

Teamwork

Unit 5: Our Enterprise



Objectives

By the end of the lesson, the students will be able to:

- a) Understand the importance of teamwork.
- b) Be able to teach others about the importance of working together.



Instructions

1. Have the students sit down in a circle.
2. Read them the following story, and ask them to pay close attention, as you will be asking them questions about it afterwards.

Once, there was a man who had two sons and two daughters who were always fighting with each other. The man often tried to talk to his children and explain that differences, discord, and distress have never done any person any good, and that they can automatically lead to misfortune, but they never listened to him. Therefore, he decided that he needed to teach them a lesson to make them see his point.

One day, when they were fighting ruthlessly, the man asked one of his sons to bring him a bundle of sticks. He then asked each of his children to try and break the bundle. Although each one tried his best, none was able to do so.

Next, the man untied the bundle and gave each of his children one stick at a time, which they could break easily.

The man said: "My children, don't you see that if you all work together, agree with each other, and help one other, then it will be impossible for your enemies to injure you. But if you are divided amongst yourselves, you will be no stronger than a single stick in that bundle."

3. Once you have finished reading the story, ask the students the following questions:
 - What did you learn from the story?
 - Do they have any experiences of how sticking together with friends or working as a team was successful?
4. Have the students brainstorm as a class what words they associate with 'team'. As they shout out their answers, list them on the board. Ask them for a few examples of activities they already do that require teamwork.
5. Now divide the students into groups of five to seven and give each group a sheet of paper and pencil.
6. Ask each group to plan a 20-minute long activity that involves or teaches teamwork, and that could be done at an Aflatoun Club meeting. Whilst they are doing this, move around the groups and help them as they design their lessons.
7. Have each group present their lesson idea to the other students. Ask them to highlight who contributed to which part of the planning process, and to share three things that they learnt about working as a team.
8. After all the groups have presented their ideas, have the class vote for their favourite activity and decide with the students when this lesson will be done.