

DAYS PRING



A Bahá'í Magazine for Children

Issue 101

Dayspring

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

Dayspring is produced three times a year on an educational non-profit basis and seeks to nurture a love for God and mankind in the hearts of children. Material by children and adults of stories, plays, poems, artwork and news is warmly welcomed. Please note that under the terms of the Child Protection Act regarding publishing images of children, permission to do so is required from a parent or guardian.

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Contents

(The theme of this issue is
Working Together)

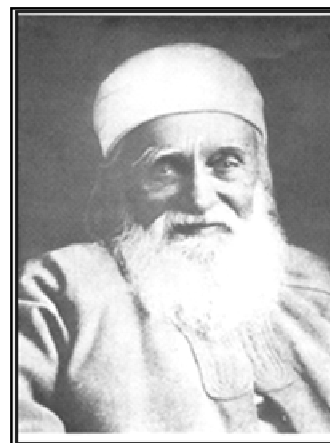
Quotation	(4)
Meeting 'Abdu'l-Bahá (true story)	(5)
Working together (story)	(6-7)
New Homes (drawing activity)	(8)
What does it mean? (and puzzle)	(9)
Building Spiritual Muscles	(10-11)
Two Wings (poem)	(12-13)
Picture message puzzle about two wings	(14)
Drawing activity about two wings	(15)
Jokes	(16)
The Only clock in Town (story)	(17-18-19)
Two hands (activity)	(20)
Quotation code	(21)
Games about working together	(22-23)
The Secret (true story)	(24-25)
Nations Working Together	(26)
Quotation code puzzle	(27)
Global Unity	(28-29)
Crossword	(30)
Quotation	(31)



**May each
one of you
become
a shining lamp,
of which
the flame
is the Love
of God.**

'Abdu'l-Bahá

Meeting 'Abdu'l-Bahá



It was very early in the morning and most people were still in bed. One of the Bahá'ís looked out of her window and saw 'Abdu'l-Bahá in the street

below. He was wearing His long cloak, which was called an 'abá.

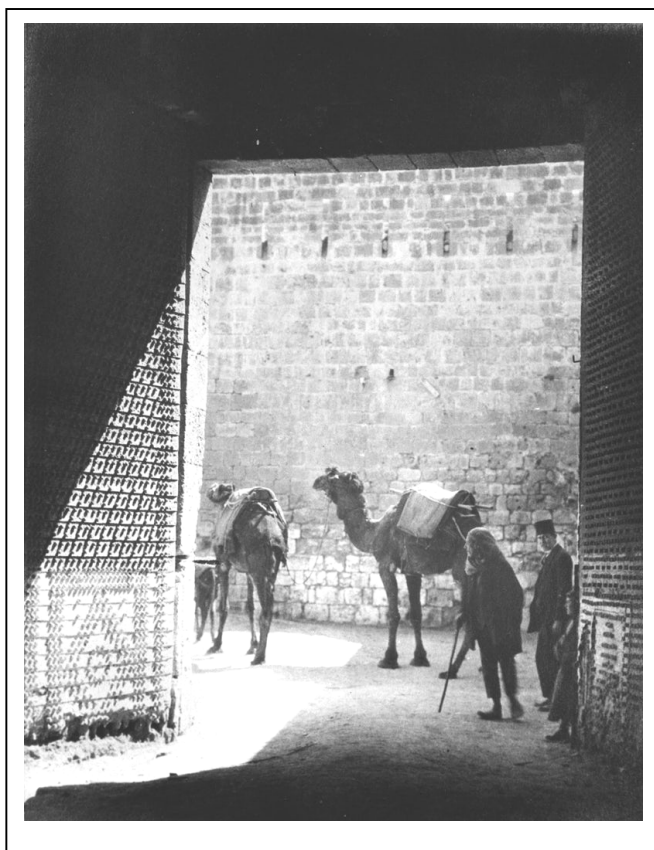
Suddenly a poor man passed by. His clothes were thin and torn and very dirty. Maybe he had slept that night on the cold pavement, or under a bridge and had no-one to look after him.

'Abdu'l-Bahá walked up to that lonely old man, held his dirty hand and spoke to him lovingly. The old man was very sad and it took a long

time to cheer him up, but eventually he gave a little smile.

Then 'Abdu'l-Bahá looked at the man's ragged trousers, smiled and said that something should be done about them. He went into a dark porch and took off His own trousers, which He wore underneath His 'abá, and gave them to the old man.

"May God go with you," said 'Abdu'l-Bahá.



A street in 'Akká years ago.

Working Together

A long time ago there were four dwarfs who lived in the same village. Each of the dwarfs was very good at doing one thing. But, sadly, none of them was very good at doing anything else.



Mushie loved growing things. He had a garden with all sorts of fruits and vegetables—more than he could eat. He loved working in his garden. But he didn't have time for much else.

Digger worked in a mine all day long. He just loved digging. He had found coal to burn and hoped to find some gold one day. But he'd never learned how to do other things.



Zippie loved his car. He spent lots of time rushing here and there but never had time to do anything useful.

Tappie liked to make things and spent all day with his hammer and nails. He loved it so much that he never did anything else.



One day a terrible thing happened. There was a very loud rumbling noise. It got louder and louder and the ground started to shake. The rumbling grew to a loud roar and the ground shook even more. It was an earthquake! The villagers came running out of their houses to see what was happening. They were only just in time. The ground was shaking so much that the houses came tumbling down.

