

Tolerance, Respect and Love for Humanity

Suggested Duration: 60 minutes

Lesson Objectives

- ▶ To learn the difference between the qualities of tolerance, respect and love and their importance in Islam
- ▶ To understand that these qualities also make a good citizen

Key Words

- ▶ Tolerance, respect, humanity, mu'adhin (caller to prayer)

Islamic Values

Islam teaches us to respect fellow human beings, tolerate differences and love all creatures.

Citizenship Values

Citizenship teaches us to respect fellow human beings, tolerate differences and love all creatures.



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M (B)



Pupils' Activity Sheet 2.0901:
Flash Cards

Pupils' Activity Sheet 2.0902:
Brainstorming

Activities

Ask some quick questions to recap the last lesson.

Share the lesson objective.

A Starter Activity

Ask pupils to introduce themselves to the class. They must mention only one fact about themselves. Repeat this several times and explore the range of facts that they share. For example: 'My name is Aminah and I like to talk for hours on the phone.'

Ask the pupils whether these differences make them any more or less deserving of respect. Take feedback.

Suggested answer: We are all different and need to learn to respect each other despite our differences.

Tell the children about Bilal (رضى الله عنه), who was a black slave and was not an Arab, yet Prophet Muhammad ﷺ honoured him with the important job of calling people to pray.

Ask: What does this show us?

Stress that he was very different, yet he was given so much respect that he became the first and most famous mu'adhin.

B Development

Activity 1: Definitions

Have three flash cards with 'respect' written on one, 'love' on the other and 'tolerance' for humanity on the third.

Ask pupils what all three mean.

Establish that:

- ▶ **Tolerance** may mean to accept the difference between people and their views, even if you don't understand them or you disagree with them.
- ▶ **Respect** may include due regard for the feelings, values or rights of others – for example, you respect someone because you look up to them and you admire them.
- ▶ **Love** may include having good feelings for somebody, caring for them, looking after them.

Ask pupils: Who do you tolerate? Who do you respect? Who do you love?

Activity 2: Whole-class Exercise

Split the class into smaller groups and give each group one of the following topics from Pupils' Activity Sheet 2.0902 (a, b, c).

- ▶ How can we show **tolerance** towards humanity?
- ▶ How can we show **respect** for humanity?
- ▶ How can we show **love** for humanity?

Ask each group to brainstorm about their topic. Encourage practical examples – for instance, we can show tolerance towards humanity by giving a Diwali card to our Hindu or Sikh teachers or we can show respect towards humanity by listening to each other.

Ask the class to share their outcomes on how we could show more tolerance, respect and love for all humans.

Activity 3: Islamic Guidance

Ask a pupil to recite the following verses. Explain the meaning.

وَلَوْ شَاءَ رَبُّكَ لَجَعَلَ النَّاسَ أُمَّةً وَاحِدَةً

'And if your Lord wanted He could have made all mankind a single community...' (Surat Hud 11:118)

This verse shows that diversity in human beings is God's design and for this reason we must respect the differences.

Question: Why do you think God didn't make us all the same?

Suggested answers: If we were all the same, life would be boring. Diversity makes life more colourful and interesting. In life we always need individual people with unique and different skills and abilities. By making us different God is testing us to see how we live and work with each other.

'Behave with people the way you would like them to behave with you.' (A`lam al-Din)

Story from the Sirah – 1

Once Prophet Muhammad ﷺ asked for some water and a Jewish person gave him some. Prophet Muhammad ﷺ prayed for him.

Question: What do we learn from this story?

Suggested answers: Muslims are allowed to pray for everyone – for instance, for their good health, prosperity, safety, and so on. Muslims must live with everyone in harmony.

Story from the Sirah – 2

Share with the class the story of Prophet Muhammad's ﷺ visit to Ta'if. Explain how he was physically harmed, the arrival of Jibril (Gabriel) and his offer to destroy the whole valley, but the Prophet ﷺ refused and forgave these cruel people. Emphasise the fact that not only did he forgive these disbelievers but he also prayed for them.

Question: What do we learn from this story?

Suggested answers: Prophet Muhammad ﷺ loved to forgive; he could easily have taken revenge, but did not. When you are attacked verbally or physically you should try and respond with patience, wisdom and forgiveness.

C Plenary

Sum up and stress what pupils have said about tolerance, respect and love.

Emphasise that both citizenship and Islam teach us to tolerate differences and to respect and love other human beings.

Suggested Follow-up Work

Ask pupils to list five things they have done which demonstrate their tolerance, respect and love for others.

Flash Cards

Cut out the following to make flash cards.

Tolerance

Respect

Love



Brainstorming

How can we
show **tolerance**
towards
humanity?

Brainstorming

How can
we show
respect for
humanity?

Brainstorming

How can
we show
love for
humanity?