

Plan for year N1 lesson 19.

The aims of this lesson are

- a) to learn more about one version of the Greatest Name
[it was introduced briefly in lesson 12.]
- b) to reinforce the significance of the number 9 for Bahá'ís.

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

- a) repeat “Alláh'u'Abhá” several times
- b) give examples of where 9 appears in the Bahá'í Faith

materials: For each student: a nine-pointed star, drawn on a plain A4 sheet of paper. ; things to drop (see 1.) and board if floor carpeted; “Stories Of Bahá'u'lláh” or separate page ; worksheet.

1. Introduction. Game. “Sound dropping”

Have a curtain or a desk or something the students can't see behind.

Have some objects in a bag. Take one out behind the curtain and drop it on the floor; students have to guess what it is by the sound they hear. [if floor has carpet, you will need a board on which to drop things.]

e.g. coin, apple, tin cup, shoe, stick, keys on ring, etc.

Next 3 items sitting on the floor in a circle.

2. News.

3. Mark homework.

4. Virtue (discuss). Enthusiasm. use ¼ of what is in The Virtues Guide.

5. Virtue (role play).

6. Revision of previous lesson.

7. Playtime.

8. New Topic introduction.

Sometimes we hear or read stories about words that have special powers or that can do magical things. Can anyone think of a word or phrase that is magical? (students might say “abracadabra” or current magician's word, or even “please” since parents sometimes ask “What's the magic word” when this is forgotten!)

In the Bahá'í Faith there is a special word that is even more powerful! It's even more powerful than nuclear energy, and when we say it, it attracts us to the power of the Holy Spirit! Do you know what it's called?

It's called the Greatest Name. It can be said in 3 different ways, we are going to use one of those today. We are going to say “Alláh'u'Abhá”.

Everyone say it together, then teacher goes to each student in turn, says

“Alláh'u'Abhá” to that student and expects to hear “Alláh'u'Abhá” in return.

9. Art re New Topic.

Decorate a nine-pointed star, which you have previously drawn on a plain A4 sheet of paper.

While they are working, explain that this star is the symbol of the Bahá'í Faith and that the number nine has a special meaning for us. Ask if anyone knows where we use the number nine. If they don't tell you, remind them about the 9 members of a Spiritual Assembly and the 9 doors into a Bahá'í Temple.

10. Writings for New Topic. [Kitáb-i-Aqdas K18.]

“... having washed his hands and then his face, seat himself and, turning to God, repeat Alláh'u'Abhá 95 times.”

(just “Alláh'u'Abhá” in handout, with comment: too young for 95, but could practise up to 9)

11. Story. Stories Of Bahá'u'lláh, p.58.

(see separate page)

12. Playtime.

13. New Topic (continued).

Remind students of the quote which says “ ... repeat Alláh'u'Abhá 95 times.” This Bahá'í law only applies when you reach the age of 15, so you don't have to do it for a long time yet! However, you could start to practise it a few times.

Each student to have in front of them the nine-pointed star that they made. It needs marking in some way so that they know where to start. Everyone together put a finger on the start point and say “Alláh'u'Abhá”. Then move finger clockwise to the next point and say “Alláh'u'Abhá”. Continue until it has been said 9 times. Tell them that it means “God is All-Glorious”. Get them each to repeat this.

14. Singing.

Sing “Alláh'u'Abhá” , to 2 tunes if you know them (each one has it 4 times, one also has words “I have found Bahá'u'lláh...”)

15. Playtime.

16. worksheet.

17. Revision of this lesson.

18. Set Homework.

Practise saying “Alláh'u'Abhá” when meeting people and maybe saying it 9 times counting round the star.