
TEACHER'S GUIDE

Bahá'í Education Materials

This is meant to serve as a guide for teachers using WellSpring Feast Materials.

When using these materials in a class for children, the majority of activities should be appropriate for most children between the ages of 6 and 13. They may also be adapted for use in youth and adult Deepenings.

Materials to have on hand for activities:
(*Necessary Materials)

- *Pens, pencils, crayons or colored markers
- Drawing paper (for page 1)

PAGE 1

Ask the students to discuss what they put as the five things about them which deserve praise; which of those things they checked as gifts from God; things they circled as having to earn through hard work. (For example, being a good ball player or piano player can be seen as a *gift* in that one has the natural talent given by God; it can also be seen as something to *earn* because one has to work hard and practice to become good at it). **The goal of this exercise is to stimulate the students' thinking about the fact that often, God gives us gifts that we have to develop.**

You may wish to have each person draw a picture of one of the things s/he is best at; suggest that each person avoid looking at anyone else's work until it has been collected by you and posted on the wall. (Praise them for their trustworthiness.) Ask the group to look at the drawings, and guess who the drawing belongs to.

PAGE 2

Encourage the class to discuss qualities or abilities they have written down which have yet to be well developed. There is no shame in knowing what you are not good at yet. In fact, it is a form of humility and is an important aspect of bringing oneself "into account each day."

Talk to the class about the idea that the Messengers of God are perfect mirrors of His light. Ask them what "Bahá'u'lláh" means ("Glory of God").

PAGE 3

Play **Follow the Leader**, where everyone acts as mirrors, trying to do exactly what the leader is doing. Try variations on the walking, hopping, twirling version: have the group pair up by standing in a circle and calling out alternative numbers "1" and "2". After each "1" has paired with a "2", they can alternate being a leader or a follower, trying to mirror each other's body movements, facial expressions, etc. as smoothly and as simultaneously as possible.

Discuss why The Báb said that Bahá'u'lláh's beauty and grandeur excelled every other – because He is the latest Manifestation; was promised by all the Others as the One to usher in the Kingdom of God on earth; includes the beauty of all the other Manifestations' teachings in His teachings, etc.

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(PAGE 3 Cont'd)

Have the students write their letter to God and ask those who wish, to read their letter aloud. Encourage them to be courteous listening to one another.

PAGE 4

Discuss the passage from Bahá'u'lláh about the source of all glory. What meanings can the students see?

Have the class color the pictures on this page, then talk about their very favorite bestowal, what it is and why they chose it. Is it in this picture?

PAGE 5

Discuss what it means that God has ordained "every atom in existence" for our training. (We are here to learn as much as we possibly can. Sometimes we learn from sad things or hard things). Ask the students if they wish to share something they have found difficult in their lives and what they have learned from it.

Have them memorize at least part of the *Hidden Word* on this page. Show them how to look at it sentence by sentence. Cover one sentence and say it from memory out loud, then uncover it to see if they got it right. Keep repeating all the lines in this way until they remember the whole thing. Ask them what they think this *Hidden Word* means.



PAGE 6

In a children's class, ask the older children to help any younger children who may want assistance to do the maze. (Praise them for their helpfulness).

Have the students list the things God wants us to be proud of according to these selections, then turn the page to take the **Glory Quiz**.

PAGE 7

Answers to the Glory Quiz:

- 1. b
- 2. b
- 3. b
- 4. a
- 5. b
- 6. b
- 7. a
- 8. a
- 9. b

Have the students complete the Glory Quiz, then discuss the answers. Which of these 9 things are they most proud of and why?

Ask them what virtue they would like to practice this week in order to be one of God's glories. Help them to set a goal by deciding what they will do differently, how often, and to whom.