings every day, and how we should do it (once we are 15 years old). The fact that it is to be out loud, and we will do it in private when we are older, means that we must learn how to say the words now.
13. Writings  
Read this once to students. Explain any difficult words, then give out the worksheet and every student to try reading it, with help where necessary:  
*“Great is thy blessedness inasmuch as thou hast been faithful to the Covenant of God and His Testament...”*  
Bahá’u’lláh, *Tablets of Bahá’u’lláh*, p. 262
14. Worksheet (continued)  
Read each question, while students follow them on the worksheet. Take turns to try to read the answers, filling in the missing words; if the student reading does not know a word, see if any of the others do, if not then you tell them (but they don’t write them in now!)
15. Activity  
Colour the picture of Siyyid Kazim. While they do so, you read what it says by the picture.
16. Revision of this lesson
17. Set Homework