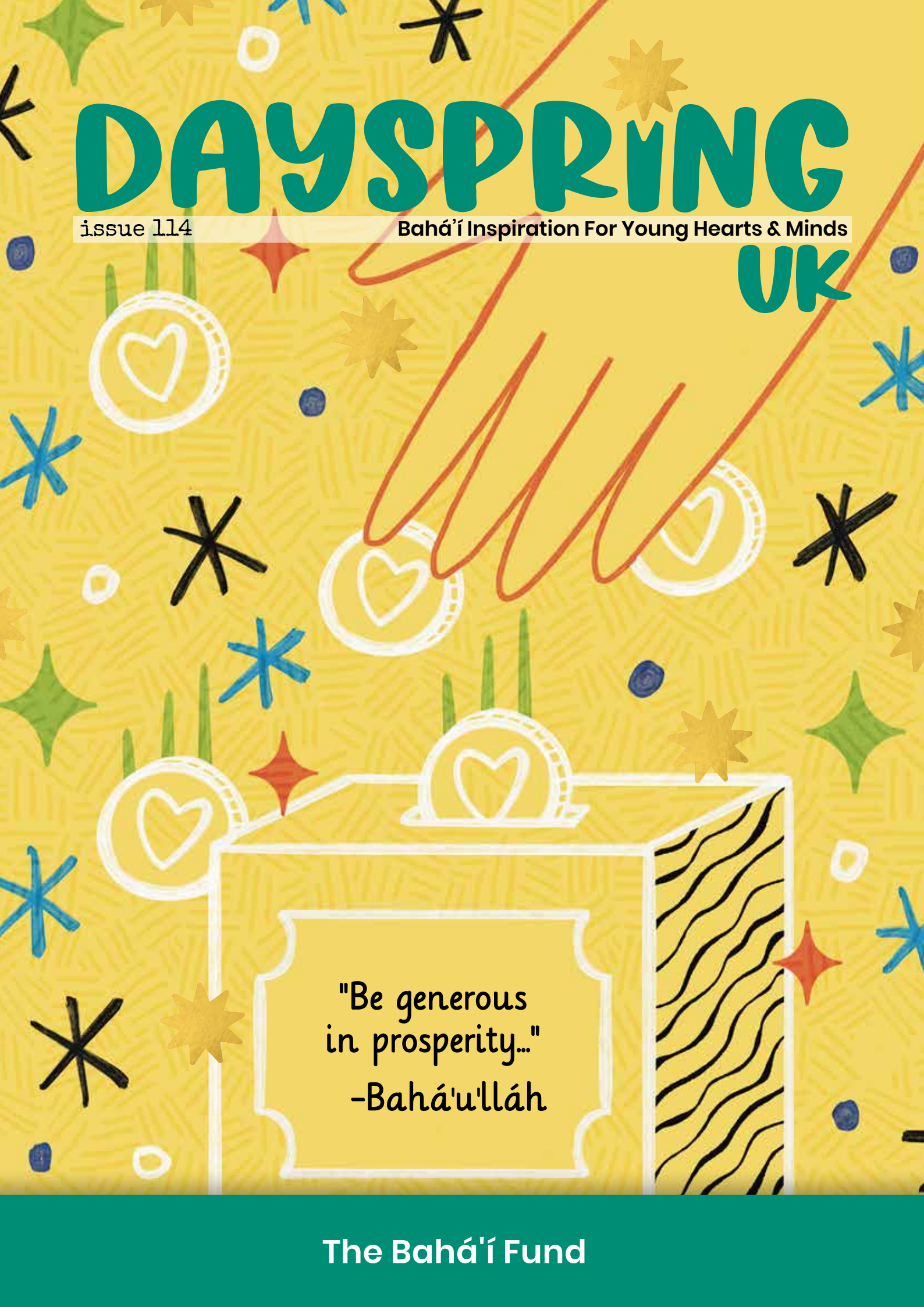


# DAYS PRING

issue 114

Bahá'í Inspiration For Young Hearts & Minds

UK



"Be generous  
in prosperity..."  
-Bahá'u'lláh

The Bahá'í Fund

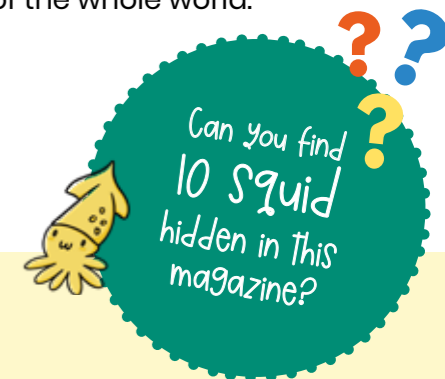
# WELCOME FRIENDS!

Hello all you bright and shiny Dayspringers! Have you been enjoying all the lovely summer sunshine? We hope so 🍷. As we move from summer into autumn (a time of plenty when the earth gives up its bounty and harvests are reaped), we find ourselves reflecting on the magic of charity and giving. Specifically money because this issue's theme is about the Bahá'í Fund. Money seems to be the one thing most people aspire to have lots and lots and lots of but it's often associated with power, greed and many other bad things. But is money bad or is it just the way humans sometimes use it?



The Beloved Guardian Shoghi Effendi described the Fund as 'the lifeblood of the Cause' because without funds very little would get done. Without money we can't hire halls for events, buy tea and cakes for hospitality, buy prayer books for devotionals or buy paper, pens, glue, etc. for children's classes. Practically everything we might like to do that brings communities together requires resources and to gain resources you need money. In this issue we'll learn more about the Bahá'í Fund and explore the attitude we need to nurture, so we can give generously for the betterment of the whole world.

The Dayspring Team  
\* \* \* \* \*



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Download print-friendly colouring & activities at [www.dayspring.bahai.org.uk](http://www.dayspring.bahai.org.uk)



Dayspring is a children's magazine that's produced four times a year on an educational, non-profit basis. It seeks to nurture a love for God and humankind in the hearts of all children, inspired by the beautiful teachings of the Bahá'í Faith.

Dayspring is created by a small team of dedicated volunteers and contributors.

### FREE Print Subscriptions:

A free print copy is sent to every registered Bahá'í child aged 5-12 in the UK. If your child is not registered and you wish them to be, please notify the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the UK: [nsa@bahai.org.uk](mailto:nsa@bahai.org.uk)

### FREE Digital Subscriptions:

Anyone can access free digital copies (PDFs) of Dayspring on this website. This includes back issues of magazines dating back many years.

Printer-friendly versions of most activities (available from issue 110 onwards) are also

available from our website: [www.dayspring.bahai.org.uk](http://www.dayspring.bahai.org.uk)

### Submissions:

Material by children and adults including stories, poems, artwork and news are warmly welcomed. Submissions will be used in the magazine which is distributed through print and digitally online.

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.

At present we can only accept contributions via email: [dayspring@bahai.org.uk](mailto:dayspring@bahai.org.uk)

The magazine editors reserve the right to include or not include any submissions for any reason.

For more information about the Bahá'í Faith, its teachings and how you might get involved visit: [www.bahai.org.uk](http://www.bahai.org.uk)

### A heartfelt thank you to all our amazing contributors:

Special thanks to all our contributors on page 21!

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# THE BAHÁ'Í FUND

Weaving together spiritual attitudes & material possessions

No one can deny that giving to charity is a good thing. Perhaps you've popped some coins into a charity box or raised money for a good cause at school, with a club or in your children's class. When we give in this way we're choosing to make a small sacrifice to help those in need and as Bahá'ís we're encouraged to do this. Bahá'u'lláh tells us:

*Be generous in prosperity... Be a treasure to the poor, an admonisher to the rich, an answerer to the cry of the needy...*

Donating to the Bahá'í Fund gives us a unique opportunity to weave together two important aspects of life - our material possessions (money) and positive spiritual attitudes. We give what we can knowing that we are giving up something

lower for something higher. Our contributions are used by the institutions of the Faith in various ways to support the community on the local, national and international levels. Giving to the Fund is a special privilege and each Bahá'í must choose for themselves how much they're able to give, there is no judgement. Shoghi Effendi tells us:

*It is the sacred obligation of every conscientious and faithful servant of Bahá'u'lláh who desires to see His Cause advance, to contribute freely...*

To be a Bahá'í means to walk a path of love and service. Let's walk along the path on these pages and see what spiritual attitudes we can nurture when thinking about giving to the Bahá'í Fund.

**GENEROSITY...** we know that a candle's purpose is to give light! As it shines to illuminate a room it slowly uses itself up in service of its purpose. Our souls are like candles, our purpose is to give generously to others and to the Fund when we are able to.

*To be continually giving out for the good of our fellows undeterred by the fear of poverty and reliant on the unfailing bounty of the Source of all wealth and all good - this is the secret of right living.*  
- Shoghi Effendi

**SACRIFICE...** the mystery of sacrificing something is that once we decide to give something up it no longer feels like a sacrifice at all! Sacrificing for the Fund enables us to give a higher purpose to something that is earthly and material. When we use these precious donated funds to serve others, it achieves a higher station and purpose.

