

DAYS PRING



A Bahá'í Magazine for Children
Issue 80

Dayspring
Produced under the auspices of the National Spiritual Assembly
of the Bahá'ís of the United Kingdom

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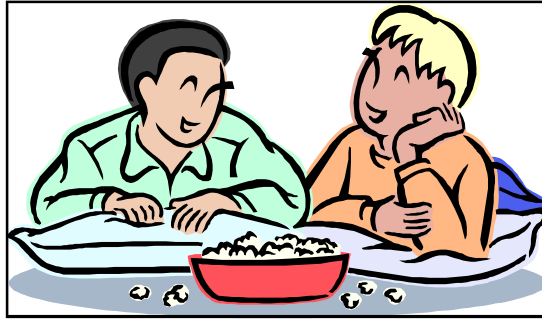
< <http://www.core-curriculum.org/media/songsamples/Consultsample.mp3>>

Maggie Manvell for the poster (p.4), story (pp.6-10), puzzles (pp.12-13), and game (p.20).

Sophia and Mark Fozdar for the word search (p.21) and jokes (p.25).

The compilers of the maze (p.23): <www.free-coloring-pages.com/page/maze-43html>

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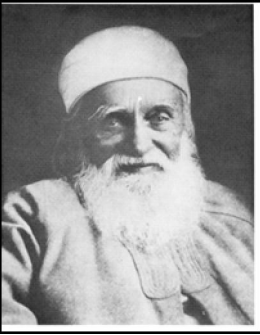
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**The heaven
of divine wisdom
is illumined
with the two
luminaries of
consultation
and
compassion**

Bahá'u'lláh



Meeting 'Abdu'l-Bahá

"The Pilgrim who learned Compassion"

In 'Akka there were many poor people who had no one to look after them except 'Abdu'l-Bahá. One day He asked one of the Bahá'í pilgrims to go in His place to visit a man who was ill and had no one to look after him.

"Take him food and care for him as I have been doing," said 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and told her where the man lived.

She was happy to be trusted to do this and went at once.

But when she walked into the sick man's house, it was so dirty, and there was such a horrible smell, she could not bear to stay for even a minute and hurried back to tell 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

"Master," she exclaimed, "surely you cannot realize to what a terrible place you sent me... I fled lest I contract some terrible disease!"

'Abdu'l-Bahá looked at her sadly. "If you wish to serve God, you must serve your fellow man," He said. "If a person's house is filthy, you must clean it. If he is dirty, wash him. If he is hungry, feed him. Do not return until this is done. Many times have I been to that house to help this poor man. "

Her heart filled with love as she listened to 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and she returned to care for the poor, sick man until he was clean and comfortable and happy.

Four Dwarfs

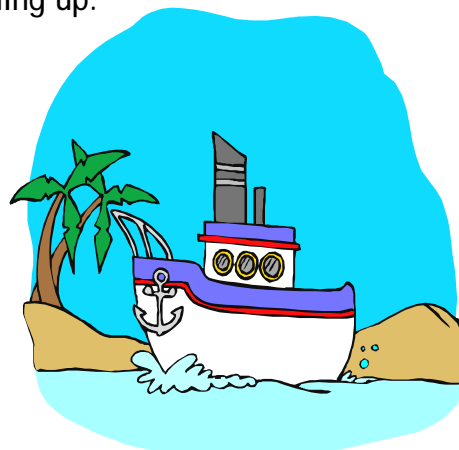
by Maggie Manvell

Once there were four dwarfs. Although they were very different from each other they were old friends, but they didn't see each other very often because they lived in different parts of the country.

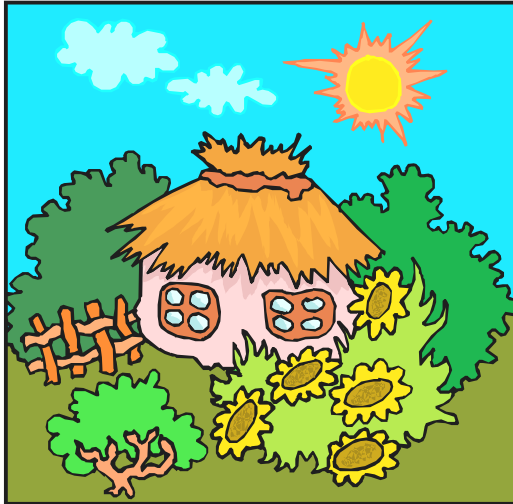
Gloopy lived in a forest. He had a house made of wood, with lots of trees growing round it. Some of the trees had so much fruit that he always had something to eat. When the trees near by ran out of fruit he would take his backpack and set off through the wood to find some more. He was nearly always cheerful, and he loved walking through the countryside, but hardly ever had the chance because his house always needed painting.



Floomie lived on the sea. His house was a boat and his home floated on the water. He was never hungry because he could catch fish. If he ran out of fish he could pull up his anchor and move his home to another place where there were more. He loved playing his flute and dancing, but hardly ever had the chance because his boat always needed patching up.



Mushie's home was quite different. He lived on a wide open plain, where there were lots of flowers. Grasses and plants grew very easily and herds of horses roamed free. He had a lovely garden where he grew vegetables as well as flowers. His favourite treat was mushrooms and he would get up early in the morning and collect some to fry for breakfast. He even had a tame pony called Peterkin, who would sometimes give him rides.