They looked at each other in shock.

Mushie said, "What can we do? Now we have nowhere to live. I don't know how to build another house!"

Digger saw that even the village shop had fallen down and all the food was buried under the bricks. "We won't have anything to eat!" he said, and his tummy rumbled because it was dinner time.

Tappie looked at the pile of bricks that had been his house and thought about all his useful tools that were buried underneath.

Zippie was very glad that his car was not buried, but he thought, "I wish I'd spent some time learning to do something more useful than just driving about. Now I have nowhere to live and nothing to eat and I don't know what to do!"

"Maybe," said Digger, "we need to think about what we *can* do, instead of all the things we can't. The only thing I can do well is digging. But I could do that. Where would be the best place for me to start?"

They looked at all the fallen-down houses.

"I know," said Tappie. "Dig where my house was and we'll find lots of tools and nails so that I can start to build new houses."

"And my garden is full of food," shouted Mushie. "I'll go and get something for us all to eat."

Zippie wondered what he could do to help. "I know," he said, "there's a place where I can go and get some water." He jumped in his car and sped off to buy some big bottles of water.

Mushie, Digger, Zippie and Tappie worked very hard doing all the different things they were good at. Everything they did was useful. Tappie showed the others how they could help him build, and it wasn't long before they all had a new place to live.

New Homes

The four dwarfs helped each other build new homes. The new houses might have been different from the old ones.
Draw each dwarf a lovely new home.

Old House	Dwarf	New house
	 Mushie	
	 Digger	
	 Zippie	
	 Tappie	

What does it mean?

"Today, the most important affair and greatest hope is the unity and concord of the Friends." 'Abdu'l-Bahá

For the 4 dwarfs the 'most important affair' and the 'greatest hope' was for them to work together, because they needed food, water, tools and new homes.

Each dwarf was able to do very helpful things. Draw a line to join each dwarf with what he did to help:



Tappie

Getting food

Looking after the garden

Building new homes

fetching water

Driving the car

Helping Tappie to build



Zippie

Hammering



Digger

Digging

Showing the others how to build.



Mushie

Finding tools in the rubble



Building Spiritual Muscles

Practising Working Together

Everyone is good at something. And sometimes the things we're good at doing are different from our friends.

In the list below, tick all the things you're good at:

running	<input type="checkbox"/>	playing football	<input type="checkbox"/>
writing	<input type="checkbox"/>	swimming	<input type="checkbox"/>
cooking	<input type="checkbox"/>	cycling	<input type="checkbox"/>
singing	<input type="checkbox"/>	reading	<input type="checkbox"/>
drawing	<input type="checkbox"/>	music	<input type="checkbox"/>



If this was a very long list, you'd find some boxes that you couldn't tick. Sometimes, if we need something done—and we're not good at it—we can ask someone else to help. The best thing is when everybody offers what they can do so that everything gets done well.

We can help other people by doing the things we're good at, or by sharing the things we have. You can build your spiritual strength by using what you're good at to help others.



Look at the boxes on the next page. Choose the actions that show you are helping. Lightly colour the borders of their boxes green. Colour the other box borders red.

A Your Mum needs eggs quickly for her cake.
You're a good runner and would be fast.



You don't feel like cake just now so say nothing.

You offer to run to the shop and get some.

B You're good at skipping and your sister wants you to show her how.

You go and skip by yourself.

You get your rope and try to teach her.



C You have a new bike and your little sister wants a go.



You let him use yours.

You ride off on your own.

You sit her on the saddle and help her ride.

D Your friend wants to fish but has no net.

You say you can't find yours.

E Your Mum is rushing to shell the peas for dinner and you know how to do it.



You grab some peas and join in.

F You're a good climber and some kids have lost their balls up a tree.



You carry on playing your game.

You watch while they try but they can't get up.

You climb up and get the balls down.

Two Wings

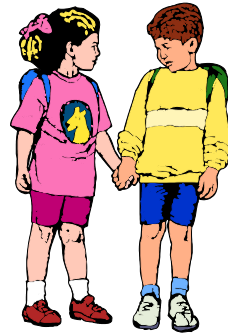


I'm a baby bird upon a branch,
Wanting to fly, but needing the chance.

You see, my wings won't work together.
One tries to fly without the other.

Two strong wings are needed to fly,
Without both I can't go high.

Humanity is a lot like me,
It needs two wings to set it free.



Girls and boys, whose strength is equal,
Can be the wings to lift God's people.

With your two wings they can rise to the heights,
Your two wings will steady their flight.

Wings working together are more than two,
Bringing life to the world anew.



Up, up, up humanity will soar,
With love and harmony at their door.

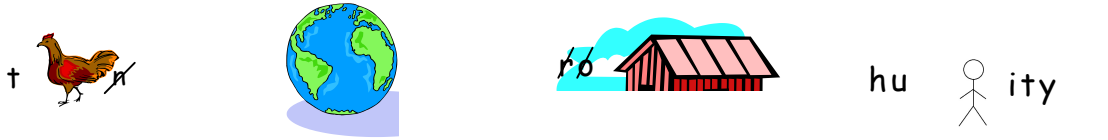
When you go to bed at night,
You'll rest before the next day's flight.

You'll fall asleep in a peaceful land,
Knowing all is safe in God's good hands.

