



FEZANA Age-Appropriate Lesson Plan

Subject Category (circle one): Iranian Religion/Celebration History Prayer Gathas
Comparative Religion Shahnameh

Age Group (circle one): PreK-k Grades 1-3 Grades 4-5 Grades 6-8 Grades 9-12

Lesson # (if applicable):

Subject of the Lesson: Collaboration, Consultation and Working Together

Background Knowledge for the Teacher:

Goal: To help students realize the value of working together as a group.

- a. In our daily lives we have tasks that we need to do by ourselves. For example, we clean our room, make our bed, get our backpack ready for the following day, organize our clothes in the closet, ... However, sometimes we need to work with others. Each person in the group will take responsibility for a task. At the end we will see favorable results. This is similar to people working together to put together pieces of puzzle. Once everyone works together, the result is always beautiful. (ex. Members of a family each performing a task).

If we wish to make a wall collage, one person can draw the images, another takes photos, etc. Everyone will take part in this good project.

Why do we work together?

- The task will be completed in a timely manner with better end results.
- Each of us will benefit and learn from others' experiences and knowledge.
- Each person will conserve more energy and will not get worn out.

What do we have to do for our group work to be more productive?

- Learn more about the task we would like to accomplish.
- Talk and collaborate with one another.
- Each person will complete the task they are responsible for and help others as much as possible.
- Each person will do their task as best as possible.
- Each person will accept the task that they are familiar with and can do their best in (Either us or the leader of the project may have a good recognition of our abilities).



- b. Ashu Zarathushtra encourages collaboration with wise, knowledgeable, righteous, and benevolent individuals. He teaches us to evaluate the information before deciding. Sometimes in doing group or individual activity we may need the experience and wisdom of people who are knowledgeable in the given task.
Gathas Yasna 30-2 says:

Hearken with your ears to these best counsels,
Reflect upon them with illuminated judgement.
Let each one choose his creed with that freedom of choice each must have at great event...
Gathas Yasna 30-2

Lesson for students:

Present the lesson in form of a story by providing each student a hard copy of story to read out loud/along emphasizing the points in “Material for the Teacher” section:

Flooded Library

It was the last day of religion class before Norouz. The singing of the birds and the blossoms gave news of Spring. It was the second period of religion class when Ms. Mandegari entered the class, but she was not in a good mood. All the students guessed that a bad event must have happened. Ms. Mandegari anxiously said, “Last night, the pipes inside the library roof burst and all the water has flooded the library. The pipes have been mended but the library is still wet and unorganized.”

Payman said, “Have the damp books been ruined?”

Ms. Mandegari said, “Not that much, but the library is muddied and some of the books are wet.”

Sima said, “Well, the students who don’t have much to do will help clean and organize the library.”

Ms. Mandegari said, “But we are close to Norouz. Everyone has lots to do. Norouz shopping, Haft seen table,..”

Kourosh said, “But the library is more important. If we wait until end of Norouz the wet books will be in worse condition and will get ruined.”

Ms. Mandegari who was feeling better got up and said, “Thank you, then go and let your families know that today you will stay longer at school. I will see you in 30 minutes at the library.”

Pejman said, “We will let other classes know as well, so they could join us if they’d wish.”



At 12 noon, all fifteen students who were able to stay longer after school were standing by the library door. Ms. Mandegari arrived. She looked at the students and said, “This is great, let’s begin.”

Pejman, Parastu, Kourosh, and Bahram took the books placed at the bottom of the bookshelves in danger of ruin outside to dry. Mojgan and Payman gathered the dust and dirt remaining from the pipe repair and put it in the garbage bag. Sepideh and Pedram used old cloths to dry the wet floor. Roya and Rostam were busy preparing a light lunch for the group. When lunch was ready, everyone ate together and continued their work. Mehran swept the last of the dirt and Banafsheh put back the last of the dried books on the shelves.

Getting the library ready continued until 6pm. At 6pm everyone went home to get ready for Norouz. They were tired but happy and satisfied to have finished a job well done.

Activity for Students:

1. Present students with the target vocabulary and discuss their meanings. Make sure they understand what the vocabulary words mean and how to apply them.

Collaboration: the action of working with someone to produce or create something.

Cooperation: A situation by which people work together to do something by being helpful and doing what is wanted or asked for.

Consultation: Act of getting advice or opinion

Students as a group with help from the teacher using the lesson above will discuss amongst themselves what activity to partake and what roles each will take (everyone should have a job).

Below are some examples:

- a. clean their classroom
- b. organize the library
- c. help with a portion of Gahanbar.

At the conclusion of the activity have the class debrief how well they collaborated during the activity and what improvements could be made.

2. Which of the tasks below are related to cooperation and/or collaboration?
 - a. When there is work to be done that needs effort, hide in a corner so you won’t be found.
 - b. Participating in a group art project, pay attention to the organizer.
 - c. Only participate in a group project when you are the group leader.
 - d. When I commit to do a particular task, I will let others finish it for me, so I conserve my energy.



- e. I will volunteer to the task which I know I am good at.
- f. I consult with my teacher to find out what is the best way to study for my test.
- g. I ask my friend if concentrated apple juice is the same non-concentrated one.
- h. I ask my sister what to put on a Mehregan table.

Sources:

1. Din Amooz 4th grade 3752 Zoroastrian year
2. The Gathas Translated by DJ Irani
3. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary>

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Date: 12/2021