*We must be like the fountain or spring that is continually emptying itself of all that it has and is continually being refilled from an invisible source.*

- Shoghi Effendi

**WEALTH...** being 'money wealthy' means having enough to meet your daily needs so you can live a comfortable life and take care of all your responsibilities (things like houses, cars, family, pets, etc.) To do this you need to have a job so you can earn your wealth. The Bahá'í Writings encourage us to look at ourselves, our passions and talents, and develop them so we can earn our living doing what we're good at. In this way we can find happiness and fulfilment in life and share that spirit with others.

**SERVICE...** when we give to the Fund we can think about how that money will be used in service of the community.

*...to promote the Teaching Campaign, to help the needy, to establish educational Bahá'í institutions, to extend in every way possible their sphere of service.*

- Shoghi Effendi

**WISDOM...** we're asked to give what we can to the Fund but not to overburden ourselves or put ourselves in debt.

*All the friends of God... should contribute to the extent possible, however modest their offering may be. God doth not burden a soul beyond its capacity.*

- 'Abdu'l-Bahá

There is a strong, negative force in society called:

## MATERIALISM

Materialism puts material things at the centre of our lives and gives us an unbalanced perspective of what's important. Shoghi Effendi warns us that materialism creates an 'unquenchable thirst' meaning a deep desire within us that can never be fulfilled. We feel like we need more and more, but it's never enough! Materialism leaves us feeling empty and overly attached to earthly desires like having lots of money, eating too much junk food, having fast cars, fancy holidays or big luxurious houses, and being better than our neighbours

THIS ARTICLE IS BASED ON A LOVELY VIDEO. WANT TO LEARN MORE? YOU CAN WATCH IT HERE.



**LOVE...** the greatest power in the universe! When our hearts are full of love it is easy to forget ourselves and practise detachment from earthly things. Love makes us feel alive and like anything is possible. Love opens up the other virtues as our hearts become bigger, kinder and more generous.

*In the love of God you must become distinguished from all else... for loving humanity, for unity and accord... In brief, you must become distinguished in all the virtues of the human world - for faithfulness and sincerity... for philanthropic deeds and service to the human world, for love toward every human being... for removing prejudices and promoting international peace.*

- 'Abdu'l-Bahá

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BAHÁ'Í FUND ON PGS 24-25.

because we have all the latest gadgets... can you think of any others?

The Bahá'í Writings teach us that having spiritual attitudes, like the ones we've just learned about, are essential to create balance and happiness.

Some questions to think about:

1. How are the forces of materialism affecting the life of the society you live in?
2. What are commendable ways for wealth to be acquired and spent?



# A Heart Full Of Charity

The example of how to give made by 'Abdu'l-Bahá

Between 1910 and 1913, 'Abdu'l-Bahá travelled from His home in the East to visit the believers in the West. Although He was in His late 60s and not in the best of health, His love for God, His Father Bahá'u'lláh and the many early Bahá'ís who visited Him gave Him the strength He needed for this great undertaking. 'Abdu'l-Bahá travelled to Switzerland, France, the UK, the US and Canada and met thousands of people, telling them about His Father's message of hope and love and being incredibly kind, loving and charitable to everyone He met.

At one time, 'Abdu'l-Bahá was staying in a village outside London. The village children had never seen anyone who looked like 'Abdu'l-Bahá before. At that time, men in the West usually wore caps or top hats and suits. But 'Abdu'l-Bahá was wearing a white turban and a light brown cloak that reached down to the ground. He had a snow-white beard and His blue eyes twinkled with happiness.

The younger children gently pulled at 'Abdu'l-Bahá's cloak or held His hands. One by one He lifted them up and gave them a hug. When He put them down again, they found that He had put a little silver sixpence in their hands.

News soon spread about the kind "Holy Man", which is what the people in the village called

'Abdu'l-Bahá. Soon many other people began to arrive from the surrounding villages — mothers and fathers, boys and girls, old and young, all wanting to meet Him. Many of them were poor, cold and hungry and, in those days, sixpence was enough to buy food to feed their families for several days.

'Abdu'l-Bahá welcomed everyone, and gave each one a silver sixpence.

At nine o'clock one evening, a poor man came up the garden path to the house where 'Abdu'l-Bahá was staying. The man was carrying a baby in his arms and his other children were shyly holding onto him.

The lady who owned the house knew 'Abdu'l-Bahá had been busy from early morning seeing people, and she wanted to protect Him from seeing people so He could rest. So she told the man that 'Abdu'l-Bahá was too tired to see anyone else. The man was very disappointed as he and his little children had walked for three hours just to see Him.

The lady meant well, but 'Abdu'l-Bahá did not want to be protected from seeing people! He knew what sad and difficult lives these poor people had. He loved them and wanted to help them in any way He could.

The man and his children were just about to walk away when 'Abdu'l-Bahá suddenly

appeared round the corner of the house! He lovingly welcomed them and gave them all a hug.

When the family had rested, they left to go back home, feeling very happy.

Their hearts and hands were full of treasure — their hearts with the love of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and their hands full of silver sixpences!

## Where did all those sixpences come from?

It's worth remembering that 'Abdu'l-Bahá had no great wealth of His own. Everything the Holy Family had was confiscated many years before when His Father Bahá'u'lláh was wrongly accused of crimes against the Shah and thrown into prison. All that 'Abdu'l-Bahá did was made possible by donations of money from the early Bahá'ís. Many of them were wealthy, donating large sums of money. But many more were not. All gave what they could. And 'Abdu'l-Bahá didn't hoard that wealth or keep it for Himself. He gave it to those who needed it most and also to promote and protect the Faith.

Be a \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_,  
an admonisher to the \_\_\_\_\_,  
an answerer of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.

- Bahá'u'lláh



poor rich treasure cry needy

Colour in the picture of the poor man and his children who came to visit 'Abdu'l-Bahá and complete the quote above by putting the words in the right spaces. If you get stuck you could look on page 4 for a clue.

# WHAT IS MONEY?

Some interesting thoughts from your piggy bank

## PIGGY FACT #1

There are 180 currencies around the world, including the US Dollar, the South African Rand, the Moroccan Dirham and of course the Great British Pound.

## PIGGY FACT #2

In British currency two 1p coins weigh the same as a 2p coin, and two 5p coins weigh the same as a 10p coin.

## PIGGY FACT #3

Interestingly some of our British coins are magnetic and some aren't. Before 1992 1p and 2p coins were made from copper, tin and zinc. Coins made after 1992 are made of steel and copper plating. It's the steel that makes them magnetic. It's the same with 5p and 10p coins minted after 2012!

What is money and why does it seem to matter so much?

Money can sometimes be a tricky thing to talk about because it's often associated with negative things like greed, opulence and selfishness. The unchecked desire for more and more money can lead to some very despicable behaviour and even to wars between countries wanting to increase their power and influence in the world.

Throughout history money has been used for many evil things and very rarely has it been shared fairly with people. From this point of view, it's easy to see why money might not have a very good reputation.

But when we look at what money really is, we can see that it is also a tool. Money helps us get the things we need, like food, clothes, and toys. It also allows us to pay for services, like getting a haircut or going to the dentist. Without money, it would be tough to get all the things we need in our daily lives.

The Bahá'í Writings teach us that there is nothing wrong with working hard and earning money. In fact we are all encouraged to uncover our innate talents and use

them to earn a living. But we need to remember to keep in mind what we're using our money for and try not to get attached to the negative traps money can pull us into. 'Abdu'l-Bahá tells us:

*"Wealth is praiseworthy in the highest degree, if it is acquired by an individual's own efforts and the grace of God... [and] ...if it be expended for philanthropic purposes."*

There are many examples of people around the world who have worked hard to make money, but have used it in ways that do not only benefit themselves. For example, Malala Yousafzai, who is an inspiring activist, has worked hard to promote the rights of women and girls all over the world. After writing a book that made lots of money,

Malala co-founded the Malala Fund, an organization that helps girls get an education. Through the Malala Fund, Malala has created programmes that give girls what they need to go to school, like scholarships, books, and school supplies.

Whilst money is vital for us to be able to live our lives, one of the biggest problems today is that wealth is not shared fairly. A small number of people have a lot of money, while most people live in poverty and struggle to get by. This unfairness happens all over the world. Unfortunately, the gap between the rich and the poor is getting bigger. In fact, we know that today over 736 million people live in poverty. For example, in countries where there is a lot of poverty, many mothers have to make difficult decisions when trying to find food for their families. In some

villages in some of the poorest countries in the world, shortly after having a baby a mother will need to go back to work to make just a little bit of money to afford some food for her newborn baby. In some of the very poorest of places, children also need to work to help support their families instead of going to school like many of us are able to.

So, when we start to think about money, all of its uses and how important it is to be earned and spent fairly, we may start to feel differently about it. We know that there are people in the world who use it for good and those who use it for negative causes. We also know that there are many millions of people in the world who do not have

enough whilst a very small amount have much more than they'll ever need. It's a great privilege to be able to work hard and earn some money, but when we do it is important we think about how we use it. As 'Abdu'l-Bahá says:

*"It is important to limit riches, as it is also of importance to limit poverty. Either extreme is not good."*

## PIGGY FACT #7

The British 50p is the first coin made with 7 sides.

## PIGGY FACT #6

Piggy banks may get their name not from pigs, but from the medieval word 'pygg' which was a type of clay used to make household items like pots.