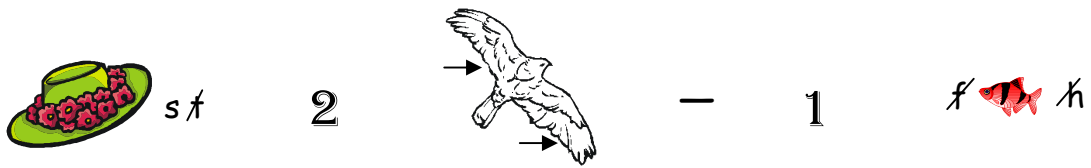
If you do this, all too shall rest,
Because God's children are doing their best.



Can you work out this message from 'Abdu'l-Bahá about how men and women can work together to help the world?



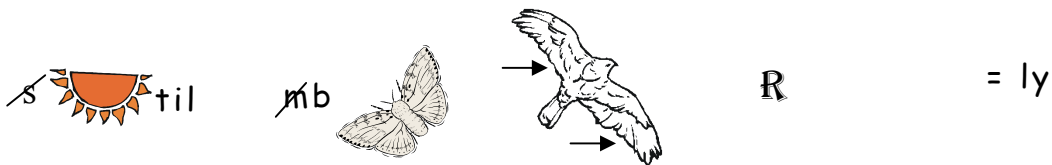
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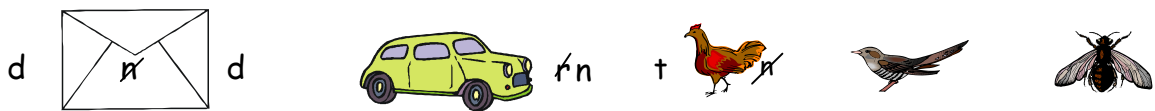
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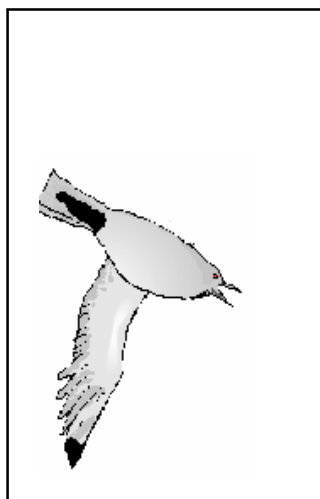
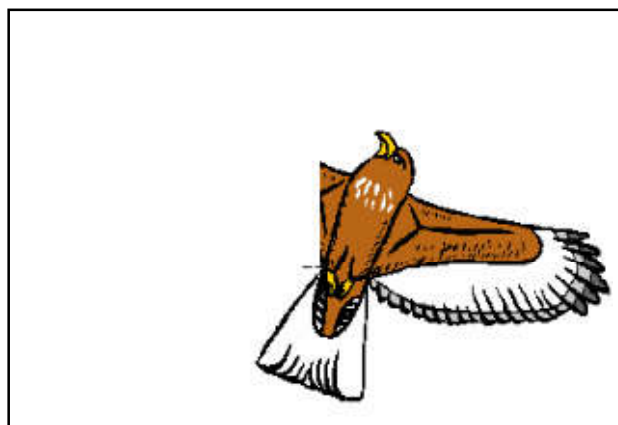
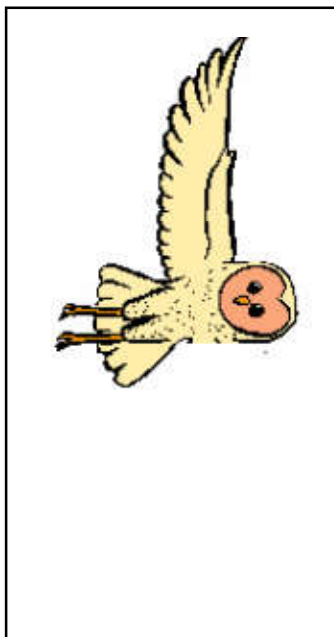
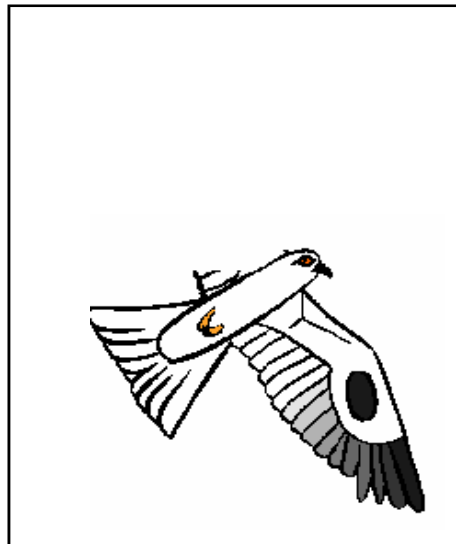
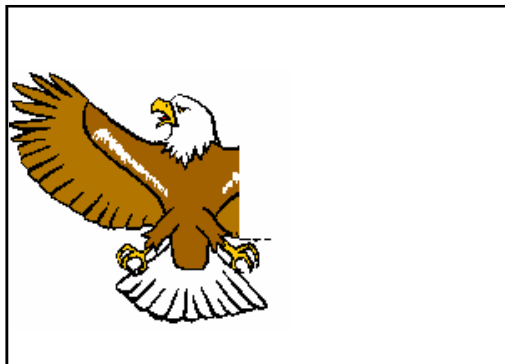


