

Lesson Plan: Love (Lesson 5)

Preparation:

1. Purchase or borrow the book: "The Velveteen Rabbit" by Margery Williams.
2. Find a stone or coin to be the Hidden Quality game.
3. Photocopy the Booklet, Homework page, and Quotation for each child.
4. Prepare glue sticks, children's scissors, crayons, pencils and stickers (optional).
5. Prepare a simple and healthy snack for the children.

A simple class:

You do not need to do each part of the lesson plan. These lesson plans are a tool or resource for you to help you conduct your Baha'i Children's Class. You can omit certain sections based on your skills, resources and time.

Ideas to make a more elaborate class:

Cut off one inch around the edge of the Quotation page (one for each child) with normal or zig-zag scissors and then glue each page to a three-hole punched coloured card stock.

Opening Prayers:

Be a model of how to sit respectfully during prayers.

“We will begin by saying prayers. When we say prayers, we sit quietly and still. I will say the first prayer and then we will take turns in a circle.”

“O God! Educate these children. These children are the plants of Thine orchard, the flowers of Thy meadow, the roses of Thy garden. Let Thy rain fall upon them; let the Sun of Reality shine upon them with Thy love. Let Thy breeze refresh them in order that they may be trained, grow and develop, and appear in the utmost beauty. Thou art the Giver. Thou art the Compassionate.”

- `Abdu'l-Bahá

Praise and encourage the children for sitting nicely and saying good prayers.

Singing:

“Now we will sing ‘O God, guide me’ together.”

“O God, guide me and protect me. Illumine the lamp of my heart and make me a brilliant star. Thou art the Mighty, and Powerful.” - `Abdu'l-Bahá

Lesson: (# = praise and correct the children's answers)

Today we are going to talk about the virtue of love.

Q: What is love? #

A: Love is caring for someone, wanting to be near them, and wanting to share with them. It is a special feeling that fills your heart.

`Abdu'l-Bahá says: **“Let your heart burn with loving-kindness for all who cross your path.”**

Repeat after me.

(pause and have them repeat each line after you say it before continuing to the next line)

**“Let your heart burn
with loving-kindness
for all
who cross your path.”**

Q: How can we show love towards other people? #

A: smile, be kind, share, hug, kiss, say “I love you”, be helpful, use good manners, etc.

Now let's recite the quotation again. Repeat after me.
(pause and have them repeat each line after you say it before continuing to the next line)

**“Let your heart burn
with loving-kindness
for all who cross your path.”**

Story:

Read the story: “The Velveteen Rabbit” by Margery Williams.

Snack/break:

Have the children help serve each other and take turns getting food.

Arts and Crafts:

Help each child put a copy of the quotation to memorize into their binder. Give each child a sheet of stickers and crayons. Let the children decorate the page.

Help the children colour and cut out the “Love” gem (from Lesson 1) to glue onto their person.

Game:

The Hidden Quality: All of the children sit in a circle with their hands out in front of them. The teacher holds a coin or stone in her hand. The coin represents the virtue of love. The as she walks along, the teacher passes her hands over the hands of each child and says: “John is loving, Mary is loving, etc.” Each child closes his hands acting as though she has given him the coin. The teacher actually leaves the coin in the hands of one of the children. When she has gone around the entire circle, one child tries to guess who has the coin by saying, for example, “Kenji is very loving.” Then Kenji should open his hands and show whether or not he has the coin. The child has three guesses to try to find out who has the coin, after which the game is repeated.

Closing Prayers:

Ask the children if anyone would like to say a prayer to end the class. Have them take turns in a circle. Or you could end by singing “O God, guide me” together.

Love

Homework:

1. Read through the Love booklet with your child during the week and discuss it.
2. Encourage your child to put extra effort into being loving this week. Use the following virtues language in your home: "Thank you for being so loving." "That was very loving of you." "I love you very, very much!"
3. Help your child recite the following affirmation every morning.
(pause and have them repeat each line after you say it before continuing to the next line)

I am a loving person.
I show my love
by doing kind things
and saying kind words.
I treat others
as I want to be treated.

4. Please help your child recite the following quotation every morning: (pause and have them repeat each line after you say it before continuing to the next line)

**"Let your heart burn
with loving-kindness
for all who cross your path."**

5. Please help your child do the activities on the Weekly Activity Calendar.

Weekly Activity Calendar:

Put a check mark below each item when it is completed.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Recite the affirmation:	Recite the affirmation:	Recite the affirmation:	Recite the affirmation:	Recite the affirmation:	Recite the affirmation:	Recite the affirmation:
Hug someone you love.	Smile at someone to show them love.	Say "I love you" to someone you love.	Be extra kind to a friend to show them you love them.	Give your mom or dad a kiss to show them you love them.	Share and be kind with your friends.	Do something nice and helpful for your parents to show your love.

“Let your heart burn
with loving-kindness
for all who cross your path.”

- `Abdu'l-Bahá