

Baha'i Scripture Classes Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 Scope and Sequence

Course Objective: Development of Spiritual Qualities

Children will learn about the spiritual qualities latent within them and will be encouraged to **think, reflect and apply** these spiritual qualities to their life and the life of their family and society. They will understand that the way to bring out these “gems” and have them shine brilliantly is by practicing them daily. They will develop habits and patterns of behavior that reflects these spiritual qualities and help bring them closer to God.

The purpose of this course is to help children develop qualities that will be of benefit to them and to society. To help them understand that they were created noble by God and encourage them to develop qualities that will help them create a better world which is basically Spiritual in nature.

“Regard man as a mine rich in gems of inestimable value. Education can, alone, cause it to reveal its treasures, and enable mankind to benefit therefrom.” Bahá'u'lláh

Duration	120 weeks (30 mins per week)		
Spiritual Qualities (Outcomes)	1- Pure and Kindly Heart 2- Justice 3- Love 4- Truthfulness 5- Generosity 6- Selflessness 7- Joyfulness 8- Sincerity	9- Humility 10- Thankfulness 11- Forgiveness and Mercy 12- Honesty 13- Compassion 14- Detachment 15- Contentment 16- Oneness of humanity	17- Courage 18- Hopefulness 19- Trustworthiness 20- Love of God 21- Radiance 22- Faithfulness 23- Patience 24- Steadfastness
Methods, tools and activities	Memorization of Prayers and Quotations, songs, stories, games and art. Using the Ruhi Institute: Teaching Children’s Classes Grade 1 book.		

Unit/Topic	Duration	Early Stage 1 Outcomes – Year K.	Stage 1 Outcomes – Year 1 & 2
Introduction	First lesson	Get to know the children and make them familiar with the structure of the lessons. Letting them know that they will be learning about different virtues through the use of; prayers, songs, stories, games and trying to learn the quotes.	Get to know the children and make them familiar with the structure of the lessons. Letting them know that they will be learning about different virtues through the use of; prayers, songs, stories, games and memorizing the quotes.
Purity of Heart	2 Weeks	Children will learn that our hearts are like mirrors that need to be kept clean from feelings of hatred, envy and negative thoughts so it can reflect the light of God.	Reinforce the learning that our hearts are like mirrors that need to be kept clean from feelings of hatred, envy and negative thoughts so it can reflect the light of God so we can be a cause of happiness for others. Memorize the Quote.
Justice	1 Week	Children learn that God loves justice and it would please Him to know that we treat others with fairness and justice.	God's love for justice is reinforced, children are reminded about the importance of treating others with fairness and justice. They will learn that we must respect the rights of every human being. Memorize the Quote.
Love	1 Week	Children learn about God's love shining upon humanity like the rays of the sun and the importance of us loving everyone too.	Children learn about God's love shining upon humanity like the rays of the sun and the importance of us loving everyone, even those who mistreat us. Memorize the Quote.
Truthfulness	1 Week	Children will learn the importance of always telling the truth.	Children will learn the importance of always telling the truth. The reason why people might lie and the fact that God is aware of our actions and we cannot hide anything from Him and that it will be very difficult for us to develop other virtues if we are not truthful. Memorize the Quote.
Generosity	1 Week	Children learn about God's generosity towards us, the numerous gifts He has given us like hearing, sight, intelligence, family, among many things and in the same way we should be generous towards others.	Revision of the lesson, helping the children to think of ways we can be generous and give to those who need our help. Memorize the Quote.
Selflessness	1 Week	Children are taught that God loves each and every one of us, and He has created the human heart to	A revision of the lesson and reinforcing the idea that our love for God makes our love for others so great that we think first of our fellow