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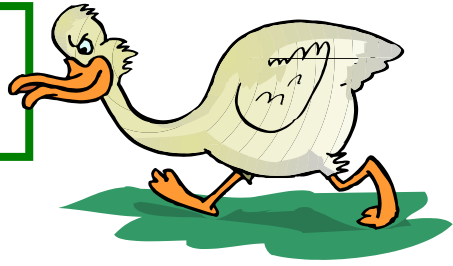
'Abdu'l-Bahá:

„The world of humanity has two wings — one is women and the other men. Not until both wings are equally developed can the bird fly.“

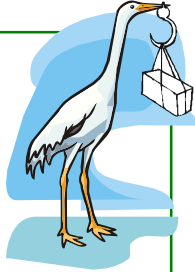
These birds have only one wing and they can't fly properly. Try to draw and colour the other wing by copying the first wing exactly.



Bird Jokes



Q: What type of bird works on a construction site?
A: A crane.

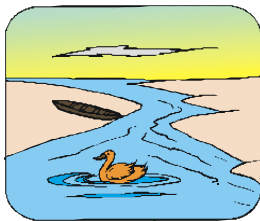
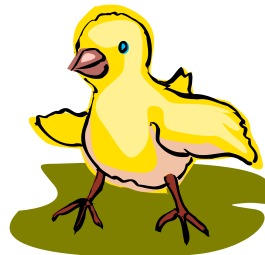


Q: Why does a flamingo only lift up one leg?
A: Because it would fall if it lifted up both.



Q: Why do birds fly south in the winter?
A: Because it would take too long to walk.

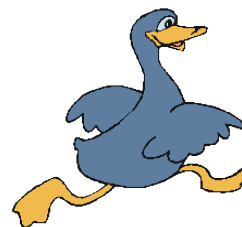
Q: What does a chick become after she's 10 days old?
A: 11 days old.



Q: When do ducks wake up?
A: At the quack of dawn.

Q: Why do humming birds hum?
A: They can't remember the words.

Q: What does a duck with hiccups lay?
A: Scrambled eggs.



Q: Which side of a duck has more feathers?
A: The outside.

The Only Clock in the Town



Once upon a time, there was a nice little town in a corner of the world. The town had a small square and a few narrow lanes. In the middle of the square stood a high tower with a very big clock which always worked accurately. Once a week the official clock winder would come to wind it up.

In those days, which was long, long ago, most people did not own clocks or watches. They depended on the big clock to know the time, and it was the only one in the town.

Once, at midday when everybody was at home having their lunch, something strange happened. The short hand was underneath the long hand, both of them pointing to the 12 (which meant it was exactly 12 o'clock), when the long hand said to the short hand: "Hello, friend. How are you? Ticking away all right?"

"Yes," answered the short hand. "I am fine, thank you. Just doing my job as usual. How are you?"

The long hand complained, "I am really fed up! Out of all the wonderful and interesting things in the world, I've only known the face of this clock. I move round and round myself all the time. The only thing I have done in my life is to show the minutes!"

"It's the same with me," said the short hand, "except that I move more slowly than you. My only job is to show the hours. But I am much happier than you because my job is more important."

"My job is just as important as yours!" protested the long hand, feeling a

bit annoyed at his friend. "If I didn't point to the minutes, people would never know what the right time is. I will prove it to you."

He told the short hour hand to stay hidden under him as he moved round the face of the clock, and that together they would only show the minutes, not the hours.

"Then," he said, "I will stop while you move along and show only the hours. In this way we can find out which one of us is the more important."

So that is what they did. The short hand moved round at the same speed as the long hand, always hidden behind it.

At five o'clock, when people were leaving work, they were surprised to see only one hand on the face of the clock. Such a thing had never happened before.

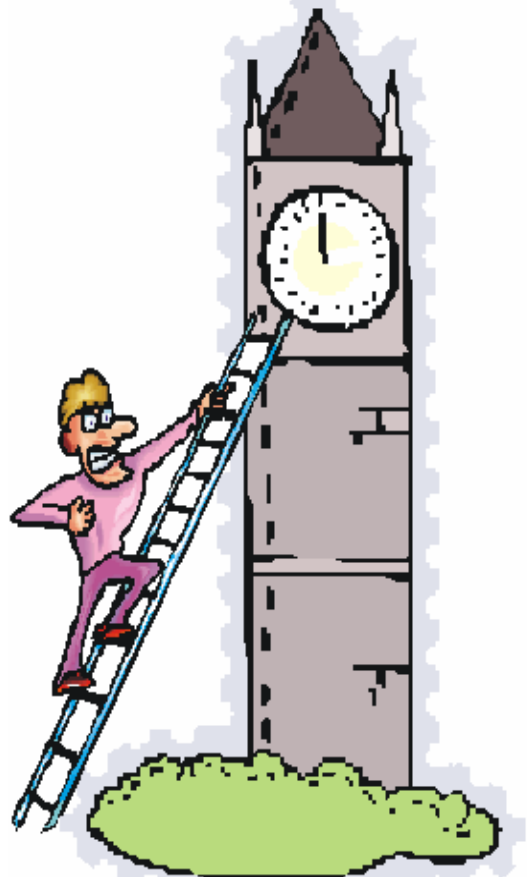
"The long hand has killed the short hand!" a man shouted in dismay.

