



## 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 and consulting with wise, knowledgeable, righteous, and benevolent individuals when needed.

- 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:**

1. Present the lesson above then give students a copy of the prayers below and ask them about its importance and how it relates to the lesson.
  - a. "Hamazoor bim" prayer

**May we be united in strength.  
May we be united in Righteousness.  
May we be united in performing good deeds.  
May we be far from wrong and wrong doers.  
May we be united with all the good people of the world.**

- b. Gathas, Yasna 30-2

**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

#### **Activity for Students:**

1. Break the class into groups and each group will plan a different activity.
  - a. Give each group a specific task (ex: bake sale fundraiser for the center, asking parents to donate the books they have already read for a book sale, inviting their parents to a class tea party, etc.).
  - b. Ask students to come up with constructive questions to guide them in best accomplishing their task (ex: what kind of sweet would sell better? Should they bake it fresh at the center or at home? etc.)
  - c. Then students should categorize the tasks that need to be done and assign the best individuals for each task.



- d. After the task has been implemented there should be a class discussion.
  - i. How did they categorize the tasks?
  - ii. How did they choose who would be best in doing which task?
  - iii. What did they learn from this activity?
  - iv. What would they do differently next time?
2. Plan an activity with your class
  - a. Follow the steps in #1 Activity for Students but instead of each group planning an activity, choose one activity to do as a class. For example, plan a Mehregan celebration for the class or a portion of the celebration for their center.

**Sources:**

1. Din Amooz 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade 3752 Zoroastrian year
2. The Gathas, Translated by: DJ Irani

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