		know Him and to love Him. With pure hearts we can see God reflected in His creation, most of all His creation. In our love for God, we want to bring joy to the heart of all around us.	human beings before we think of ourselves. Memorize the Quote.
Joyfulness	1 Week	Children learn about the power of happiness, they learn that when happy we are stronger, our understanding is quicker, that happiness is a quality of the human heart that helps us with our spiritual progress.	A revision of the lesson, they learn about Abdu'l-Baha's wish for children to shine like brilliant lamps shedding the light of joy everywhere. Memorize the Quote.
Sincerity	1 Week	The children learn that sincerity helps us to be truthful and faithful in our dealings with others.	A revision of the lesson, they learn in more detail, through examples about how we should be truthful and sincere in our dealings with others. Memorize the Quote.
Humility	1 Week	The children learn that humility is a spiritual, quality that when we are humble before God we realize His greatness and His creation and our hearts are filled with joy.	A revision of the lesson in more detail. Memorize the Quote.
Thankfulness	1 Week	The children are reminded that when we receive the smallest gift, we thank the person who gave it to us, then how much more for all the blessings God has showered upon us.	A reminder of the lesson and they also learn about how we should be thankful at all times even in times of difficulty, that giving thanks to God enables us to receive more and more of His infinite bounties. Memorize the Quote.
Forgiveness	1 Week	The children learn that forgiveness is one of the attributes of God. They learn that God wants us to be forgiving towards each other, that we should not look at one another's faults.	A revision of the lesson and they learn that we should show forgiveness to everyone, not just our friends when they make mistakes but also to those who are unkind to us. Memorize the Quote.
Honesty	1 Week	The children learn that God has created many beautiful things for us to adorn our lives with, especially spiritual qualities such as honesty. When we are honest we do not things that do not belong	A revision of the lesson and memorize the Quote.

		to us, we do not deceive anyone.	
Compassion	1 Week	The children are taught that God is the most compassionate. We turn to Him in times of difficulty and ask for comfort and strength. We must be compassionate towards all.	A revision of the lesson and they learn more about how Baha'u'llah was compassionate toward all, even those who caused Him great suffering. Memorize the Quote.
Detachment	1 Week	The children learn that God has created everything in the world for us to enjoy, health, food, love, friendship, etc. But we should be careful not to become attached to this world. Our souls should remain free to soar like a bird in the heaven of holiness.	A revision of the lesson, children are reminded that our souls should remain detached, free like a bird to fly. How sad if a bird remains on the ground, unable to fly because it is attached to things around it. Memorize the Quote.
Contentment	1 Week	The children learn about being happy with the will of God under all conditions. They learn that it is easy to be happy when everything is going well but what is more difficult is to be happy and content in times of illness and hardship.	A revision of the lesson, learning more about how Abdu'l-Baha was not only content but thankful in spite of all the suffering that filled His life. How He was always cheerful and optimistic. Memorize the Quote.
Kindness	1 Week	The children learn that God created all of humanity to live together as one family. We should mingle with people of every religion, race, nation and class with love and kindness in our hearts.	A revision of the lesson and Memorize the Quote.
Courage	1 Week	The children learn that having courage means to stand up for what is right, to defend those who need our help.	A revision of the lesson and an expansion on how it takes courage to go to unknown places, to face new situations, to do things that other before us have not done. We can draw courage from our love for God and our desire to please Him. Memorize the Quote.
Hopefulness	2 Weeks	The children learn that God's love is always with us, that He will never leave us alone and promises to help us throughout our lives. So we should always be hopeful.	A revision of the lesson and expansion on remembering how God's bounties are all around us and so we are hopeful whenever we look to the future, confident that we will receive a share of His infinite blessings. Memorize the Quote.

Trustworthiness	2 Weeks	The children learn that one of the greatest qualities in the sight of God is trustworthiness. That a trustworthy person is truthful and honest and can be counted on to keep his or her word.	The children will learn in more detail about how when we are trustworthy our actions reflect our words and how others can always rely on us to do our best to carry out our responsibilities and carry out our duties. This will help us live in harmony with others, knowing everyone will do their part. Memorize the Quote.
Enkindlement	2 Weeks	The children learn that human beings have been created to know and love God and that we all have the spark of God's love in our hearts. It is important to feed this flame by praying and serving others.	A revision of the lesson and the children continue to learn that as the flame of God's love burns with greater intensity in our hearts, it's warmth can be felt by others. Memorize the Quote.
Radiance	2 Weeks	The children learn that as our love for God grows in our hearts, so does the warmth of our love and kindness and our joy will radiate in our faces and can be felt by others.	A revision of the lesson in more depth and memorizing the Quote.
Faithfulness	2 Weeks	The children learn that a faithful soul never forgets its love for God and will always make an effort to please Him by serving others and doing worthy deeds even if things become difficult.	A revision of the lesson in more depth and memorizing the Quote.
Patience	2 Weeks	The children learn about the importance of patience and how it is needed for us to achieve things for example in our studies, in our relationship with others and in our efforts to grow spiritually.	A revision of the lesson in more depth about how many things can be achieved little by little and how we need to be patient with ourselves and others. Memorize the Quote.
Steadfastness	2 Weeks	The children learn about the quality of steadfastness and when we truly love God we will always remember our love for Him and will not allow what others may say or do affect our faith in Him.	A revision of the lesson and memorizing the quote.