Just then, the Mayor came along with the clock winder. The Mayor told everyone to move aside so the clock winder could climb to the top of the tower and investigate the matter. The clock winder climbed up and opened the glass on the front of the clock.

He looked down at the crowd and shouted happily, "Ha! Ha! Don't worry. Everything is all right. It is just that the short hand was hidden under the long one."

But when he tried to free the short hand, he couldn't move it. So he climbed down and everyone went home.

After a few days, people were getting used to the situation. But they just couldn't do anything on time because they never knew what the right time was. And it was causing a lot of problems.



For example, if someone wanted to invite a friend to his house he would say something like, "Come tomorrow at five minutes past seven minutes," because he could only see where the long hand was pointing, and, of course, there was no sign of the short hand that was supposed to be pointing at the hours.

Everyone was getting to work late, and the teacher didn't know when it was time to send the children home.

The days passed by. Then, one morning, people going to work noticed that the short hand had reappeared and was pointing to the correct hour, but now the long hand had stopped moving at six o'clock!

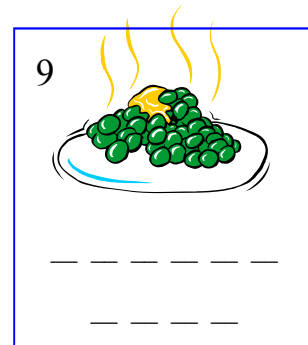
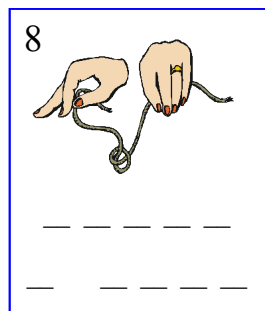
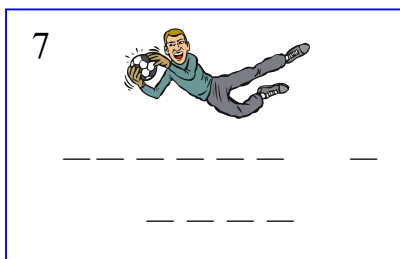
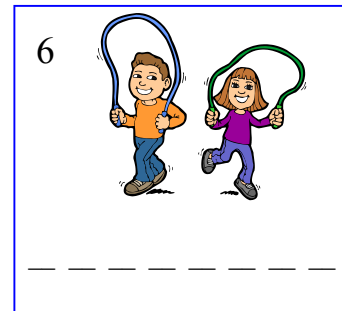
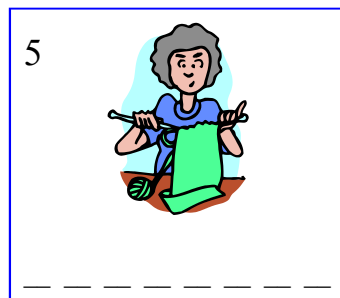
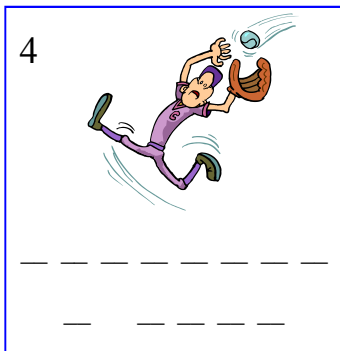
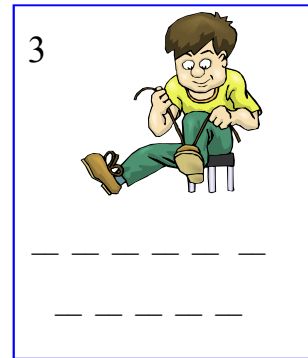
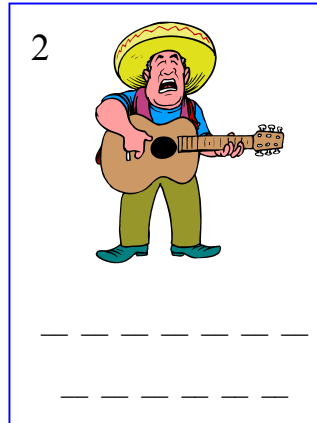
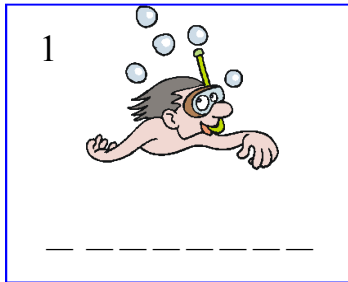
Everything was in such a muddle the people couldn't stand it any more. They all gathered at the town hall and told the Mayor they needed a new clock.

He agreed. "The old clock is no use any more," he said. "We should buy a new one whose hands work together in unity."

When the hands of the clock heard these words, they were worried and realized that both of them were important and that both were needed to tell the time, and they began to work together again.



These activities need two strong hands. Can you work out what they are and write the activity under each picture?
The answers are mixed up at the bottom of the page.



- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Simginwm | 2. Pynlgia Gaiutr | 3. Lcgian Sohse |
| 4. Cnciagth a blal | 5. Kntniigt | 6. Spgkpnii |

Answer to puzzle on next page:

“The world of humanity has two hands. If one is imperfect the capable hand is restricted and unable to perform its duties.”

