

Plan for year N1 lesson 2.

The aims of this lesson are for students to be aware of

- a) different sources of Words of God
- b) various types of things that God has made

The objectives are that, *after fully participating in both the lesson and the homework*, the student should be able to:

- a) say a few words of a Hidden Word from memory
- b) understand that God made us and animals and trees and rocks etc.
- c) be familiar with saying scripture each day.

materials: ‘Stories for children’ or page with story;
worksheet (3 quotes, pictures).

1. Introduction. *This will ideally be done sitting on the floor in a circle.*
Game: Could be the same as lesson 1, or might decide on a slight variation, e.g. after catching the ball, before saying someone’s name and throwing it to them, each student could be asked to say something like “I love Bahá’u’lláh” or “I’m happy to be here”.
2. News.
3. Mark homework. a) Revision of prayerfulness. All adopt a devotional attitude (remind if needed).
Each student to say the start of the prayer learnt (prompt if needed).
b) Check that the correct lines have been drawn on the worksheet, help student to do it now if necessary.
4. Revision of previous lesson. (items not in the homework)
Ask “What is prayer?”,
“When should we pray?”
“Can we know God directly?”
“How do we know that God is there?”
5. Playtime. (see lesson 1)
6. New Topic introduction. (*sit facing the board*)
Ask students what their favourite things are. On the board, write the name of &/or draw a picture of, one thing mentioned by each student (if possible, not ‘man-made’).
Ask where these things came from. [looking for answer ‘God made it’; if a ‘man-made’ thing, explain that people ‘put together’ this thing, but who made the (e.g. metal) from which it was put together?]
7. Art re New Topic. (*at tables*)
Students draw some of the things on the board (they don’t have to draw them all; younger ones might need help with the shape, then they can colour it.)
When one student finished, write on all their papers ‘God made _____’ (put, in the blank, the name of something on that student’s page.)

8. Writings for New Topic.
AHW #4. “O Son of Man! I loved thy creation, hence I created thee...”
Read all the Hidden Word in class (it is at the end of this document), but send just this first part home for memorising. Explain the meaning and how it is related to the topic. Then play some quiet orchestral music and ask them to shut their eyes, listen to it carefully, and think about it until you stop the music (another small step towards meditation.)
9. Story. “God’s Kingdom” in ‘Stories for children’ #3. (words only on another web page.)
10. Playtime.
11. New Topic (continued). Ask what sorts of thing God made. (avoid kingdom categorisation at this stage, that comes later; accept ‘things that grow’, ‘us’, etc.) Point out who had each sort of thing on their page, if anybody; some might like to add something to their page, inspired by this discussion.
12. Singing. ‘These are a few of my favourite things’, sing along to a tape from ‘The Sound of Music’ if possible (audio or video).
13. Discussion. Read AHW #4 again. Ask if they know who wrote it, if not then tell them. Read other small extracts (e.g. as in worksheet), from the Writings of the Báb and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. Explain that these are all called “Words of God” although different figures of our Faith revealed them.
14. Playtime.
15. worksheet. includes AHW #4, small quotes by the Báb and ‘Abdu’l-Bahá, and pictures of: fruit, waves of a sea, people, flowers, leaves, and a tree.
16. Revision of this lesson. Indicate that you want them all to answer together, and ask “Who made the flowers?”, who made the trees?”, who made the sea?”, who made us?”, etc. until all students are confidently answering “God”. Then ask for individual answers, which don’t all have to be the same, to:- “Who wrote Words of God?” Prompting might be needed to start with, draw their attention to the worksheet and ask who wrote each quote in turn.
17. Set Homework. Learn first part of AHW #4, read another quote each day.

O SON OF MAN!

I loved thy creation, hence I created thee.
Wherefore, do thou love Me,
that I may name thy name
and fill thy soul with the spirit of life.