## PIGGY FACT #5

People have been using coins for around 4,000 years and paper money for around 1,000 years.

## PIGGY FACT #4

The word 'money' is derived from the Latin word 'moneta', which was a title given to Juno, the Roman goddess of marriage and queen of the gods. Temples dedicated to her often made coins and this eventually led to coins being called 'money'.



# FUND BOXES

Let's get creative about charitable contributions



A4 Card



Box Template  
(see opposite page)



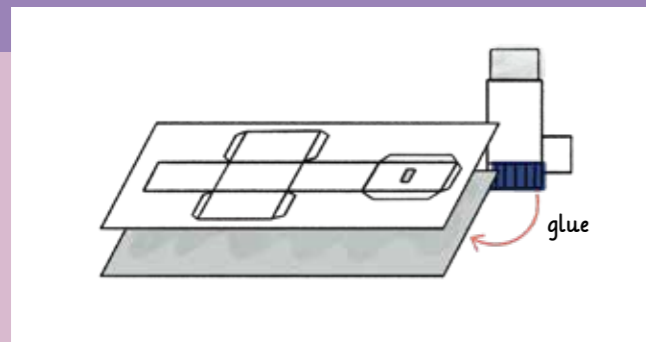
Colouring  
Pencils/Pens



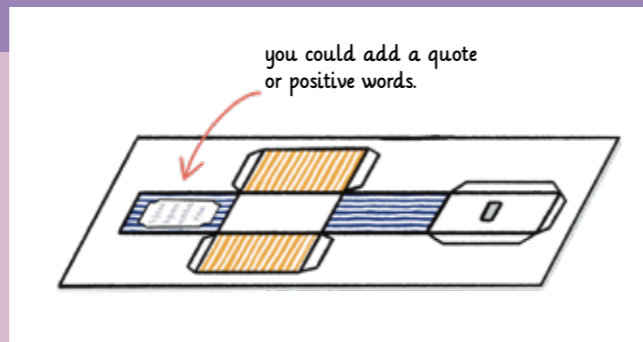
Scissors



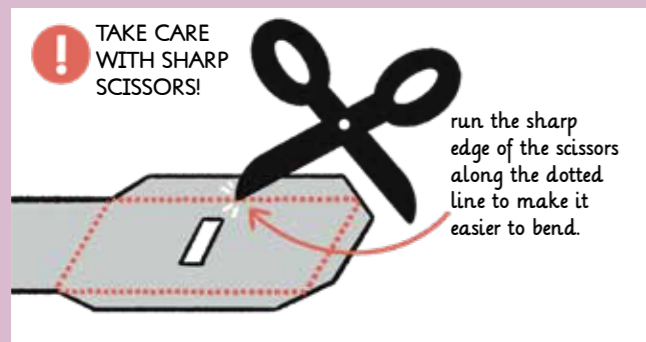
Glue/Tape



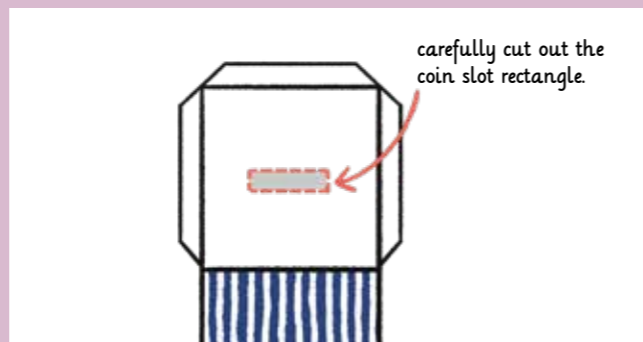
Copy or print the fund box template onto an A4 sheet of paper and stick it to some card.



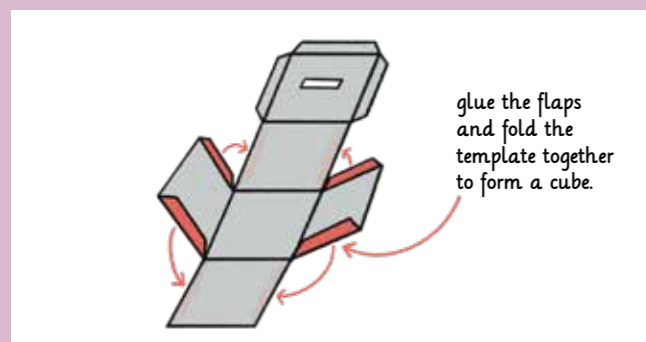
When the glue is dry use colouring pens or pencils to decorate your fund box.



Cut the template out. Then score the dotted lines to make them easier to fold.



Carefully cut out the dashed, grey rectangle. This is where you'll put the coins in.



Glue the tabs and stick your box together. You could use tape if that's easier.

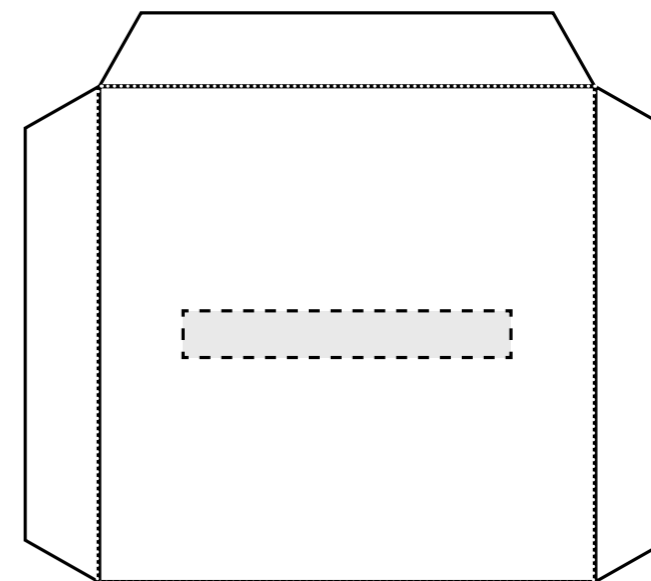


Finished! Where will you put your fund box and who will you donate the money to?

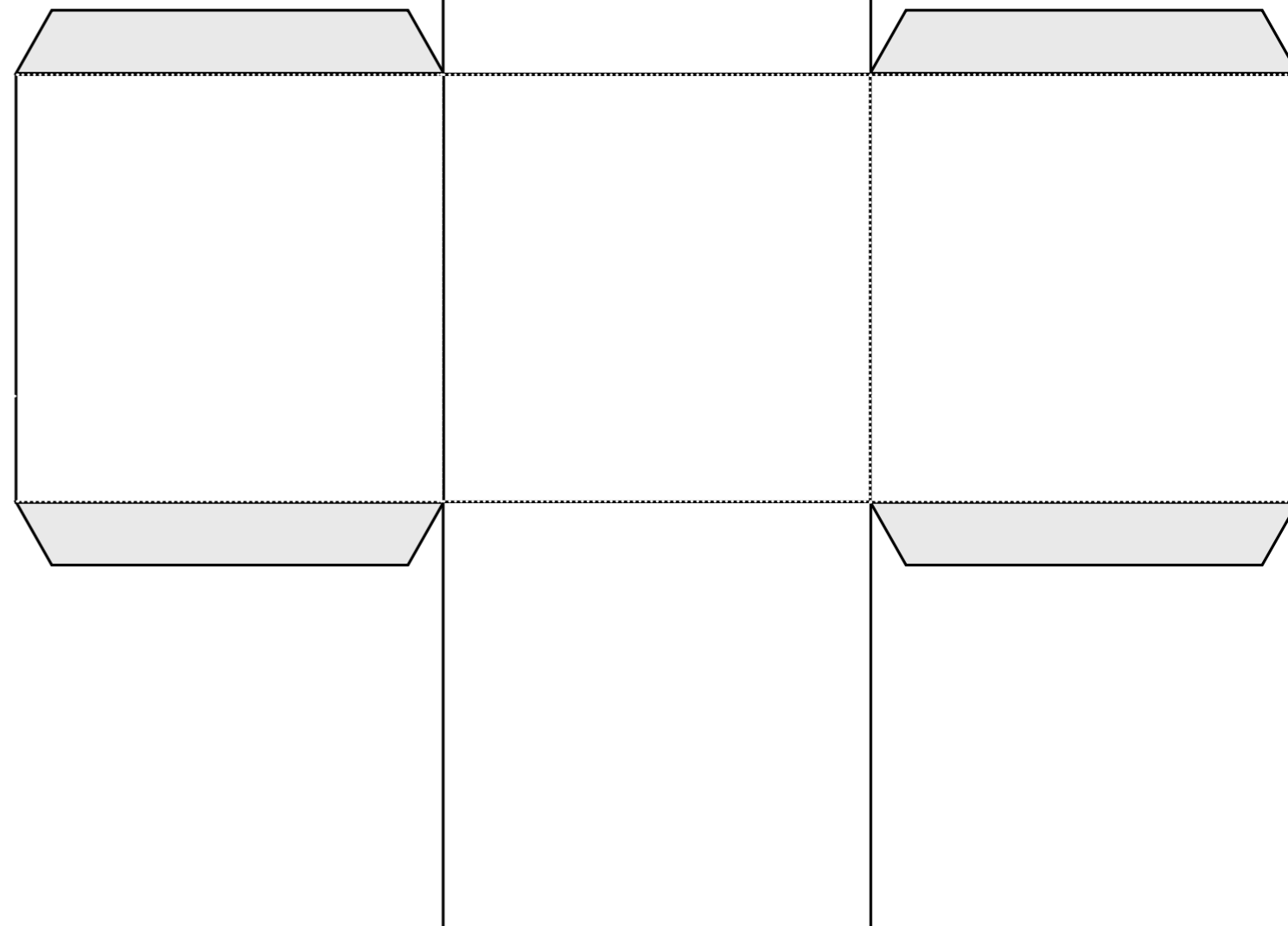
Only Bahá'ís can give to the Bahá'í fund, but there are many other causes you could give to.

