

"Every Experience is Necessary"

LESSON INTENTION

The intention of this lesson understand that when we look for the good in a situation we will ultimately be blessed by it.

Common Ground

Islamic Belief:

They believe in one all-powerful God – Allah who directs all things.

Unity Belief: Principle #1:

There is only one power and one presence in the universe, God, who is all good and active in everything, everywhere.

Affirmation

All things in my life are meant for good.

Prayer Focus

For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected, provided it is received with thanksgiving;

1 Timothy 4:4

Pre-session Activity

WELCOME AT THE DOOR

- Ⓢ This is the time we create a safe & sacred space for the children.
- Ⓢ Invite a teacher and students to greet the children at the door to the Youth Room. The teacher needs to be at eye-level with the children.
- Ⓢ Possible greeting: ***"It's so good to see you. We've been waiting for you."***
- Ⓢ If the children have toys with them invite them to place them on the shelf where they can pick them up on the way out.
- Ⓢ ***Invite them to sign in.***
- Ⓢ If they have not done so, invite them to choose a Job Card/Service Opportunity. ***Every child needs one.***

OPENING ACTIVITIES

- Ⓢ Create name tags
- Ⓢ Create Prayer Sticks

GATHERING CIRCLE

- Ⓢ At 11:15 am, after the children have completed the Opening Activities, ***invite the "Gong Sounder"*** to sound the gong to call everyone to the Gathering Circle. The children then choose a carpet square and take their seat in the circle.
- Ⓢ The teacher now "sets the circle" and reinforces the ideas that we are all one and we are in a safe place. ***Now is the time to review the Heart Agreement that should be posted in the area.***
- Ⓢ Invite the ***Daily Inspiration Reader*** to read the Daily Word.
- Ⓢ ***Prayer team comes forward.*** Either lead the children in a prayer for others or use this time to pray with the prayer stick requests. ***Place the "Prayer Bowl" in the center of the room and one by one the children read their prayer word or words and place their stick in the bowl.***
- Ⓢ Collect a love offering.
- Ⓢ Movement/Song – ***"I Wish You Well" – Words on Power Point.***

Story

"A Tent for the Emperor: A Tale from Turkey" *"Ayat Jamilah: Beautiful Signs"*
by Sarah Conover & Freda Crane

A young girl named Fatimah learns from her father that, *The outcome of all things is ultimately up to God*, and has many experiences that reflect that idea.

Story Focus:

This story demonstrates that when we look beyond appearances we can find the good in seeming negative situations.

Unity Principle: #1 - "There is only one power and one presence in the universe, God, who is all good and active in everything, everywhere."

Discussion

- ⓐ Who was Fatimah?
- ⓐ No matter what happened in their life what did her father tell her?
- ⓐ What journey did Fatimah's father take her on?
- ⓐ What happened to Fatimah on this journey? What four things did she remember?
- ⓐ What was the next journey Fatimah went on?
- ⓐ What did she learn from this one?
- ⓐ What was Fatimah's third adventure?
- ⓐ What did the emperor ask Fatimah to make?
- ⓐ What did Fatimah end up doing?
- ⓐ How had all of her adventures helped her in her life?
- ⓐ Describe a time when had what you thought was a negative adventure but it turned out to be good.

Creative Expression

Restate the Lesson Intention:

The intention of this lesson understand that when we look for the good in a situation we will ultimately be blessed by it.

Islamic Belief:

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Unity Belief: Principle #1:

There is only one power and one presence in the universe, God, who is all good and active in everything, everywhere.

Adventures Hunt

Materials: 1st Task: paper balls or wadded up socks, and 2 blindfolds per class; 2nd Task: 3 varieties of snack candy bars, (pay attention to peanut allergies), large paper bag, tape & 3 pieces of poster board; 3rd Task: Latex gloves, spray adhesive, large bowls, trash bags, dried beans; Final Task: Hershey choc bars, graham crackers, large marshmallows

Spirit is present within all things including the experiences we have. As we move through each of these adventures we have the opportunity to gain something from the experience or not.

The children will be moving through 3 experiences. As they complete each task they receive a "piece of their puzzle." If they do not complete a task or skip one, they will not be "prepared" for the final task. Do not tell them why they are collecting all of these pieces.

Divide the children into two teams and get them started on the tasks. They need to do the first Task at the same time then each choose a different one to do next. All tasks need to be completed.

Task #1

Trust Your SOURCE to Guide You

Materials: paper balls or wadded up socks, and 2 blindfolds per class

The purpose of this task is to develop the skills to hear the voice that leads us where we need to go, (the voice of Spirit).

Define the boundaries of the playing field and spread the balls all around the area. Divide the class into two teams. One person from each team goes to the other side of the playing field and puts on the blindfold. Then, their respective teams must verbally guide the blindfolded person across the field in the shortest time possible. The blindfolded person must listen carefully for directions from only his or her team. If they touch or step on a ball they must start over. If time allows have other people on the team attempt to make it across.

Ask: How was this activity like listening for God to give us directions in our life?

Reward for completing the Task: 2 squares of Graham crackers for each child. Provide a napkin or place to set them down while they create the other tasks.

Task #2

Team Work

Candy Bar Rhyme

Materials: 3 varieties of snack candy bars, (pay attention to peanut allergies), large paper bag, tape & 3 pieces of poster board.

The purpose of this activity is to learn to work as a team. You want to create 3 teams of children, each team representing one of the candy bars, so use the appropriate number of candy bars based on the number of children present.

Create place signs by taping a piece of the candy one each piece of poster board and tape them around the room.

Place the candy bars in the large paper bag. Invite the children to draw one out but don't let them see them ahead of time. Then they must find other people who have their same candy bar. Once their group is created they go to the matching sign and create a cheer or statement about why their candy bar is best. Share the cheer.

Ask:

- ◆ What was it like to work with a group of people you don't know well?
- ◆ How can this help you in life?

Reward for completing the Task: 1 Large marshmallow for each child.

Task #3

Practicing Detachment

Materials: Latex gloves, spray adhesive, large bowls, trash bags, dried beans

The purpose is to let go of things we no longer need. The participants will try to pass dried beans down a row wearing sticky gloves.

Give each child a pair of latex gloves and tell them to put them on. Divide the group into two teams and form two lines. Place a bowl of dried beans at one end of the line and an empty bowl at the other end.

Now, spray each pair of gloves with the spray adhesive (best done outdoors).

Then instruct the first person to grab a handful of beans and pass it to the person next to them, continuing to pass them down the line. The last person deposits them in the empty bowl.

Ask:

- ◆ How was it passing the beans?
- ◆ What happened?
- ◆ How are the sticky beans like staying attached to things we no longer need?

Reward for completing the Task: One square of milk chocolate for each child.

FINAL TASK

Final questions:

- ◆ How can we use each of these skills to create a better life?
- ◆ What can we make out of these 3 rewards?
- ◆ How would it taste without any of the three ingredients?

Create:

Make smores and melt them in the Microwave – Enjoy!