Tappie lived high on the side of a mountain. He had wonderful views and could see a long, long way. From where he lived he could see the town in the distance, and the sea and the forest. He loved his house and was always at work with his hammer and saw and nails to keep it spick and span and in good repair. There was a bit of a problem for Tappie, though. It was difficult for him to find enough to eat on the mountainside. Sometimes he was very hungry and he had become quite thin.



Because the four dwarfs didn't see each other very often, every year they made a special effort and met up for a picnic and have a lovely time, hearing each others' news and sharing jokes and laughter.

One fine sunny day it was time for the four dwarfs to meet for their regular picnic. They chose a lovely spot by a river—away from the mountains, the forest, the plain and the sea, just about in the middle of where they all lived, and not too far for any of them to travel from home.



They were really happy to see each other. They beamed and clapped each other on the back. Tappie laid a cloth down on the grass, then each of them took out the food he had brought. Flumie placed down a lovely dish of fresh prawns, some small winkles in their shells and a large fresh crab, all freshly cooked that morning. Everyone's mouths watered. Then Gloopie produced a dish of cherries, a small pile of crunchy apples and some juicy plums. Mushie took off his backpack and laid down some mouth-watering corn-on-the-cobs, tomatoes and firm fresh peas, still in their pods. What a lovely feast! Tappie felt a bit sad because all he'd been able to bring was the tablecloth and a flask of cool fresh mountain spring water.

The other friends didn't really notice though—they were all so pleased to see each other.

They ate and ate until they were fit to burst, then Tappie lit a fire and they settled down to spend a long happy evening, laughing and exchanging news.

After all the good news had been shared, there was quiet for a while, and the four became a bit more serious. Tappie began to explain that although he loved his home on the mountain very much, he thought he would need to move away so he could find enough to eat.

"Goodness me!" said Flumie. "I have so many fish I hardly know what to do with them.

"Eating naught but prawn and crab
Makes my dinners really drab.
A bit of veggie on my plate
Would make my suppers really great!"



"Mmmmm" rumbled Mushie. "I love my vegetables, but a bit of fish now and then would go down a treat, I must say.



"Loads of veg at every meal
Would taste much better with some eel.
Swap some veg for your good fish,
That would make a tasty Dish!"

"It's the same for me", laughed Gloopie. "My fruit makes lovely pies, but I'd give anything for a bit of fish!

"Blackberries and apple pud
Make me feel really good,
But tatties, with some peas and fish,
That would be my greatest wish!"



"Oh dear" sighed Tappie. "How I'd love to be able to swap something with you chaps. I'd love some fish, vegetables, or fruit, but I don't have anything I could give to you."



"An empty plate is all I've got,
There is nothing in my pot.
I would swap you something good,
But there's nothing in my wood!"

"But Tappie, that's not true!" said Flumie. "You have lots to give. If you would do some work on my boat for me, I would have time to enjoy my music. And there's plenty of fish in the sea for you too."

"Yes—and if Tappie would put up some frames in my garden for my vegetables, I'd have lots of time to collect mushrooms," said Mushie.

"Wow!" said Tappie. "I'd really love to do all those things. I just love building and painting. But you all live too far away."

"No problem at all," smiled Mushy. And at that moment there was a whinny from the trees behind them, and out walked Peterkin the pony, all ready to give Tappie a ride.



It's good to talk,
It's good to think.
With Tappie's help
My boat won't sink!

It's good to listen,
Good to talk.
With help from friends
I'll get my walk..



It's good to tell,
It's good to share.
It's great to know
My friends all care!



I'm glad I shared
My dearest wish.
With Flumie's help
I'll get my fish!



A Song about Consultation

by Roberta Christian and Eugene Babcock

Consultation means

Finding out

What everybody

Is thinking about.