You could talk to a grown-up or teacher to find a charity that's close to your heart.

You could add drawings, pictures and words that encourage generosity.



Cut along the black line.  
.....  
Score along the dotted line.  
[.....]  
Cut out the grey dashed rectangle.  
[.....]  
Glue the grey tabs.



**MAYBE YOU COULD START A CHARITY SERVICE PROJECT IN YOUR COMMUNITY & RAISE MONEY FOR A GOOD CAUSE.**



# KALIMÁT KORNOR

Let's have fun with words & pictures



Why not send me a puzzle, poem or joke & we may feature it in our next magazine? Email Kalimat at [dayspring@bahai.org.uk](mailto:dayspring@bahai.org.uk)

## WEALTHY WORDS

Find and cross off these generous words in the wordsearch. Words can be forwards, backwards or diagonal.

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

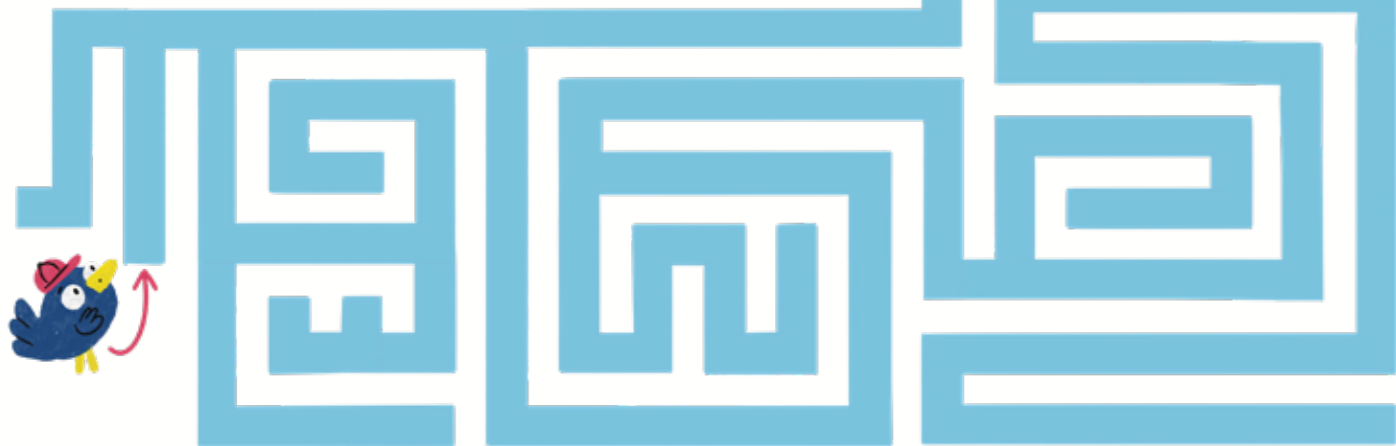
- KIND
- LOVING
- GIVING
- SELFLESS
- GENEROUS
- ALTRUISTIC
- CHARITABLE
- THOUGHTFUL
- BENEVOLENT

Hello friend! These wealthy words are my kinda words! All warm and full of love and sunshine. I love to share my light and heat with the world. I illumine dark spaces, grow flowers, fruits and vegetables and make holidays more fun! But too much of a good thing can sometimes be a bad thing. Too much light can be blinding, too much sunshine can make plants wither and die or give you nasty sunburn. I think the key thing to remember is to have a healthy dose of moderation in all things, don't you agree?



## CLOUD MAZE

Help Kalimat navigate through the obscuring cloud to get to the happy sunshine on the other side.



WHAT IS KALIMÁT WATCHING IN THE SKY THAT'S SO INTERESTING?

Draw what I'm looking at!



## I-SPY COLOUR FUN

The first letter of (some) of the illustrations below begins with one of the letters in the word **CHARITY**.

Colour everything beginning with **C** in **BLUE**, **H** in **GREEN**, **A** in **YELLOW**, **R** in **RED**, **I** in **ORANGE**, **T** in **PURPLE** and **Y** in **PINK**.



## TONGUE TWISTER

Gooey sweet honey,  
Is ever so scrummy,  
It fills up my tummy  
And sticks to my money!

## WOULD YOU RATHER?

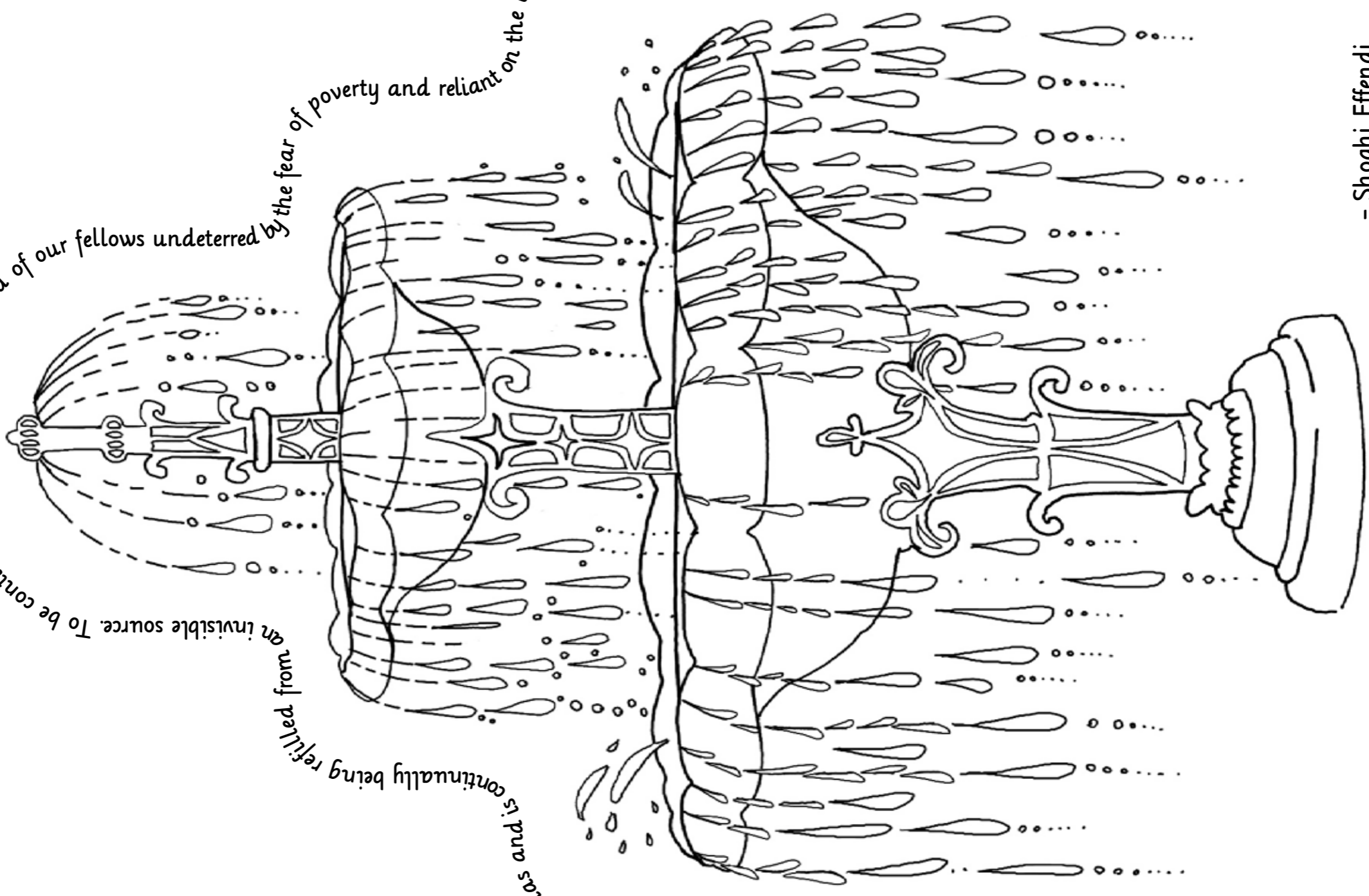
Would you rather have flowers or feathers for hair?

Would you rather soar like an eagle in the sky or swim like a whale in the deep blue sea?

Would you rather live in a desert or a desert?



'We must be like the fountain or spring that is continually emptying itself of all that it has and is continually being refilled from an invisible source. To be continually giving out for the good of our fellows undeterred by the fear of poverty and reliant on the unfailing bounty of the Source of all wealth and all good -- this is the secret of right living.'