'Abdu'l-Bahá tells us that in the world of humanity (people), every part needs to be strong so that everyone can be the best they can be. This is just like the two hands of a person, which both need to be strong. Can you work out the code?

Τ η ε	ω ο ρ λ δ	ο φ	η υ μ α ν ι τ ψ
- - - -	- - - - -	- - -	- - - - - - - - -
	η α σ	τ ω ο	η α ν δ σ.
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Ι φ	ο ν ε	β ε	ι μ π ε ρ φ ε χ τ,
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	τ η ε	χ α π α β λ ε	η α ν δ
	- - - - -	- - - - - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - - -
	ι σ	ρ ε σ τ ρ ι χ τ ε δ	
	- - -	- - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	
	α ν δ	υ ν α β λ ε	τ ο
	- - - - -	- - - - - - - - - - -	- - - - -
	π ε ρ φ ο ρ μ	ι τ σ	δ υ τ ι ε σ.
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a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	Ι	j	k	l
α	β	χ	δ	ε	φ	γ	η	ι	Ι	φ	κ	λ
m	n	o	p	q	r	s	Τ	τ	υ	ν	w	γ
μ	ν	ο	π	θ	ρ	σ	Τ	τ	υ	ω	ω	ψ



Working-Together Games

Making group pictures

You can make these pictures with 2 or more people.

1. Each child has a large piece of paper and a pencil.
2. In the middle of the table are coloured pens and pencils that everyone can reach.
3. Each child draws the outline of a house on their paper.
4. Everyone passes their paper to the child on their left.
5. On the new piece of paper everyone draws windows in the house.
6. The papers are passed on.
7. Everyone draws a door.
8. The papers are passed on.

This game goes on with more things being added: a chimney, a tree, flowers, a bird, a cat, a dog, a cow, a boy, a girl. Every time something is added the paper is passed on.

When the game ends you will have some very funny pictures that everyone has helped to make.

The Obstacle Course

You will need a scarf as a blindfold and a few objects, for example: a ball, a cushion, a spoon, an orange, a book. Try to make a big space in the middle of the room.



One person stands at the side of the room and is blindfolded. Then the objects are spaced out on the floor in the middle of the room. The person with the blindfold tries to cross the room without touching anything. The other children call out instructions like: 'forward 2 steps', '1 step to the left', 'forward 3 steps', 'go right half a step' and so on until the room is crossed. Give everyone a turn at being blindfolded. Each time move the objects. See if you can work together to get everyone across without touching anything.

Hunt the object

In this game everybody works together to help one child find a hidden object.

1. One child is chosen to be the 'finder'. She goes out of the room while the others hide an object somewhere in the room. It could be an orange, a ball, or even a small bar of chocolate.
2. The 'finder' comes back into the room and starts hunting.
3. Everyone claps.
4. When the 'finder' gets close the clapping gets louder and faster. When the 'finder' moves away from the object, the clapping gets slower and quieter.
5. The 'finder' can tell from the clapping when she's really close and if everyone helps, will be able to find the object.
6. Give everyone a turn to be the 'finder'.



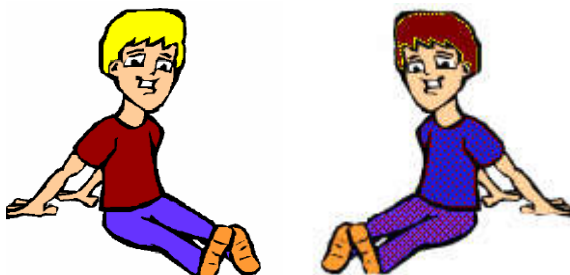
Getting up together

In these games two children help each other get up off the floor.

1. Two children sit down back to back with legs crossed.
2. You are not allowed to use your hands to help you get up.
3. Link your arms at the elbows.
4. Try to stand by pushing back against each other's backs and straightening your legs.

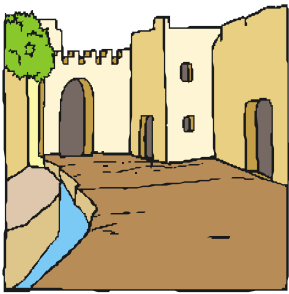


1. If you can do this, now try sitting facing each other.
 2. Stretch your legs out straight so that the soles of your feet are flat against the soles of your partner's feet.
 3. Hold hands.
 4. Try to pull each other up, until you are both standing.



The Secret

Bahá'u'lláh and His family had been sent away from their home in Persia. After many years they ended up in the prison-city of 'Akká. But on the



way they stayed for five years in a town called Adrianople, in a remote corner in the north of Turkey.

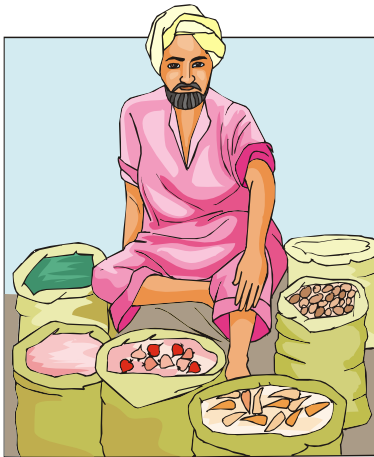


Bahá'ís walked for hundreds of

miles to be with Bahá'u'lláh. Many had given up everything they owned to make the long journey from Persia, and while some had been comfortably off before, now most of them were poor, having spent all their money.