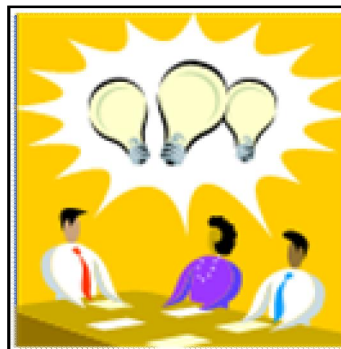
You listen to them

And they listen to you,

Then you all do

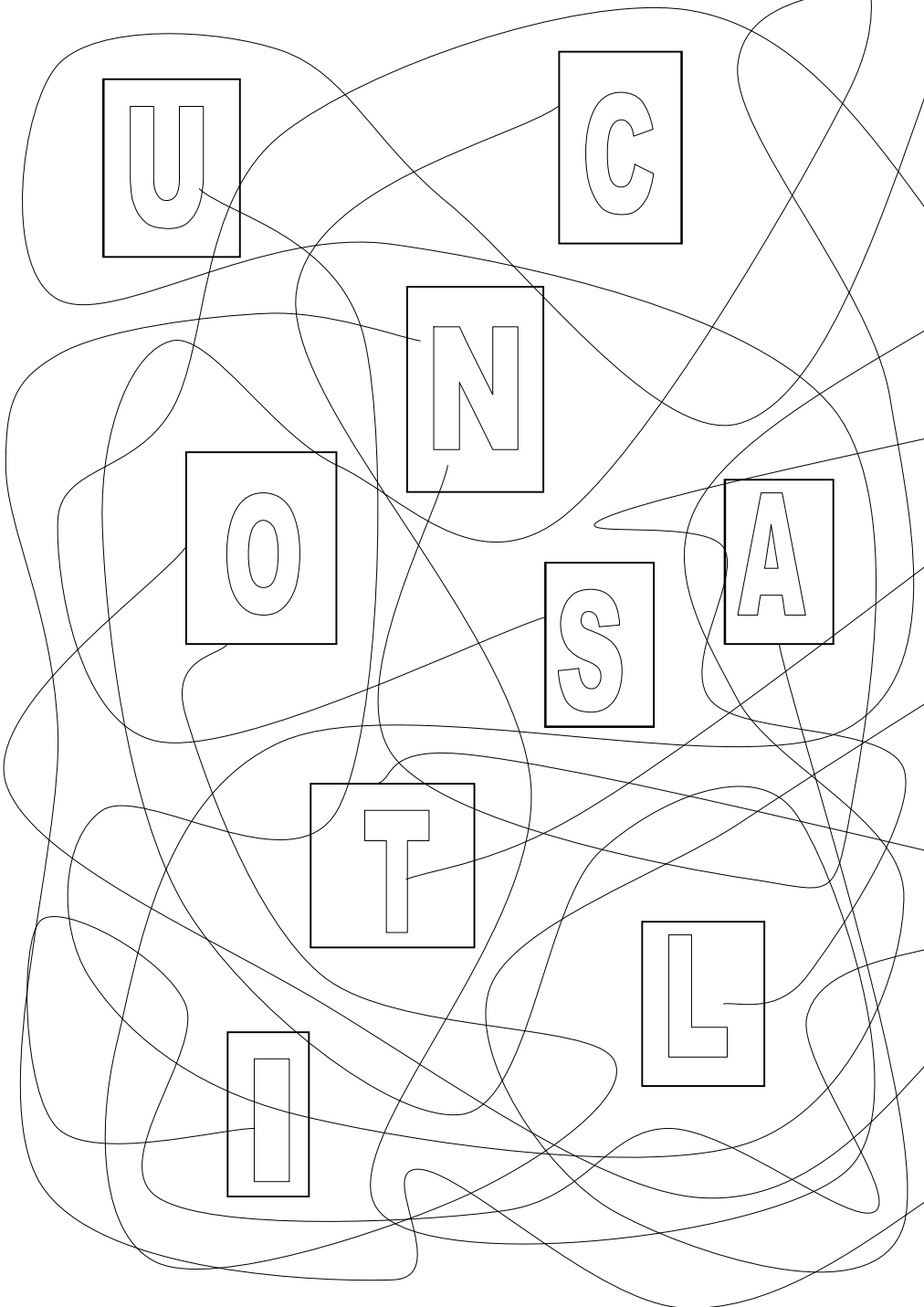
What most of you

Want to do!

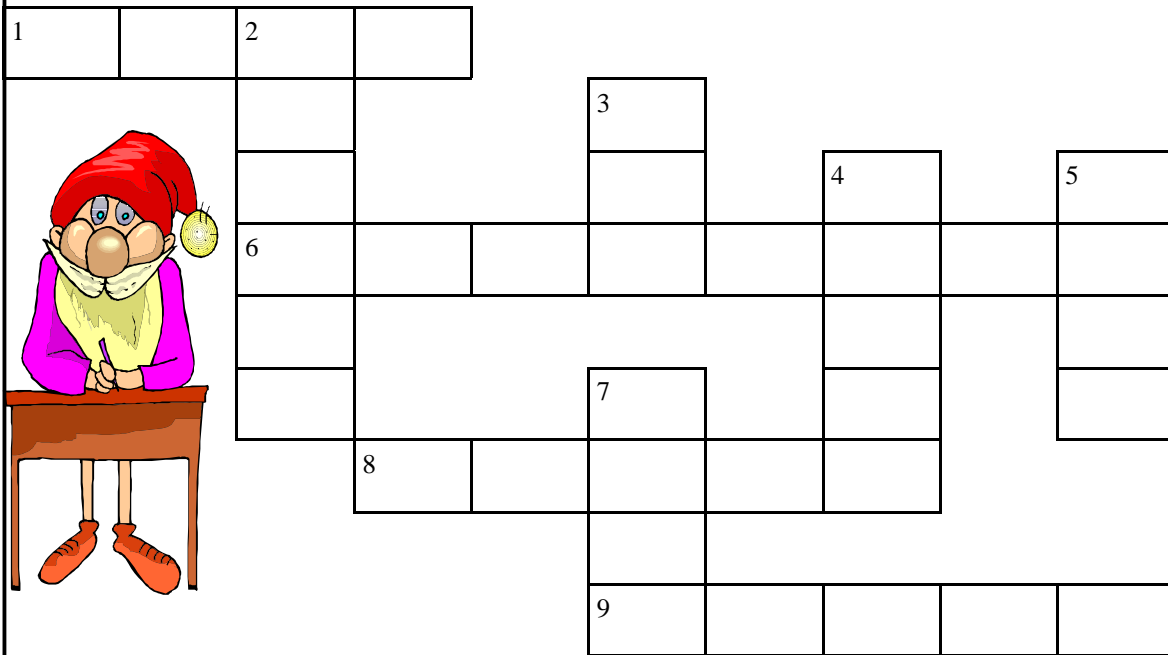


PUZZLES

Work out this word by following the lines and putting the letters in the right boxes.