- Shoghi Effendi



# To Give & Be Generous

Inspiring stories about the spirit of giving

Mansur and his friend, Rashid, were twelve-year-old Bahá'ís. They had heard about the superstructure to be built for the Shrine of the Báb and knew that the adults were trying to collect as much money as they could to send to the Holy Land to pay for its construction.

The two boys became quite excited about the project and decided that they too should contribute for the Shrine. But money was hard to come by and they had to use ingenious methods to put aside a few coins at a

time. Each of the boys managed to donate a regular, though small, amount to the Fund, but neither knew how the other got his money.

Years later, when the two met as adults and were not shy of speaking about it, they told each other where those precious coins had come from. Mansur recounted that, as they did not have a hot bath at home, his father would give him money to go and bathe at a public bath once a week. Mansur decided

with his father's permission to go to the public baths every other week and save the money from not going to contribute to the Shrine of the Báb.

Rashid saved on raisins. In those days certain items of food were difficult to obtain. Among them was sugar, so many people had raisins in their tea instead. Every time Rashid was given a handful of raisins to have with his glass of tea, he would take only a very few and put the rest in a box. When the box was full he would take it to his father who would buy the raisins from him.

Both friends laughed delightedly when they heard how the other had managed to save up their small donations.

"Every coin was precious!" exclaimed Mansur. "And every contribution helped to build the Shrine of the Báb" smiled Rashid... and they were right!

There was a young girl called Mariam. Every week she was lucky enough to be given some pocket money from her parents. As soon as Mariam took the money she would go down to the shop to buy something that she liked – sometimes something to eat, sometimes something to wear and sometimes a toy.

One weekend Mariam's Grandma was visiting and she noticed that Mariam would immediately go and spend all of her pocket money on herself. So she decided to tell her a story.

In a land far away there were two great lakes. Each received their water from the same source but each was very different from the other. One lake was full of fish, beautiful underwater green plants and surrounded by trees and flowers. Many birds would visit the lake and many people would visit to spend time together.

The other lake had hardly any fish in it. All around, the water was edged with dry mud and rocks, little barren trees and thorny, twiggy shrubs.

"Why were they so different?" asked Mariam.

Her Grandma explained that the lake that was full of life received water from the river and on the other side it flowed into another river that continued on to the great ocean. It was continually filling up and then emptying. The other lake was full of water too, but the water stayed in the lake and didn't flow anywhere. It was almost as if the second lake wanted to keep all of its water for itself, but in the process it had become old and stagnant and couldn't give life to anything.

Mariam's Grandma continued... each person in this world should try to be like the first lake. Whatever we are given in our lives we should always be thinking about how we can allow it to continually flow towards others and not keep it all for ourselves. If more people did this, we would soon build beautiful vibrant communities for ourselves, our friends and families – full of love, support and friendship.

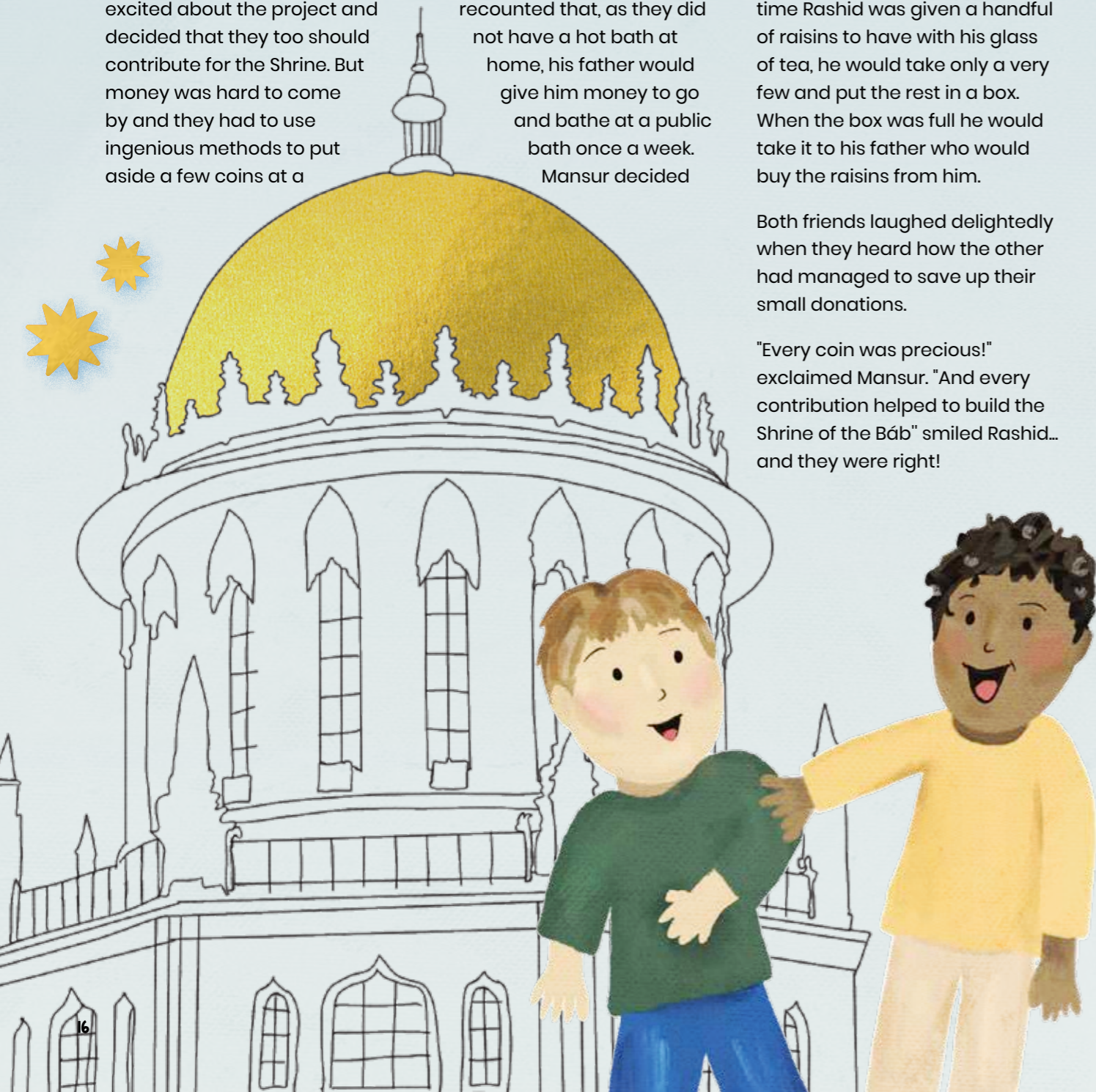
Mariam thought for a while about the pocket money she received each week and of all

the other things she already had in her life. She realised that she had only ever thought about spending the money on herself. Her bike was hers, her toys were hers, her garden was hers to play in, her money was for her to spend on whatever she wanted. She had never considered sharing what she had. But now she was wondering how all these things could continue to flow. She talked to her Grandma for a while and together they came up with some ideas...

- She could invite her friends round so they could enjoy her toys and play in the garden.
- She could use some of her pocket money to buy something for someone in her family.
- She could save some of her pocket money up to buy something useful – something that lasts longer than sweets or chocolate?

Can you think of any other ways Mariam could keep her generosity flowing?

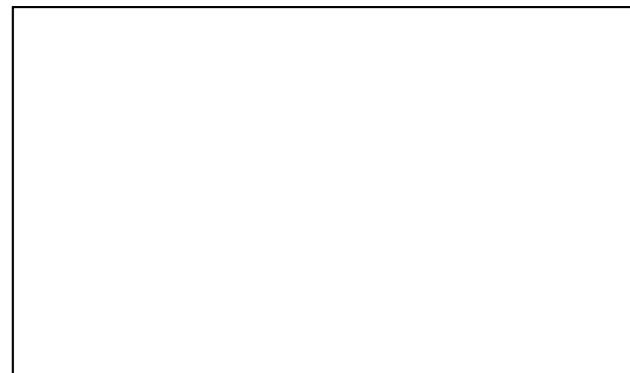
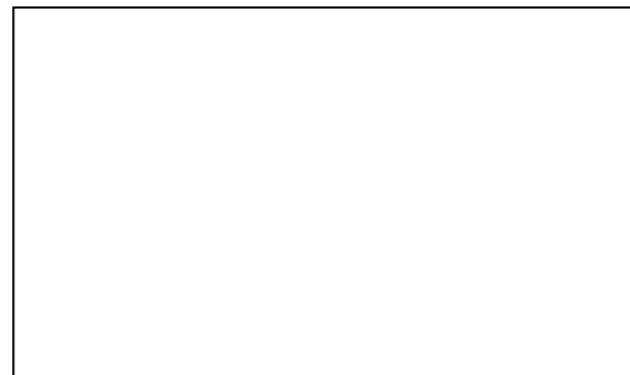
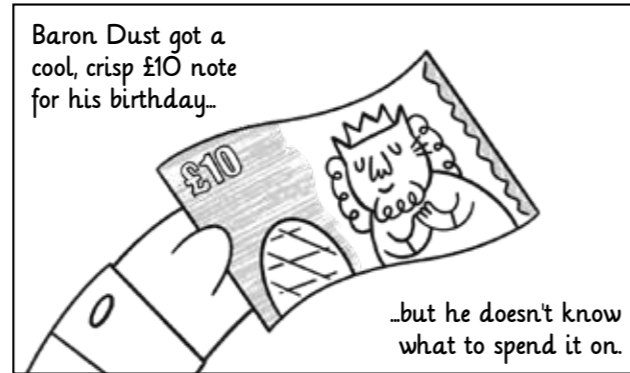
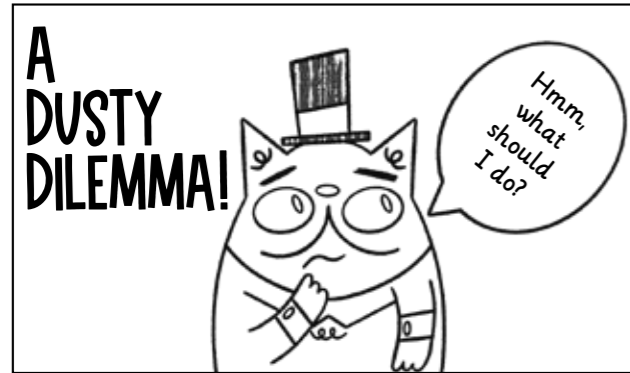
What could you do to flow like the great blue lake?





