

GIVING

V

ENDLESSLY

N

NURTURING

G

EVERYONE

E

RADIANT

N

OPEN HEARTS

E

SHARING

R

INCLUDING

O

THANKFUL

V

YOU & ME!

S

To understand generosity more deeply it can be helpful to understand its opposite, in other words, what it looks like when that virtue is missing.

To help us do this we're going to make an acrostic poem. The first letter of every line spells out another keyword or phrase associated with that word. We've given you an

example using the keyword 'GENEROSITY' using lots of lovely, positive words.

Can you complete its opposite using the keyword 'UNGENEROUS' and complete it using words or phrases that are the opposite of generosity?

One sunny day, long ago in Persia, a young 'Abdu'l-Bahá was riding His pony through the lush green fields and hills of His Father's lands. At that time Bahá'u'lláh and His family were very wealthy and owned a lot of land. Bahá'u'lláh cared deeply for the people who lived there. The houses, fields, and sheep all belonged to Him, and the people who lived there worked the land and cared for the animals. Bahá'u'lláh made sure everyone had what they needed. When people were sick, He gave them medicine; when they were hungry, He shared His food. He was grateful that the people who lived on His land took good care of it and He thanked them for it. Because of His generosity and kindness, everyone in the village loved Bahá'u'lláh very much.

Although 'Abdu'l-Bahá was

only seven years old His father Bahá'u'lláh had entrusted Him with a very special task. He was to visit the shepherds who lived high in the hills and watched over the sheep. He was to visit with them and thank them for all their care and hard work feeding and protecting His Father's flock.

Since 'Abdu'l-Bahá was still young, the head shepherd accompanied Him on the journey to keep Him safe and help Him carry out His duty. As they neared the shepherds, surrounded by their flocks of woolly sheep, the head shepherd whispered to 'Abdu'l-Bahá, "When the owner, or his son, visits the shepherds, it's a tradition to thank them with a gift for taking such good care of the sheep."

The young 'Abdu'l-Bahá thought carefully about this. He wanted to thank the shepherds, but He didn't

have any money or food to give them. Then, He had a wonderful idea. Smiling at the shepherds, He called out, "I'll give each shepherd all the sheep in his flock!"

The shepherds were astonished. They couldn't believe that the young boy was offering them every single sheep they had been caring for. It was the most generous gift they could ever have imagined.

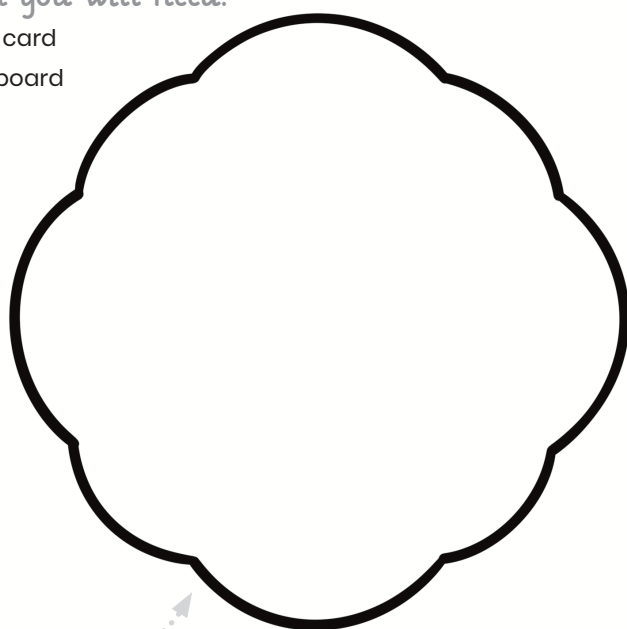
Later, when Bahá'u'lláh heard what His Son had done, He wasn't angry that His sheep had been given away. He was pleased. He smiled and said, "We will have to protect 'Abdu'l-Bahá from Himself -- some day he will give himself away."