During the first winter the weather was very bad. The water froze, there was not enough food and the houses were cold and draughty. But most of them wanted to stay.

Bahá'u'lláh encouraged them to find work, as it is not good to sit around and do nothing.



They decided to rent a house where they could all live together. One of them worked as a tailor, another as a baker, another as a confectioner who made sweets, while yet another was a doctor who sold bottles of medicine and made healing ointments from herbs. They opened small shops



and also sold their goods in the market, and they shared what they earned with each other.

As there were so many people to look after and there were no modern washing-machines or vacuum cleaners or electric cookers 150 years ago, the person who had to work hardest of all was the one whose job it was to do the housework, so the friends decided to take it in turns.



Every day the one whose turn it was to stay at home fetched water from the well, lit the fires, did the washing, scrubbed the floors, did the shopping, cooked the meals and dug the garden.



And after the last meal had been eaten at night, he would wash the pots and pans and dishes and hand over to the one whose turn it was, the next day, to take over the duties.

Although some of these friends had never done housework before, they never minded. The secret of their contentment was that each one acted as if he was the host for the day and the others were his guests whom he wanted to look after.

And Bahá'u'lláh loved to visit them.



“Briefly, all effort and exertion put forth by man from the fullness of his heart is worship, if it is prompted by the highest motives and the will to do service to humanity.”

‘Abdu’l-Bahá

Nations Working Together

Just as men and women should be equal in working together to make the world a better place, so too the nations and races of the earth should work together as equals.

'Abdu'l-Bahá said that:

“All the governments of the world must be united and organize an assembly the members of which should be elected from the parliaments and the nobles of the nations.”

The United Nations

The world does not yet have such a wonderful assembly, but there has been a very promising beginning. In 1945, after the second world war, many countries agreed to work together in trying to prevent more wars. They formed the United Nations. To begin with there were 51 countries in the United Nations. Now there are 193. Most of the countries of the world are members and they send people to help make decisions about important global issues.








The United Nations are working towards several goals, which include:


- Getting rid of poverty and hunger
- Giving women equality with men
- Acting against climate change
- Clean water for everyone
- Justice and peace for everyone
- Education for everyone
- Partnership working — where all the countries help to win the goals for all.

Can you work out this quotation from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh?


























































































✓	🚲	□	🛡️	📦	🚂	🚊	🚩	ℹ️	✳️	❗
a	b	c	d	e	f	h	I	i	l	m
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	n	o	p	r	s	t	u	v	w	y

"It is not for him to pride himself who loveth his own country, but rather for him who loveth the whole world."

Global Unity

There are many very difficult problems in the world at the moment.

Bahá' u' lláh has told us that they can only be solved by everyone working together in unity. He said,



"The well-being of mankind, its peace and security, are unattainable unless and until its unity is firmly established."

What will bring unity? One thing that will help is for all the different people in the world to treat each other with equal respect; for people of every age, from every country and race, both males and females and from every religion, to be given equal rights and be allowed to play their part in helping.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Many nations of the world have together signed an important agreement called the 'Universal Declaration of Human Rights'. These are the first two main points (articles):

1. All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.
2. Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.



Choose the words from the boxes below to fill in the gaps.

All human beings are born and

in and .

They are with

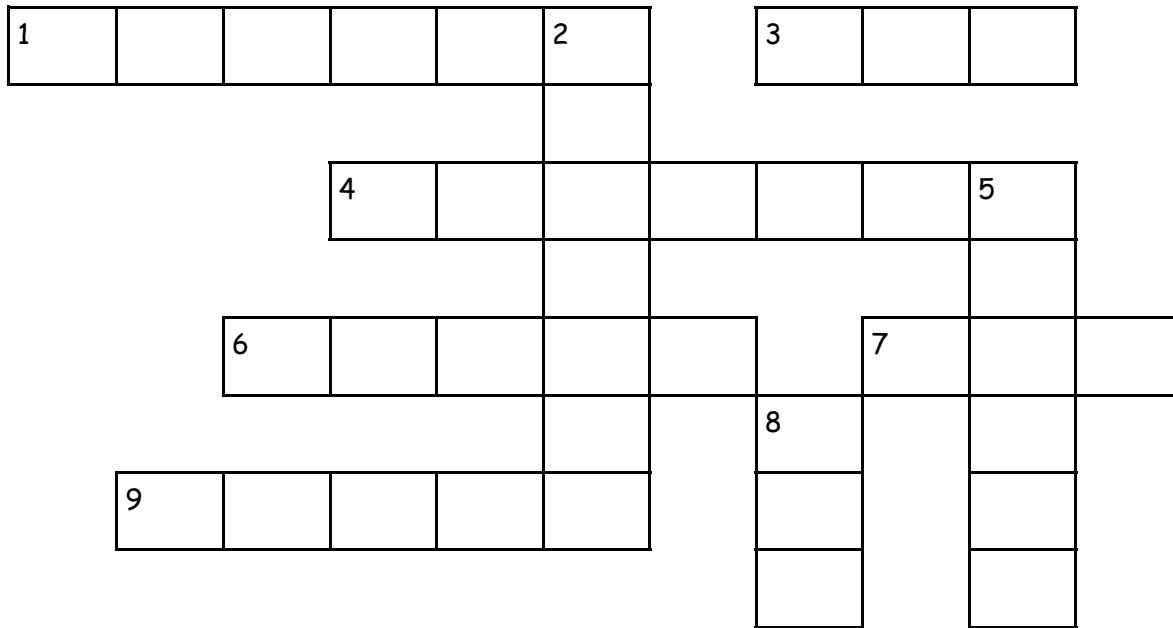
and and should

towards one another in a

of .