# FINISH THE STORY!

You decide how this ends... is it a tale of goodness or greed?



## SNAKES & LADDERS

Will you climb high or slither down? – for 2-4 players.

### How To Play:

- Each player selects a different coloured counter. You could use buttons or make them out of paper, card, wood or fabric.
- To begin the game, each player puts their counter on the 'START' square. The youngest player starts first and the turns go clockwise.

- Each player takes it in turn to roll the dice and move their counter the number of squares on the dice.
- If you come to the bottom of a ladder, read the square then travel up the ladder to the top.
- If you come to the head of a snake, read the square then slide down the snake to its tail.

- If you shake a 6 you can take another turn immediately after that turn.
- To get to the 'FINISH' square you have to shake the exact amount on the dice, e.g. 3 squares = 3 on the dice, etc.
- The winner is the player who gets to the 'FINISH' square first.



48	49	50	51	52	FINISH
47	46	45	44	43	42
36	37	38	39	40	41
35	34	33	32	31	30
24	25	26	27	28	29
23	22	21	20	19	18
12	13	14	15	16	17
11	10	9	8	7	6
START	1	2	3	4	5

Game board details:

- Snake 1:** Head at 44, Tail at 51. Instruction: DONATE YOUR POCKET MONEY TO CHARITY.
- Snake 2:** Head at 35, Tail at 24. Instruction: BE LAZY & DON'T HELP TIDY UP.
- Snake 3:** Head at 28, Tail at 15. Instruction: EAT ALL THE DOUGHNUTS WITHOUT SHARING ANY.
- Snake 4:** Head at 17, Tail at 8. Instruction: ORGANISE A COMMUNITY BAKE SALE FOR CHARITY.
- Ladder 1:** Bottom at 42, Top at 52. Instruction: WATCH ONLINE VIDEOS ALL DAY LONG.
- Ladder 2:** Bottom at 30, Top at 40. Instruction: TAKE PART IN A SPONSORED FUN RUN.
- Ladder 3:** Bottom at 18, Top at 28. Instruction: VOLUNTEER AT AN ANIMAL SHELTER.
- Ladder 4:** Bottom at 5, Top at 15. Instruction: HELP A NEIGHBOUR.
- Ladder 5:** Bottom at 1, Top at 11. Instruction: CHEER SOMEONE UP!

# WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO IN THE WORLD?

Exploring your future career

We spoke to seven Bahá'ís with seven different careers and asked them what they wanted to be when they were children; how they chose the work they do now and what words best describe how their work makes them feel.

Has anyone ever asked you what you want to be when you grow up? It's quite a big question! It's very difficult to know what you might like to spend most of your adult life doing to earn a living, especially if you're not sure what you like doing or what jobs are even out there. Believe it or not, a lot of grown ups are still trying to figure out that question too! It seems that, for some of us, knowing what career to pick and train for can be rather challenging and many people try different jobs before finding what works best for them.

The Bahá'í Writings encourage us to really get to know ourselves so we can discover our talents. Not just things like art or music or sports but also our abilities - like how organised we are, how well we can cope under pressure or how easy we work as part of a team. Some people would prefer to work with animals so might become a vet or a cat-sitter, some like working with the old or the young so might become a nurse or a school teacher. Some love a challenge so might like to code apps or climb mountains, some love to travel so might become a pilot or travel blogger. Some people love books so might like to work in a bookshop or library. Some people love the great outdoors and would never want to work behind a desk so they might look at gardening or working at an activity centre. Some people love working with numbers so might become a statistician or an accountant for a financial company, and others might want to preserve the natural world and dedicate their lives to rescuing the rainforest or saving an endangered animal.

*The best of men are they that earn a livelihood by their calling and spend upon themselves and upon their kindred for the love of God...*

- Bahá'u'lláh

Have you ever thought about what your talents are? Do you know what sorts of things you might like to do, who you would like to work with and what sort of lifestyle you'd like to lead?

**GRAB A SHEET OF PAPER** and write about or draw the sorts of things you enjoy doing. Think about what makes you feel like you've helped someone, achieved something, or that makes your heart happy. You could speak to a grown-up or teacher about it and investigate what jobs exist that your special skills, talents and passions suit.

WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GREW UP?

WHAT CAREER ARE YOU FOLLOWING NOW & WHAT DID YOU HAVE TO STUDY TO GET THERE?

MY JOB MAKES ME FEEL?



HANNAH KASIRI-MARTINO  
OSTEOPATH

I knew I wanted to go into a healing profession. My father was a doctor and I loved hearing stories about the people he helped... I loved that he knew so much about the body and that he knew what to do to make people feel better.

Osteopathy is a manual therapy, meaning that osteopaths use their hands to help people feel more comfortable in their bodies. The patients that I see come to my clinic with all sorts of difficulties - back pain, neck pain, shoulder pain, knee pain, headaches, difficulty sleeping, sports injuries.  
To be an osteopath, I completed a degree in biomedical sciences and then a Masters in osteopathy which lasted 4 years and included 1,000 clinical hours of training.

JOYFUL  
GRATEFUL  
HELPFUL



ERFAN FADAEI  
ECOLOGIST

Growing up I was always watching nature documentaries, and so as a child I wanted to be a wildlife TV presenter. My passion for wildlife never left me.

I'm a consultant ecologist which means I carry out surveys for habitats and protected species, like bats, badgers and newts, to make sure there are no negative impacts from projects such as building roads, houses, and wind farms.  
I decided to study biology and chemistry at A level, and then went on to study zoology at university. After this, I did a PhD in deer ecology and management, to learn more about how deer can impact the environment.

GRATEFUL  
JOYFUL  
POSITIVE



BEVERLEY EVANS MATTHEWS  
WRITER

When I was younger I really wanted to be a veterinarian nurse.

I've written scripts for a police TV show; for theatre plays (mostly about inspiring Bahá'ís); short film scripts and right now I'm writing my first book.  
I studied acting at drama school for 3 years where I learned a lot about scripts and writing. I've also studied playwriting and I read A LOT! - essential if you want to be a writer. It's also a good idea to keep a journal. Writing every day is an excellent habit, it will train your brain to speak freely through your hand and onto the page.

FREE  
PURPOSEFUL  
TRULY-MYSELF



OMID DJALILI  
COMEDIAN & ACTOR

Firstly I wanted to be an astronaut because when I was little there were many missions into space and I wanted to be the first adult to visit an alien planet. Then I wanted to be a footballer... but now I just love watching football on TV.

I am a stand-up comedian and an actor. This means I tell jokes to audiences to make them laugh.  
I sometimes act in films, TV and theatre shows (maybe you've seen me). I didn't really study these subjects or have any formal training but I received a lot of encouragement and got lots of experience practising.

JOYOUS  
HONOURED  
WORRIED!

...BECAUSE SOMETIMES LOTS OF PEOPLE WATCH MY SHOWS AND IF THEY DON'T LAUGH I FEEL VERY EMBARRASSED!



ANNABEL DJALILI  
COUNSELLING THERAPIST

When I was little I really wanted to be many things. An archaeologist because I loved prehistory; a ballet dancer or actress because theatre was magical; and a nurse because I admired a family friend who was a lovely person and a nurse.

I'm a counselling therapist, which means I try to help people with emotional issues. I listen to them, talk about their problems and I try to help them find answers and solutions and to help them see how strong they are.  
I actually studied 'Theatre Arts' and trained to work in the theatre. Many years later I decided I to be a therapist, so I did a post graduate qualification which took 3 years of study with lots of practical experience working as a volunteer in different counselling centres.

HONOURED  
INSPIRED  
GRATEFUL



IAIN BURNETT  
MASTER CHOCOLATIER

I had no idea what I wanted to be when I grew up! But I did learn a lot about myself through my schooling and early work life. It all helped me to realise my true passion in life... chocolate!