And that's exactly what 'Abdu'l-Bahá did! He spent His whole life helping and serving others with a heart as full of love and generosity as it had been the day He thanked the shepherds.

Make a woolly sheep... and give it away!

What you will need:

- Black card
- Cardboard
- Wool
- Glue



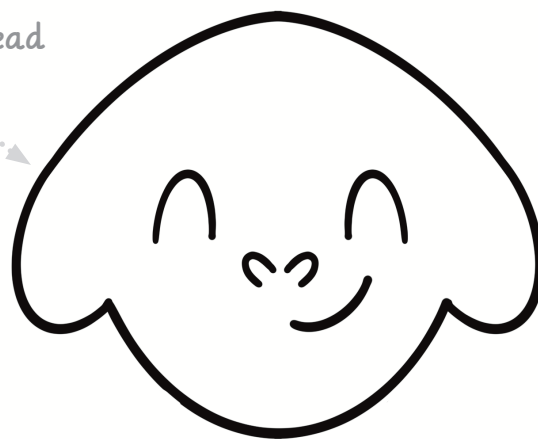
Body



Legs



Head

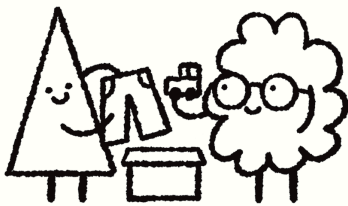


Instructions:

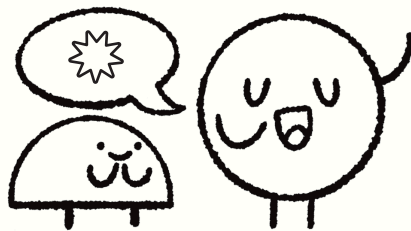
1. Using the images on this page as a guide, cut out a body from cardboard and a head and two legs from black card.
2. Draw a face on your sheep head.
3. Wrap the wool around and around the cardboard body until it's fully covered and nice and woolly.
4. Stick the head on the front and the legs on the back of your sheep.
5. Give your sheep a fun name like Woolly, Baabara or Fluffy McBleat-Feet.
6. The final step is to follow the example of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and give your sheep to someone as a thank you gift.

SOME THINGS TO BE GENEROUS WITH...

DONATIONS



COMPLIMENTS



YOUR TIME



PRAYERS



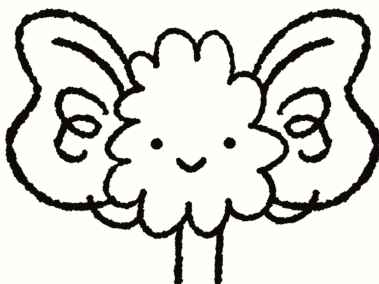
GIFTS



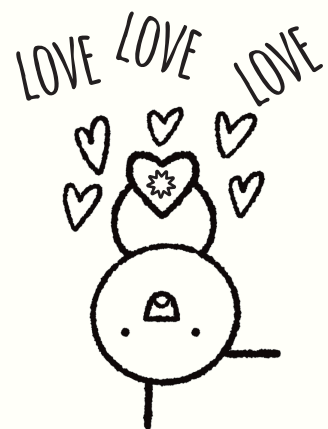
TALENTS & SKILLS



LISTENING



A HELPING HAND









BEING GENEROUS MATTERS BECAUSE IT MAKES THE WORLD A FRIENDLIER, KINDER PLACE & THERE ARE SO MANY DIFFERENT THINGS WE CAN GIVE.

PICTURE PUZZLE

Use the picture clues below each word to help decode the quotation.

_____ as _____, brilliant _____
  
p *t* *d*

_____ in _____ loftiness
 +  +  
s *k* *l* *t* *h*

of their _____ .
 
y *enly*

- 'Abdu'l-Bahá

A PRAYER FOR PEACE

Over 100 years ago 'Abdu'l-Bahá told a gathering in Paris:

When a thought of war comes, oppose it by a stronger thought of peace. A thought of hatred must be destroyed by a more powerful thought of love.