This crossword is about consultation.
Find the right words to fill it in.



Across:

1. Consultation can be a good way to people when they have a problem.
6. Consultation happens when a group of people talk
8. It is important to clearly.
9. Consultation is a way to try and find the

Down:

2. When someone is speaking we should carefully.
3. Every..... should get a chance to speak.
4. Before speaking we should about what we want to say.
5. Before everything else we should for help.
7. Consultation is trying to find the solution for everyone.

truth

together

think

listen

pray

speak

one

help

best



Hands of the Cause of God

Enoch Olinga (1926 - 1979)

This is the story of a boy who was born in Uganda, Africa, in 1926. His name was Enoch Olinga. His parents were Christians and sent him to missionary schools, where he had a good education.

In 1941, when he was fifteen years old, he left school and went into the British Royal Army Education Corps, where he continued his education and also spent several years travelling to other countries. He studied economics and learned six languages. He then returned to Uganda and worked as a translator for the government and wrote three books.

But somehow life did not go well for Enoch. He felt something was missing in his life. He did not know what it was but knew it was something very important. He became very unhappy. He began to drink alcohol, thinking that would help. But, of course, that only made him sadder than ever and he could not do his work properly and lost his job in the government.

Then a friend told him about Bahá'u'lláh.

There were some Bahá'ís who had recently pioneered to Uganda and Enoch began to go to meetings in their homes. His heart was touched by their love, but at first he did not seem very interested in what they were saying.

The Bahá'ís then decided to hold a large public meeting to tell more people about the Faith. They arranged to hold the meeting at exactly the same time as two of the friends were on pilgrimage praying at the Bahá'í Shrines in the Holy Land. They were sure something exciting would happen, especially as the beloved Guardian, Shoghi Effendi, was going to be asked if he would also say prayers at that time as well.

The day of the meeting came, but very few people. One of them was Enoch Olinga. However,

at the end of the evening he left without saying anything and the friends thought their



prayers had not been answered.

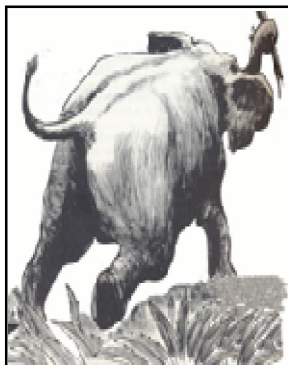
However, later that evening, Enoch went to their house and asked many questions. One of them was, “How does one become a Bahá’í?” And the following morning he was back again, saying he was a Bahá’í! He was the very first person in his tribe to believe in Bahá’u’lláh.

From that day, all his sadness vanished. He changed so much and became such a good person everyone noticed. In the days that followed, his wife also became a Bahá’ís and several members of his tribe. Soon, over 90 people had accepted the Faith there, including Enoch’s father.

Enoch Olinga decided to pioneer to another country in Africa, called British Camerouns, where there were no Bahá’ís and which was nearly 2000 miles away. Just before he left, he received a telegram from Shoghi Effendi, saying:

LOVING, FERVENT PRAYERS ACCOMPANYING YOU, SHOGHI.

Enoch’s heart was full of love for Bahá’u’lláh and for Shoghi Effendi as he set off by car with two other pioneers. There were no proper roads and the car kept getting stuck in the mud. Finally, it broke down in wild elephant country.



Enoch said he would walk to the nearest town for help, which was nearly 40 miles away. The other friends wanted to go with him, but he insisted it would be better if they stayed in the car. It was important for someone to stay to make sure the car and the luggage was not stolen.



Enoch began walking along the muddy track that wound its way through the jungle full of snakes and other dangerous animals. At the end of the first day he was covered in mud, soaking wet and so tired he was unable to walk any longer. Exhausted, he fell asleep on the ground.

And he had a dream.



Enoch Olinga sitting next to 'Ali Nakhjavani, one of the first pioneers to Africa. It was in Mr Nakhjavani's house that Enoch learned about the Faith.

In the dream, Shoghi Effendi came to Enoch and took him in his arms. He helped him to stand up and encouraged him to go on.

When Enoch woke up he felt a different person. He was no longer frightened but calm and determined. He was so affected by the dream that he cried out in his heart to Shoghi Effendi saying that he was willing to go through such hardships for him every day of his life. And as he set off again on his journey, he remembered Shoghi Effendi's promise that his loving prayers would be accompanying him.

He had not walked far when he heard the toot-toot-tooting of a horn. He turned round and to his surprise and delight saw the car bumping along the track behind him and his friends smiling and waving! They had managed to clean the mud off the engine of the car and get it working again.

They eventually arrived in British Cameroons (which is now an independent country just called Cameroon) and Enoch Olinga immediately wrote to Shoghi Effendi telling him the news. He stayed there for ten years and many people became Bahá'ís. Tens of thousands of people also became Bahá'ís back in Enoch's home area of Teso.