My parents taught me about hard work, fairness, creativity and their passion for cooking; I liked maths, design and had well-spoken English teachers at school; and I've worked as an apprentice electrician, mechanical engineer, and language teacher for foreigners.  
All these experiences gave me the skills for careful recipe calculations, hard work and perseverance, passion to strive for excellence, engineering to make better equipment, creative packing design, eloquent language to describe my products, and fairness with my staff.

PERSEVERANT  
HONEST  
GRATEFUL



ANISA HADDAD  
DOCTOR GP

I changed my mind a lot but I mostly remember wanting to be an astronaut because I was amazed by the immensity of space. When it came to it I chose to be a doctor because I wanted to help people face to face.

I'm a General Practitioner (GP) which is a special doctor who helps people of all ages with many different health problems. They check if you are healthy, give you treatment and medicine if you're ill, and make sure you stay well. They listen to how you feel, ask questions, and help you feel better.  
I studied at university for 5 years and then did another 5 years of training as a doctor in order to qualify as a GP.

FOCUSED  
COMPASSIONATE  
OBSERVANT



# COMMUNITY NEWS

The latest scoops from all over the Bahá'í World.

## AN EPIC SUMMER OF LOVE & LEARNING



Did you attend a Bahá'í Summer School this year?

This August, joyous and diverse Bahá'í Summer Schools were held in Devon, Staffordshire, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Bahá'í Summer Schools are open to everyone and offer fun and interesting classes for adults, junior youth and children to study a variety of topics such as the Bahá'í Writings, how to contribute

to society, how to be more creative and various other topics. The Devon Summer School stated "We want to work with all to build strong, vibrant, caring and kind communities..." Bahá'í Summer Schools are a place to enjoy good food, good company and connect to your intellectual and spiritual sides.



(top) the Southern Summer School in Devon. (above) children get expressive in a special calligraphy class with bamboo pens.

## NSA SENDS MESSAGE TO UK YOUTH

The 2024 youth conference was held in July, exploring what it means to be a young person in the world today, to choose hope over despair, how to view the world around us and harness skills, talents and capacities to contribute to social progress through arts, sports, music, theatre and friendship. Around 440 young people attended, including many school and neighbourhood

friends of Bahá'í youth. The National Spiritual Assembly wrote to the Youth of the UK afterwards to express their love, support and appreciation.



## WORD OF THE WEEK

Getting to know some of the more obscure words in the Bahá'í Writings.

### PHILANTHROPIC

This rather hard to pronounce word (fill-anne-throp-ick) means to do good deeds and share your good fortune with those less fortunate. It became a popular term in the Victorian era when men who had earned large sums of money from their industries would spend their money on improving the lives of the impoverished. It's used in this quote from Bahá'u'lláh: "Wealth is praiseworthy... if it be expended for philanthropic purposes."

## BAHÁ'Í TEMPLE IN GERMANY CELEBRATES ITS 60TH YEAR

Over four days this sacred space welcomed some 4,000 visitors from all over the world, including government officials and representatives from all faiths. Completed in 1964, it was the 4th Bahá'í House of Worship ever to be built. The 540 glass panels in the dome illuminate the inside space, bathing its visitors in light and creating an atmosphere of tranquillity.

The mayor Christian Vogt said, "The remarkable building is an indispensable part of our city. But it is especially your openness and tolerance toward people of all religions and world-views that enriches our community." Lasse, a youth who attended the celebration remarked, "Whenever I'm at

the House of Worship, I always feel the oneness of the human family. There is no sense of separation based on where someone comes from—everyone is warmly welcomed, and you feel comfortable, not like a stranger. This beautiful feeling is rarely found in society."

Many presentations and activities taught participants about various Bahá'í programmes (like core activities) that foster a community focused lifestyle based on service and worship.

There are now 14 Bahá'í Houses of Worship in the world with more planned. One day the UK will also have its own House of Worship!



The European Bahá'í House of Worship in Langenhain, Germany.



A lot of youth attended, contributing to a reflective and vibrant atmosphere.



(above) A few of the many highlights from the 60th year celebration, including singing, presentations and creating an atmosphere of tranquillity and reverence.

## WHAT DO YOU WANT TO LEARN ABOUT?

Do you have a question you've always wanted to know the answer to? Well, we'd love you to send us your questions so we can answer them in Community News. Email our team at [dayspring@bahai.org.uk](mailto:dayspring@bahai.org.uk)\*



## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!

DRAWINGS ★ PAINTINGS ★ PHOTOS\*\*  
STORIES ★ POEMS ★ SONGS ★ NEWS  
THINGS HAPPENING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

your contributions could help to inspire someone else!

[DAYSPRING@BAHAI.ORG.UK](mailto:dayspring@bahai.org.uk)

\*ALWAYS GET THE PERMISSION OF A PARENT OR CAREGIVER BEFORE SENDING US YOUR SUBMISSIONS  
\*\*USE OF PHOTOS OF MINORS REQUIRES PERMISSION FROM A PARENT OR GUARDIAN.

# FUND FACTS

Learn more about this fascinating institution

The Bahá'í Fund is very special and works rather differently from other types of financial institutions in society. In what

ways is it different? Well, on these pages you'll find all sorts of interesting and informative fund facts to help you understand

why giving to the fund is so important, what institutions are involved and where all the donations go.

## THE BAHÁ'Í WORLD RUNS ON DONATIONS

The heart of the Faith, the Bahá'í World Centre (BWC) in Haifa, Israel, is funded by donations from Bahá'ís from all over the world. If you have the opportunity to go on pilgrimage to Haifa you will see the Shrines, buildings and beautifully maintained gardens. All of the gardening, maintenance and cleaning at the BWC is done by volunteers from all around the world! There are many other volunteer positions that focus on admin, study, communication, the many institutions of the Faith and other essential work that supports the Bahá'í worldwide community. Everyone who works there receives free accommodation and an allowance for their essentials so they can focus on their service. None of it could happen without donations.

## ONLY BAHÁ'ÍS CAN GIVE TO THE FUND

Giving to the Fund is a privilege only available to Bahá'ís. This is as a special gift given to anyone who has chosen to become Bahá'í and it's also to avoid outside interference from people who might donate purely to advance an unworthy cause. So although Bahá'í community activities and events are open to anyone, the Fund is only for Bahá'ís to contribute to.

## YOU CAN GIVE AT THE FEAST OR ONLINE

Many people contribute to the Fund via bank transfer but it can be fun to give money to the Fund during the Feast in cash, if you wish to! Many communities create something called a 'Fund Box' in which people can anonymously donate to the Fund.

## THE FUND ACCEPTS ANY SIZE OF DONATION

The Fund accepts financial donations, large or small, single or ongoing. If you are not able to give to the Fund there are so many other ways to contribute. We are taught that we all have special talents and capacities that enable us to serve the Faith in countless ways. This could be using our voice to sing beautiful songs, or tell meaningful stories, or offering to help a friend. We can also develop skills that are useful to offer service to others. For instance if we learnt to bake lovely cakes we could offer them as a contribution to the 19 Day Feast, or when someone we know is having a difficult time we could offer them a baked gift to show them that we are thinking of them.

## THE CORE ACTIVITIES RELY ON THE FUND

Have you ever heard people talking about 'The Four Core Activities'? These are Devotionals, Children's Classes, Junior Youth groups, and Study Circles. They're all run by volunteers and open to everyone. All four of these activities are supported by the Fund. You can ask for help with what are called 'running costs', these are things like art materials, Ruhi books, food and drink, hall hire or transport.

## Where do your donations go?

There are many different ways that the money we give to the Fund helps our worldwide community!

### LOCAL FUND

The Local Fund is managed by the Local Spiritual Assembly who support the local community with things like the core activities, funding resources such as art materials, hiring venues for events and offering support to youth or anyone else who needs financial help serving the communities.

### NATIONAL FUND

The National Fund is managed by the National Spiritual Assembly who helps to facilitate events like summer schools or conventions. Donations are also used to support the day-to-day costs of administration, communication and the expansion of the Faith.

### INTERNATIONAL FUND

The International Fund directly supports the Universal House of Justice and the functioning of the institutions of the Bahá'í World Centre. The International Fund also supports many global projects promoting growth, learning, tolerance and unity.

## THE FUND IS NOT SECRET

Every Local and National Spiritual Assembly appoints 'Officers': the Secretary, the Chair, Vice Chair and the Treasurer. At the Bahá'í Feast you'll notice that the Treasurer will give a report telling the community how much money they have in total, and how much is being spent and on what. There is no secrecy about what money is spent on and all are able to ask questions.

## YOU CAN CHOOSE WHERE YOUR DONATION IS SENT

When we give to the Fund we have the opportunity to do something called 'earmarking' where we can say where we'd like our donation to go. These include funds at the national, continental and international levels as well as funds for specific projects like building Houses of Worship, the Guardian's Resting Place in London, and activities such as helping people to go to summer school and a disaster relief fund.

## GIVING IS A PERSONAL CHOICE

We are all encouraged to give to the Fund, and we learn about its importance, but we are never pressured or directly asked as individuals to give more money to the Fund. Our contributions are personal and the amount is not known by others in the community. We should never put ourselves in debt to have money to donate and we should always give because we want to and not because we feel we have to. There is no judgement, just encouragement.

