

Plan for year N1 lesson 8.

The aims of this lesson are to

- a) encourage students to obey parents and be good to them
- b) teach a new song

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

- a) obey parents more readily
- b) sing song from memory
- c) state how they can be good to their parents

materials. story page; worksheet (song & 4 pictures about obeying parents.); [chorus of song below, verses on separate page]

1. Introduction. *This will ideally be done sitting on the floor in a circle.*
Again a choice of game is suggested, but different to what they chose last time, so they have a choice of two. (Whispers, throw a ball, or zip-zap-boing, but not what was chosen in lesson 7.)
2. News.
3. Mark homework. Praise any new colouring of pictures. Ask each student to say (or sing) the prayer from memory. After they have all had a try, sing it all together, with or without tape. Ask if they can tell you what could make them angry, give suggestions if no-one does. Then ask how they would deal with these situations, again suggest methods if they don't.
4. Virtue (discuss). revise Kindness. [If the following quotes are too hard for your students, repeat 1 or 2 from lesson 7.]

'In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the Lord, thy Redeemer.' *Old Testament*

'For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee.'
Old Testament

'Let him be cordial in his ways and refined in conduct; thereby full of joy he will make an end of ill.'
Dhammapada

5. Virtue (role play). Take it in turns to pretend to find a hurt animal or bird, and do something kind for it. OR
play "mummies & daddies", each student take on a role such as mum, dad, son, daughter, baby, grandma, etc. and guide them to do something nice for each other &/or act according to family rules.
6. Revise part of lesson 5. Rules at home (you should have kept a list of what rules the students told you they had at home, in lesson 5)
7. Playtime. Could play noughts and crosses, first according to the rules, then you play with a student and cheat (go twice in a row and win!)... how do they feel about you breaking the rules?

8. New Topic introduction. Being a good daughter / son -- obey parents.
Your parents have rules, how do you think they feel if you break them?
Who tells us God's rules?
Why does God have rules?

Story: There was once a little girl called Mary, and her daddy said to her: "God always loves us. From time to time He fills the world with a little more love and a little more teaching, so that we can progress and come nearer to God. Holy Ones come, which are Messengers from God, called Krishna, Buddha, Zoroaster, Abraham, Moses, Noah, Jesus, Muhammad, The Báb and Bahá'u'lláh. God pours His love through these Messengers and that love flows out to fill the whole world." Mary shut her eyes tight and sat very still and imagined a lovely, warm, golden light feeling filling her head and her heart, her arms and her legs, her middle, her fingers and the tips of her toes.

9. Art re New Topic. Each student to make a booklet called "Helping at home", it could be just an A4 sheet folded in half to make 4 pages, or 2 tied together with wool to make 8 pages; on each page students will either glue a picture or colour a drawing already printed, each showing something they could do at home to help.

10. Writings for New Topic. "Be obedient and kind to thy father and mother."
'Abdu'l-Bahá.
Try about 1½ minutes meditation on this.

11. Story. on a separate page.

12. Playtime.

13. New Topic (continued). Ask them to say what they think being a good son/daughter means. Write each student's idea on the board, without comment. Then ask them which is the most important, number it 1. Then which is next in importance, number it 2, etc. Read out the list in order and see if they are still in agreement, change it if not. When they are happy with the list, now is the time to suggest variations, corrections, additions.

14. Singing. "Look at Me, follow Me, be as I am; 'Abdu'l-Bahá, etc."
If you have a musician who knows the tune for the verses, the words on a separate page could be used, otherwise stick to the well-known chorus.
First variation of chorus, as above, is in worksheet.
Other variations replace the first 3 words, use as many as the concentration of students will allow, e.g.
Love mankind...
Teach the Faith...
Serve mankind...

15. Playtime.

16. Revision of this lesson. Who told us to be obedient to our parents? (*'Abdu'l-Bahá.*) What things are parents likely to ask us to do?

17. Worksheet. Hold one up, point to each picture and ask what is happening; when they tell you, or maybe you will have to tell them, ask if they do that. Give them the worksheet, then ask them (at least 8 times, each picture twice, in random order) to point at the picture you describe. Ask them if they think that *'Abdu'l-Bahá* obeyed His parents.

18. Set Homework. Learn the first part of the song. (sing it with them now.) Colour the pictures; think about whether you obey your parents, especially if they ask you to do one of these four things.