Enoch longed with all the love in his heart to go on pilgrimage to pray at the Shrines and to meet Shoghi Effendi. Eventually, in 1957, he was able to go, and he felt he was in heaven. At the end of his pilgrimage, Shoghi Effendi kissed him on both cheeks, and Enoch humbly prostrated himself on the ground at his feet.



Enoch Olinga and his wife Elizabeth.

After he returned home to Uganda, a telegram arrived from Shoghi Effendi to say that Enoch Olinga was a Hand of the Cause of God. He was the youngest of all the Hands and had only been a Bahá'í for four years. From that moment he began to travel around the world, teaching the Faith, encouraging the Bahá'ís, and cheering everyone's heart with his love and laughter.

* * * * *

Sadly, in 1979, dear Enoch Olinga and some members of his family were killed by terrorists who broke into their house in Uganda. The news spread around the world and was even on the BBC news. Shoghi Effendi had called Enoch Olinga the "Father of Victories", and hundreds of thousands of people remembered him with gratitude and love. His soul and the souls of his dear family are now with Bahá'ú'lláh in the Abhá Kingdom.

INDIVIDUALS UNITED

by Maureen Catherine McIver (when aged 12)

I imagine the world were like a rose,
And the people were the petals,
Each individually pleasant
Yet together, in unity,
Folding together perfectly
To produce the rose.
That would be peace.

Or if the world were like a rainbow
And the people were the droplets,
Each shining in its own right,
Coming together with joy,
Glittering like the sun on the sea,
An awesome arc of colour,
A perfect panorama.
That would be peace.

And if the world were the night sky
And the people were the stars,
Yes, beautiful on their own
But together, in harmony,
Forming their patterns
In the velvety darkness
To create a clear night's magic.
That would be peace.



The "Talking Feather" or "Talking Stick"

You may wonder how a feather can talk, or if there really is something called a talking stick! Well the feather and the stick don't do this by themselves, of course. It is a way some Native American tribes consult about important things at their meetings. Maybe you already know about it. You could try it with a group of your friends, or with your parents and brothers or sisters. It gives everyone a fair chance to speak and, if you do it properly, with respect, it stops people interrupting or arguing.



This is how it is done:

1. Everyone sits in a circle.
2. The chairman begins the talk by holding the feather (or stick etc.) as a signal that the meeting had begun.
3. Once he has finished speaking, the feather then passes on to the next person. Whoever is holding the feather has the right to speak without any one interrupting. Everyone else must remain silent.
4. If anyone does not want to speak, he or she silently passes it on to the next person, and so on.
5. The feather can be passed round the circle from hand to hand several times until nobody has anything more to say on the subject being discussed. By the end, it is usually clear what everyone thinks is the right thing to do about something.

The colours and decorations used on the "Talking" instruments (the feather, stick, box, pebble from the beach etc. – you can use anything) have meanings, and are therefore important for the Native American tribes. You could use something already colourful (like a feather or a pretty stone) or you could make something yourself and decorate it in the colours or patterns you like.



When you become good at listening to everyone, you will be able to consult without having to hold anything in your hand to remind you of the rules.

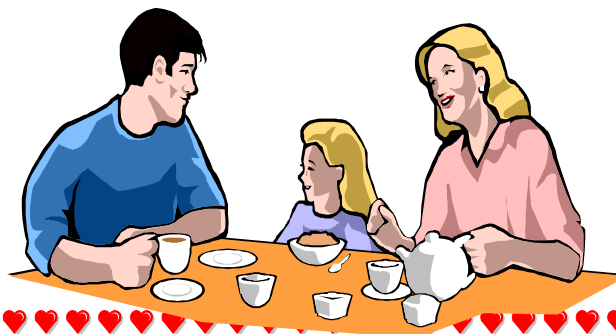
Bahá'í Consultation

The important thing about Bahá'í consultation is also to find the truth or the best way to do something, just as it is in the Native American “Talking Feather” circle meetings.

Consultation is not just for adults but for children too. An important time when we all come together to consult as Bahá'ís is at the Nineteen Day Feast.

But we can consult at other times too. Bahá'u'lláh tells us we should consult about anything that is important to us at any time to help us make the best decisions. We can consult with our parents and other members of our family, our friends, and anyone else we trust and respect. It is always good to choose wise people to consult with as they usually give the best advice. When we are consulting we should:

1. Pray to God to help us reach the right decision.
2. Have love and respect for everyone present.
3. Give everyone a chance to speak.
4. Speak politely and not get cross. And never argue.
5. Not interrupt when someone else is speaking.
6. Listen carefully to what everyone else is saying.
7. Think carefully about what others say to see if it sounds right or is a good idea.
8. At the end, vote for the best idea, even if it is not the one we had in the first place.
9. Accept the decision of the majority (i. e. all or most of the people there).
10. Afterwards, don't talk about who said what as that does not matter. The important thing is that the best decision has been reached in unity and love.



'Abdu'l-Bahá says:

“Consultation must have for its object
the investigation of truth.
He who expresses an opinion
should not voice it as correct and right
but set it forth as a contribution
to the consensus of opinion,
for the light of reality
becomes apparent
when two opinions coincide.”