Let's put our thoughts towards thoughts of peace and love by memorising this prayer revealed by Bahá'u'lláh and say it every day:

O my God! O my God! Unite the hearts of Thy servants, and reveal to them Thy great purpose. May they follow Thy commandments and abide in Thy law. Help them, O God, in their endeavour, and grant them strength to serve Thee. O God! Leave them not to themselves, but guide their steps by the light of Thy knowledge, and cheer their hearts by Thy love. Verily, Thou art their Helper and their Lord.

KALIMÁT KORNER

Let's have fun with words & pictures



I love to hear from Dayspring readers! Send me a puzzle, poem or joke & we may feature it in our next magazine! Email dayspring@bahai.org.uk.

SNOW BIRDS

It's great to have fun in the snow and there's a lot on this page. Can you draw some happy, little snow birds on top of the snow drift? You could get really silly and draw banana beaks, cookie eyes and cupcake hats! Where does your imagination take you?



WRAP UP WARM

Kalimat's friends are wrapping up to keep warm. Follow the lines to see what woolly attire each bird has chosen to keep themselves cosy in the snow.

What's your favourite cosy clothing? Write your answer below.

My favourite cosy item is:

.....

SNOW WORDS

There are lots of 4 letter words ending with 'OW', including 'SNOW' and 'GROW'. Can you think of some others and write them in the boxes?

SNOW

___ OW

___ OW

GROW

___ OW

___ OW

___ OW

___ OW

___ OW

TONGUE TWISTER

When you choose,
some new snow shoes,
you should refuse
the free tattoos.

WOULD YOU RATHER?

Chow down on 20 cabbage leaves or 20 Brussels sprouts?

Live in a castle made out of snow or out of sand?

Paint an elephant's toe nails or style a lion's mane with ribbons and glitter gel?

KALIMAT COUNT

How many bird outlines can you spot in the tangled up image below?



Write some of your own ideas below

GENEROUS JAR

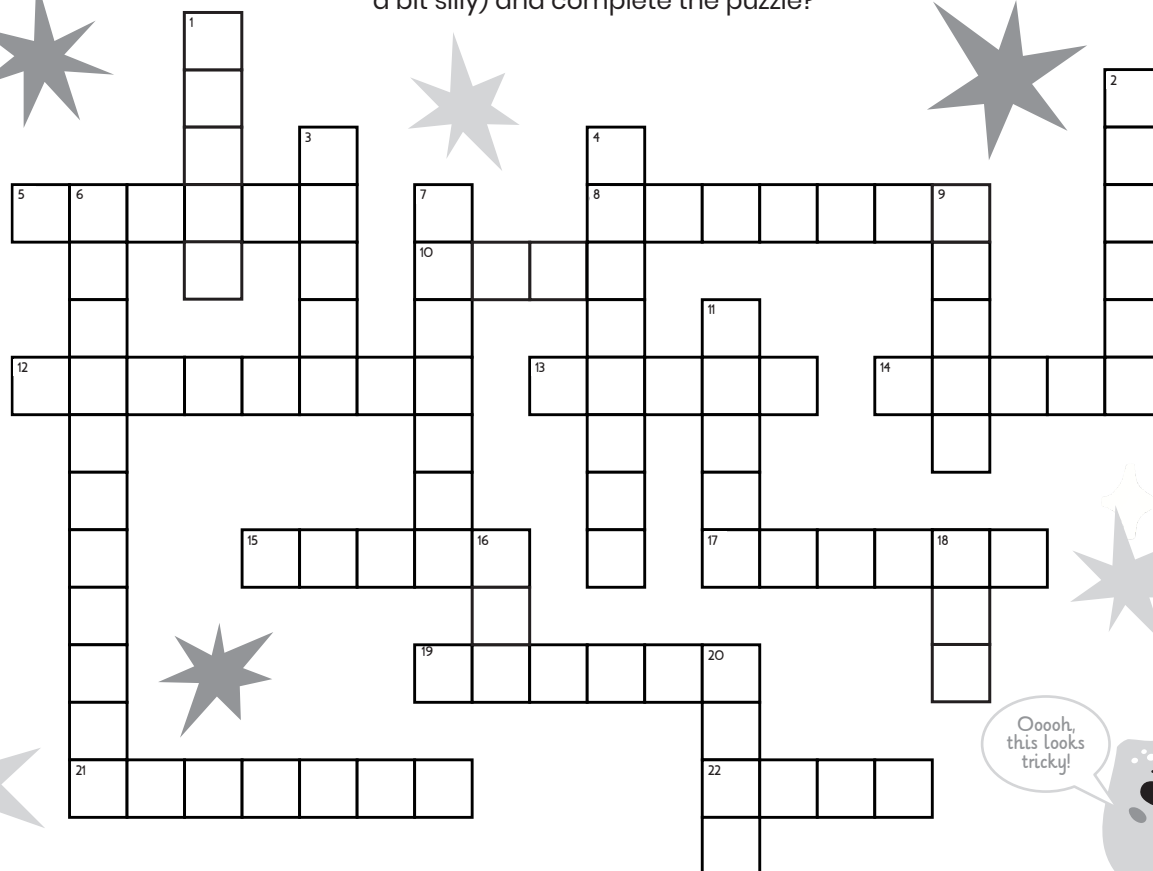
Want to make a generous ideas jar?

