

Forgiveness

- > **Prayers** “Blessed is the Spot...”
...this is the prayer to memorise for the first 3 lessons. Start by singing it today, accompanied by actions (eg. wave your hands for ‘sea’, point them for ‘mountains’, etc). *See next page for lovely visual version.*
- > **Theme** *Forgiveness* – is an attribute of God. ‘Abdu’l-Bahá always encouraged the friends to be forgiving with one another, looting with the eyes of forgiveness not to look at other’s faults. (see p.25 of Ruhi Book 3a for more explanations, or Virtues Guide p.121)
- > **Quote** – read, explain and memorise it.
“...let your adorning be forgiveness and mercy and that which cheereth the hearts of the well-favoured of God.” –Bahá’u’lláh

(...why do we memorise this quote? to help us in our efforts to be forgiving!)
- > **Story** – p.26 in Ruhi Book 3a: *About ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in ‘Akká and a governor who time and time again tried to harm the Bahá’ís. But through showing him forgiveness, the Master changed his heart...*
- > **Drama** – The first 15 lessons for Grade 2 have a component of drama. We start out to develop skills and abilities first, learning to control our actions within a defined space (p.27):
 - > imaginary square, moving within, along the edge of it, jumping over imaginary ropes, etc.
 - > pretend to be a frog, grasshopper, butterfly, cat, bird, horse, duck (within our squares)
 - > learn to co-operate: in groups of 2 carry very heavy (imaginary) basket/box; welcome a guest into their home, make him/her feel comfortable...

Then move on to improvising/enacting a story related to today’s theme ‘forgiveness’:
> The example from the book is about Renato and his friend Daniel, playing with a precious toy/shell, given to him by his grandfather. Although Daniel handles it very carefully, the toy/shell falls and breaks in a moment of distraction. Renato is very angry and tells Daniel he’ll never speak to him again.
In the second version of the enacted story, Renato remembers the story about ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and the governor and forgives his friend.
- > **Craft/art** we used paint to make pictures of the enacted story or parts of the prayer we learnt today (Blessed is the spot, and the house,...)
- > clean up
- > **Closing Prayers:** let children say prayers they know off by heart

Blessed is the spot,

and the **house,**

and the **place,**

and the **city,**

and the **heart,**

and the **mountain,**

and the **refuge,**

and the **cave,**

and the **valley,**

and the **land,**

and the **sea,**

and the **island,**

and the **meadow**

where mention of God

hath been made,

and His praise glorified.



Bahá'u'lláh