**What does 'Abdu'l-Bahá say the object of
consultation is? The investigation of**

Meaning of words

Object here means aim.

Investigation means search.

Consensus of opinion means what the majority agree.

Reality means something that is real or true.

Coincide means when two ideas agree, or when two things
happen at the same time.

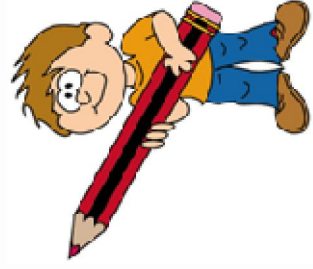
Solidarity means to stand together.



WORD SEARCH

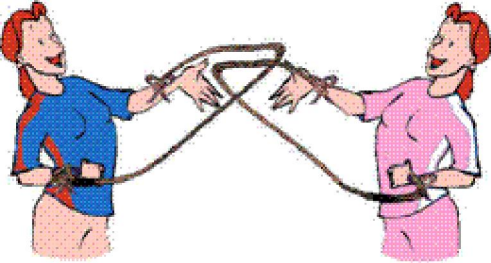
R Z V C I S G C N E A X L I
 K O S O L M D O N U P I O K J N
 T P T I S Q K N U P I O K J V
 I I F N U R C T R E L N C V E
 V N O C U B O R T R E U S O Q S
 D I R I O R N I U S M E R O T
 J O T D P F S B T S V N R L I
 A N H E C G U L T H E S O S E I G A
 P H I H V Q B T I A R S C S T H T
 A X G H E N C J A O U S E V A T I
 R B H T H C J E T N Z J B H E H O N
 E H T H C C I O U R S Q S H I V F N V
 N O C S M L F T Q N A R S F H L T Y P

CONSULTATION COINCIDE
 OBJECT
 INVESTIGATION
 TRUTH
 EXPRESSES
 OPINION
 VOICE
 CORRECT
 RIGHT
 FORTH
 CONTRIBUTION
 CONSENSUS
 LIGHT
 REALITY
 APPARENT



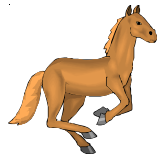
Consultation Games

Consultation means you have to listen carefully when someone else speaks and they have to listen to you. This way you can work out solutions to problems much better than you can by yourself.



Untangle

INSTRUCTIONS: Work with a partner. You need two pieces of string. Tie an end of your partner's string **loosely** around one of their wrists and the other end loosely around their other wrist. Then ask your partner to tie one end of your own string loosely around your left wrist. Then take the free end and put it through their circle of string. Then tie the other end of your string to your right wrist. The object of the game is to separate from your partner without untying your string or removing it from your wrist. Remember, this is a friendly game — be careful not to pull or push.



Problem solving

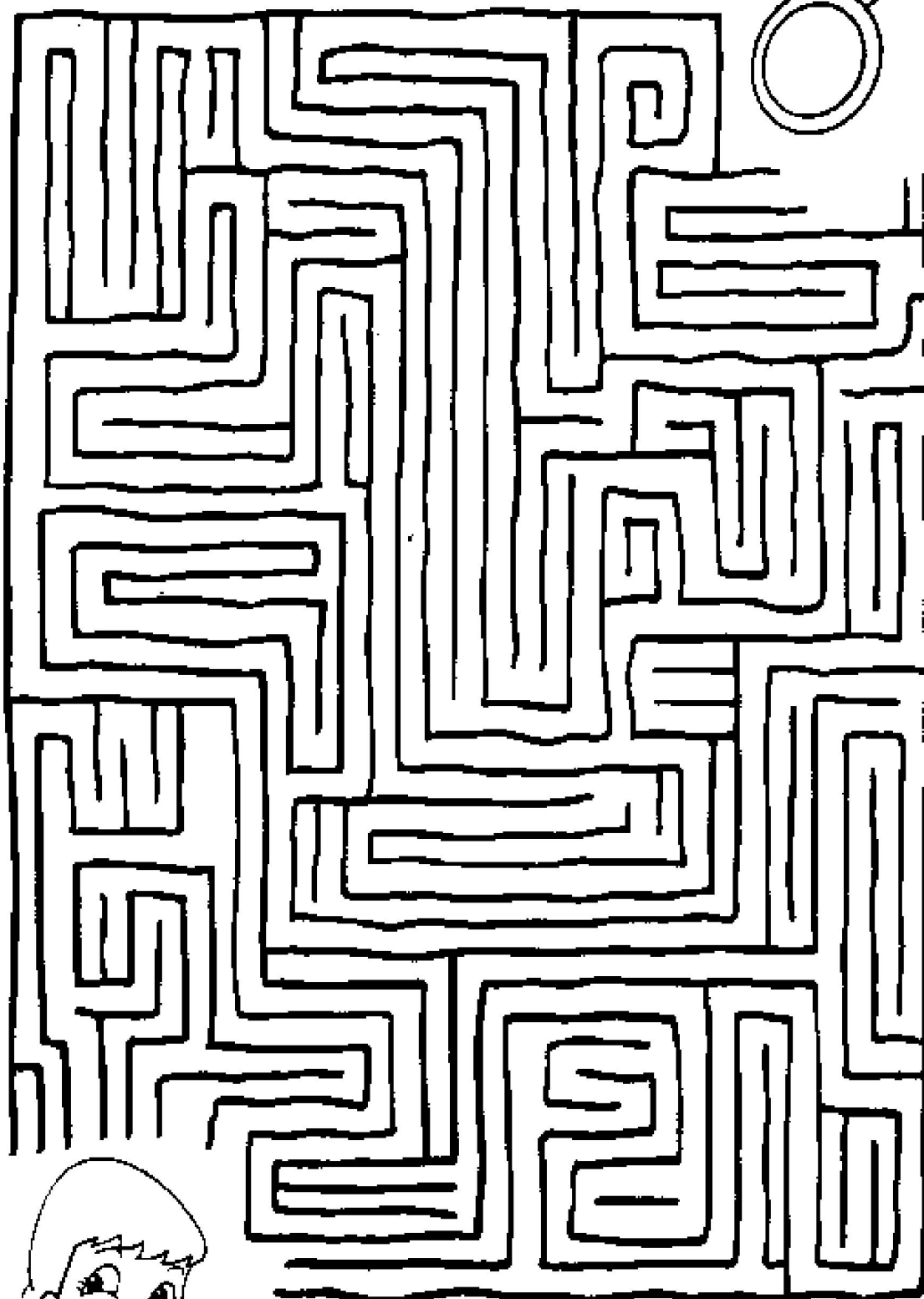
Imagine you're out for a walk with your friends when you find that a gate has been left open and some horses have got out onto the main road. What will you need to do? What must be done first? How will you decide who does what? Consult about this problem and when you've decided what to do make it into a little play.