## DAYSPRING IS PAID FOR BY DONATIONS

The printing and distribution of the Dayspring magazine and the running costs of the website are paid for by the National Fund and everything else is created by volunteers for free! It's an example of one of many Bahá'í projects the National Fund helps to facilitate with the support and expertise from the community.

This magazine is a special gift that brings its creators so much joy to offer and it wouldn't be possible without donations from the UK community given at Feast and online.

BE LIKE A  
BIG BLUE  
LAKE

LET YOUR  
GENEROSITY  
FLOW!

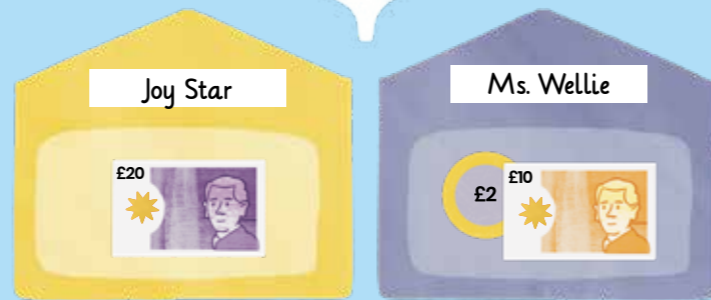


## TRUSTED TREASURER

Remember to use a calculator if you need one.

In the peaceful village of Hopehampington the local Bahá'í community have donated generously at the Feast and **YOU!** (their trusted treasurer) have to carefully process their contributions and get the spreadsheet ready to report back at the next LSA meeting. Your community are planning a family festival and need to know how much money is available in the local fund to hire a hall that will cost £65.00.

Each colourful envelope has a name on the front and a donation inside. Add the names to the computer spreadsheet, then tot up each donation and add the amount in the green column beside the name and work out the final column total (we've done one for you). When all the donations have been added you'll be able to work out the grand total.



#	Name or Description	DONATION	EXPENSE	Total
1	Current Balance	-	-	£ 22.50
2	Joy Star	£20.00	-	£40.50
3				
4				
5				
6				
7	Snacks for Children's Class	-	£250	
			<b>Grand Total</b>	

Have you ever used a spreadsheet before? It's easy when you know how. Donations are always added to the total and expenses are always subtracted from the total - simples! Being a treasurer is a very important job, the whole community relies on you to know how the local fund is doing. Will the Hopehampington community be able to hire the hall for the family festival? I do hope so!

**HAHA** How did the pirate get a bargain on his new ship? - It was on sail.

**HEEHEE** Where do fish keep all their money? - In a river bank!

**TEEHEE** What's a coin's favourite music? - Heavy metal.

**HAHA** What did the duck say when it went shopping? - Put it on my bill.

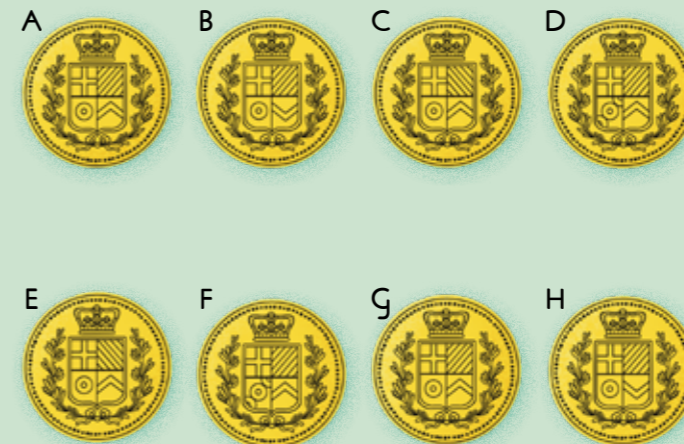
**TEEHEE** What do you call an ant who is good with money? - An account-ant.

**HAHA** How do cows pay for things? - With moo-la.

Send in your bestest jokes with your name and age and we'll put them in the next issue of Dayspring, email: dayspring@bahai.org.uk

### MONEY MATCH

Draw a wiggly, squiggly line from the coin on the top row to its matching pair on the bottom row. Take care though, the differences are rather subtle.



### TIME TO REFLECT



Thinking about what you've learned in this issue, what are your answers to the following questions?

1. Has your opinion of money changed?
2. What top 3 things have you learned about the Bahá'í Fund?
3. What story of generosity inspired you?



Shhhh! No peeking at the answers until you need to! Fold over this section to keep the answers hidden.

**FOLD ME OVER TO HIDE THE ANSWERS**

### ANSWERS

**Page 3:** You can find the 10 squid on pp 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, 17, 18, 20, 23 & 25.

**Page 7:** The quote reads 'Be a treasure to the poor, an admonisher to the rich, an answerer of the cry of the needy' - Bahá'u'lláh

**Page 12:** Wealthy Words:



Cloud Maze:

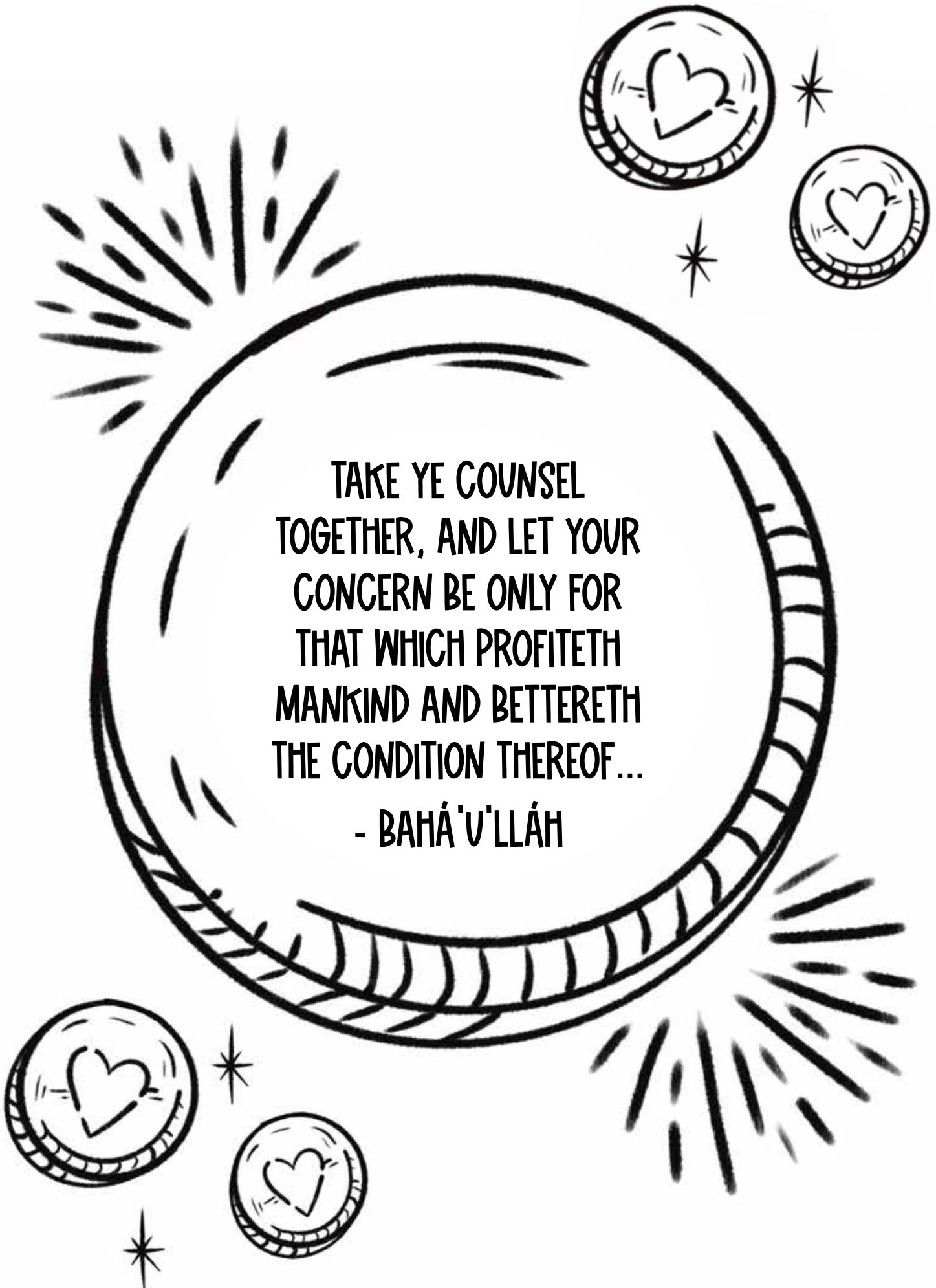


**Page 13:** I-Spy Colour Fun:



**Page 26:** Trusted Treasurer: the grand total is £76.50, so 'yes' there is enough money for the family festival - huzzah!

**Page 27:** Money Match: A-G, B-H, C-E & D-F.



TAKE YE COUNSEL  
TOGETHER, AND LET YOUR  
CONCERN BE ONLY FOR  
THAT WHICH PROFITETH  
MANKIND AND BETTERETH  
THE CONDITION THEREOF...

- BAHÁ'U'LLÁH