Can you solve this puzzle by putting in words from this quotation? All the answers are at the bottom of the page.

“Today is the day of union and this is the age of harmony. . . . God loveth those who are working. . . in groups.” *'Abdu'l-Bahá*

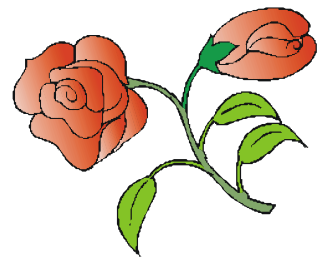


Across:

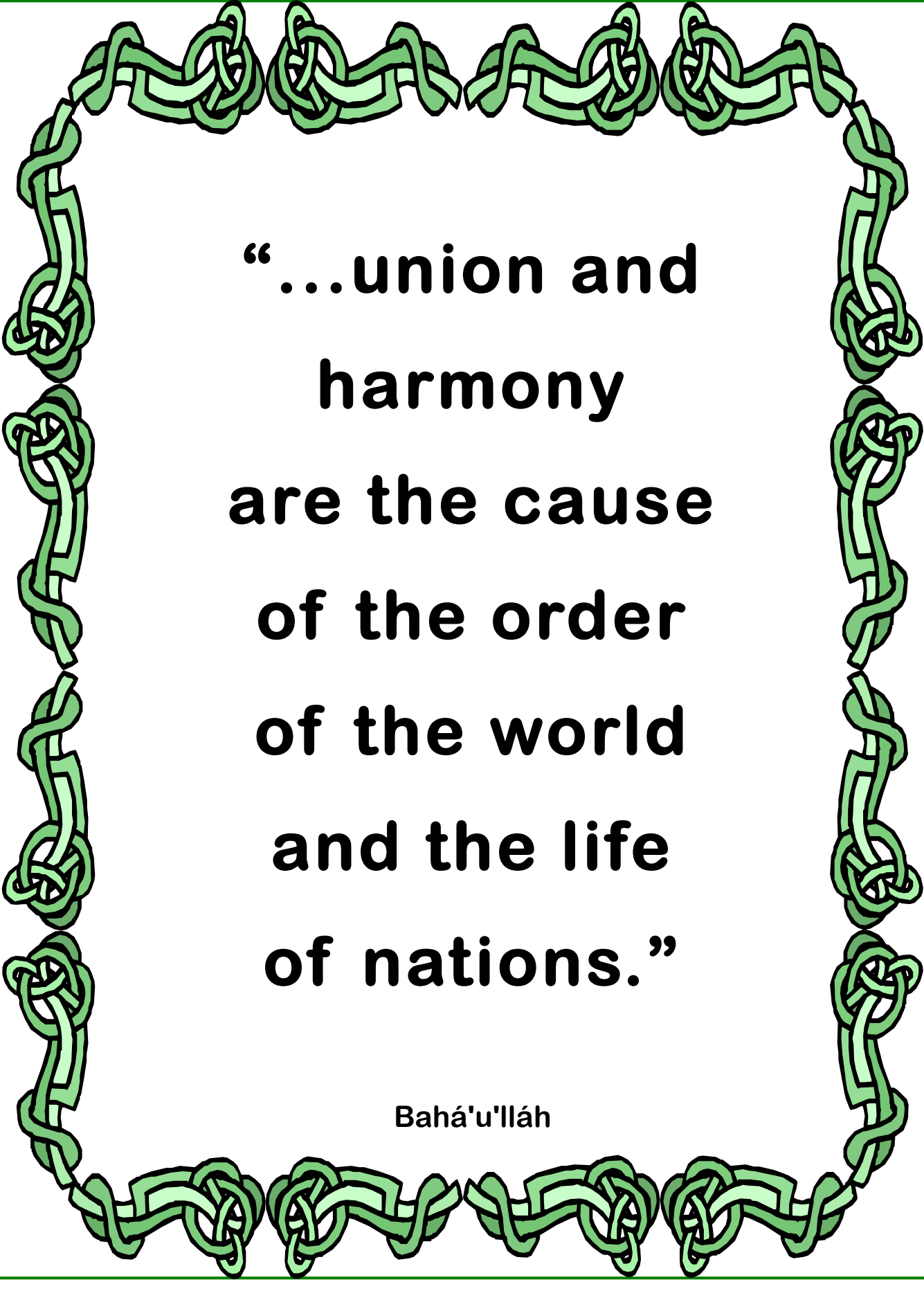
1. God I _____ those who are working in groups.
3. this is the a __ of harmony
4. God loveth those who are w _____ in groups.
6. Today is the day of u _____
7. G __ loveth those who are working in groups.
9. T _____ is the day of union

Down:

2. this is the age of h _____.
5. God loveth those who are working in g _____.
8. Today is the d __ of union



age	union	Today
harmony	day	loveth
working	God	groups



**“...union and
harmony
are the cause
of the order
of the world
and the life
of nations.”**

Bahá'u'lláh