Crystal Maze

INSTRUCTIONS: One of you is blindfolded. The rest quickly fill the floor with obstacles—jumpers, boxes, books—anything to hand. By listening to the instructions of the others, the blindfolded person tries to cross the room without bumping into anything. The great thing to practise here is to give very clear, simple instructions. This doesn't work very well if everyone talks at the same time!



**Emma can not find her ring.
Will you show her the way?**



Your Work...

Artwork. Below is some lovely artwork done by Leo, Zia, and Serene Jenkins when they were 8, 6 and 4 years old. There is also a great photo of them. They were doing drawings and collages from a quotation of 'Abdu'l-Bahá describing nature, which was in one of the issues of *Dayspring*.



A letter from their Mum. *I just wanted to thank you for Dayspring. I'm finding it a great help with my kids at Feast and when we have discussions at home about spiritual matters. I also use it for the children's class we hold with the local kids in the neighbourhood and when my kids have friends over. Much love, Leila Jenkins.*

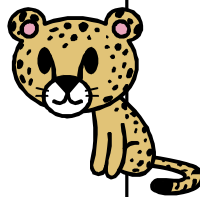


Jokes

Why shouldn't you play cards in the jungle?

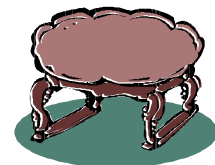


Because there might be a cheetah!



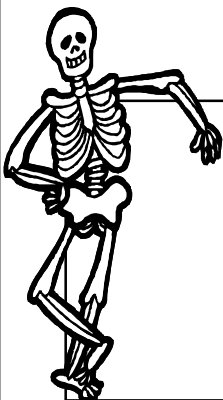
Who invented King Arthur's round table?

Sir Cumference!



Why did the man drown in his muesli?

He was pulled under by a strong currant!



Where do skeletons swim?

The Dead Sea!

What features do witches like to have on their computers?

A spell checker!



Amazing Stories from the Dawn-Breakers

Stories adapted by Jacqueline Mehrabi and illustrated by Malcolm Lee

(The story so far: *The Báb has been a prisoner in the castle-prison of Chihriq. He is now on His way to Tabríz to be questioned by the religious leaders of the land. On the way he stayed a few days in a small town where He rode a wild horse. He has now reached the outskirts of Tabríz, and everyone is wondering what is going to happen there.*

Part 25

“I am the Promised One”

As the Báb came near to Tabríz, many people came out to welcome Him. Hearing the noise and excitement, the town leaders decided to take the Báb to stay outside the town where people would not be able to see Him.



The following day He was taken to meet the most important religious and government leaders in Tabríz. He entered the room majestically and a hush fell over the gathering. At first no one said anything. Then the chief mullá asked:

“Who do you claim to be and what is the message which you have brought?”

A spirit of power shone from the Báb as He said:

“I am, I am, I am the Promised One!”

The people were shaken by this claim. They did not want to believe it. If the Báb was the Promised One, that would mean His teachings came from God. They would then have to change some of their ideas and they did not want to do that. There was a silence and then one of them began to speak to the Báb in a rude manner, asking difficult questions about religion, which the Báb answered perfectly. But the man kept interrupting and making fun of the Báb’s replies. After a while, the Báb rose to His feet and silently left the room.

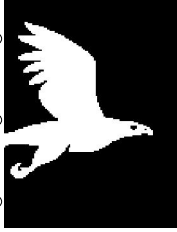
“We must do something to stop the Báb,” muttered the religious leaders when the Báb had gone, “otherwise we will lose our power and authority. He must be punished.”

They told one of the guards to beat the soles of the Báb’s feet. This is very painful and is called the bastinado. The guard refused to do it because he liked the Báb. In exasperation, the chief priest said he would do it. He was a cruel man and everyone was afraid of him. He hit the feet of the Báb eleven times with a hard cane. He also hit the Báb on the face.