1. First of all you need a jar and lots of scraps of paper to write on (and a pen or pencil).
2. Spend a little time thinking about things you could be generous about. These could be things you give or things you do. Think about the spirit of love you need to do each task.
3. Next, write each idea on a scrap of paper, fold it over and pop it in the jar.
4. The final step is that whenever you need a generous idea you can take one at random from the jar and do the task you'd written down.

Hi friends... it's Kalimat here!
I'm going to be generous with
my bird seed cakes. I often
have a packet of them and
always choose to share them.

GENEROUSLY CROSSWORD

Can you take on the ultimate challenge, answer the questions (some of them a bit silly) and complete the puzzle?



ACROSS:

- 5. Cold or scared shake.
- 8. Silly laugh.
- 10. Freedom from suffering.
- 12. Spiky night mammal.
- 13. A group of bananas.
- 14. Sweet treat ring.
- 15. Artist's colour liquid.

DOWN:

- 1. The opposite of 'cowardly'.
- 2. Snowman nose.
- 3. Bristled hair tidier.
- 7. Snowman's name.
- 19. Small cabbage-like veg.
- 21. Cute, little bites.
- 22. Foot fingers.

- 4. Frozen drink squares.
- 6. Long winter sleep.
- 7. Flightless, swimming bird.
- 9. Arm fold.
- 11. Neck warmer.
- 16. The other end of bottom.
- 18. A doll or Lego is a...
- 20. Ballet dancer's skirt.

FUN RIDDLES

What goes up but never comes down again?

What can you catch but never throw?

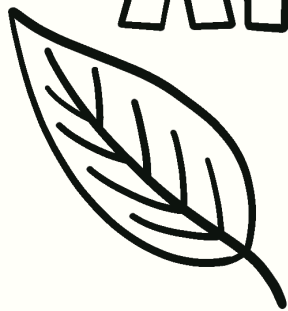
What month of the year has 28 days?

WORD LADDER

Changing just one letter per row but still making a word, can you go from 'COLD' to 'NOSE'?

C O L D
N O S E

THE BEST
WAY TO
THANK
GOD
IS TO
LOVE ONE
ANOTHER



'ABDU'L-BAHÁ