A British doctor was living in Tabríz at the time, and for several days he bathed the wound on the face of the Báb until the swelling went down. The doctor asked some questions about the Faith, and the Báb told him that one day all Europeans would believe in it.

(To be continued)



The Kitáb-i-Aqdas ~ The Most Holy Book

Lesson Eighteen

Bahá'u'lláh says in the Kitáb-i-Aqdas (verse 59)

**“Consider
the mercy of God
and His gifts.”**

A true gift is something we give freely out of the generosity of our hearts. This is why God gives us gifts — because He loves us and wants us to be happy. Sometimes we do not realise how precious the gifts are that God gives us, and sometimes we even forget what they are. Bahá'u'lláh is asking us to consider God's gifts, that is, to think about them.

1. Some of these gifts are obvious, such as the earth, the sun, the rain, and our parents who gave us life. Can you think of two more?
2. We cannot actually see our spiritual gifts, but we know they are there. Can you think of one of them which we all have? It is something that goes on living for ever even when our bodies die:
3. Other precious gifts are the teachings of the Manifestations of God. For example, one is consultation! Another is compassion. Name another one below:

As well as telling us to think about God's gifts, what else does Bahá'u'lláh tell us to consider in the quotation on the page opposite?

Consider the of God

Mercy means being compassionate and forgiving, especially to those under one's power. It is another gift from God.

God is the All-Powerful and also the Most Merciful. And just as God forgives us when we are sorry about something, we should also show mercy and forgive one another too.

Open a Bahá'í prayer book and find some prayers that end with words saying that God is the All-Forgiving, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful, the Most Generous, as well as the Almighty.

~~~ Read the Story Below ~~~

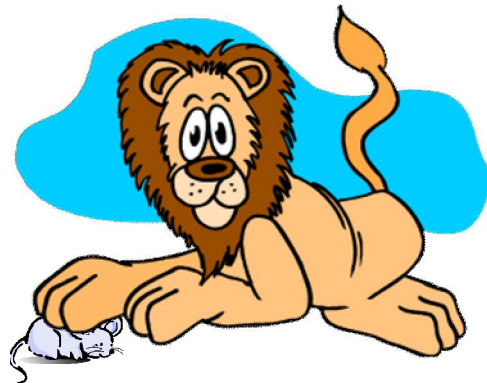
## The Lion and the Mouse

(Adapted from a fable by Aesop)

A Lion was lying fast asleep under a tree when a little Mouse came by. The Mouse began to lightly run up and down the back of the sleeping Lion, which eventually woke the huge animal up.

As the Lion was the king of the jungle and used to being treated with respect, he was not very pleased at having his sleep interrupted by a Mouse. He roared and covered the little Mouse with his great paw and opened his enormous mouth to gobble him up.

"Please," begged the little Mouse, "forgive me this time and I will never forget it. Who knows, I may be able to do you a good turn one of these days!"



The Lion was amused at the impossible idea of a tiny Mouse ever being able to help him. So the Lion lifted his paw and let him go.

Some time after this the Lion was caught in a trap, and a hunter tied him to a tree while he went to find a wagon to take him to the palace as a present for the King.

At that moment, the little Mouse happened to pass by.

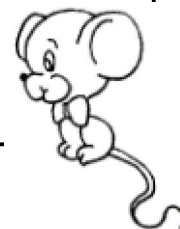
The Lion looked at him with sad eyes and pleaded, "Please help me!"

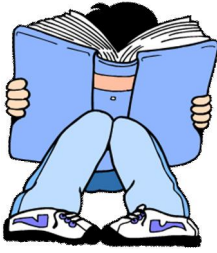
The little Mouse could have run away. He shivered as he remembered how the Lion had nearly eaten him! But he also remembered how the Lion had forgiven him. When he saw the sad plight of the Lion, he ran up to him at once. He gnawed at the rope with his tiny teeth until the Lion was free.

"Was I not right?" asked the Mouse. "Although I am so small, I was able to help you after all!"

#### Questions to think about

1. What made the lion more powerful than the mouse at the beginning ?
2. How did the lion show mercy to the mouse?
3. What made the mouse more powerful than the lion at the end?
4. How did the mouse show mercy to the lion?
5. Is there a way you could show mercy to someone?





*A Book for all the Family*

## The Lamp:

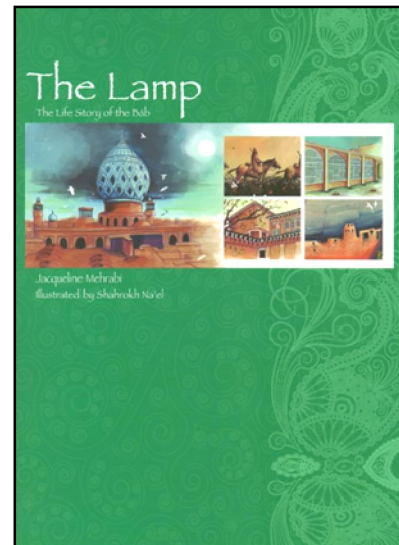
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and caused to shine with deathless splendour.”*

*The Báb*



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