

PLAN:

1. **STARTER:** Ask children why they love their parents.
2. Take some feedback and then ask how important they think their parents are for them. Discuss a bit more leading onto the idea that if something is really important, we would look after it, keep it safe, make sure no harm comes to it, look at it regularly and keep thinking and hoping that it is safe and secure...etc.
3. **LESSON:** introduce the dua of Prophet Ibrahim (AS) (with meaning) and discuss when he recited it.
4. Continue lesson as per notes and finish with activity and plenary.

The Duas of Prophet Ibrahim (AS)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

To reflect on some of the duas and understand their application in our lives:

- To understand the importance of our parents and why we should include them in our daily dua.
- To reflect on Allah's mercy and forgiveness.
- To think about our sins.

Prophet Ibrahim's dua to ask for forgiveness for himself, his parents and all the believers.

Prophet Ibrahim recited this dua'a to seek forgiveness of Allah for him, for his parents and for those who believe in the one and only Allah, because His mercy alone will keep all believers away from the fire of hell on the day of judgement.

رَبَّنَا اغْفِرْ لِي وَلِوَالِدَيَّ وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ يَوْمَ يَقُومُ الْحِسَابُ

O our Lord, forgive me and my parents and believers on the day when the reckoning shall come to pass. (Sura Ibrahim, 14: 41).

A high-ranking Prophet, Ibrahim, also known as Khaleelullaah (close friend of Allah), has included his parents in his dua'a. The *sunnah* (way of life) of the infallible Prophets is a guidance for us.

It is obligatory to love our parents and respect them because through them we are brought into this world. Allah, who provides sustenance to all, has selected parents to give livelihood

to all that which have been created by Him. So next to the almighty Allah we owe everything in our life to our parents. They take care of us from the day we are born. They bring us up with love and care.

It is a well-known fact that Allah, in His infinite mercy, has created love of mother, to keep alive the circle of continuous life on this earth, and because of this it is said that paradise lies under the feet of the mother.

Love of parents for their children is the divine wisdom through which mankind and other living beings have been surviving for millions of years on this planet. In no way we can repay our parents for what they do for us, except by following the command of Allah who ask us, in the holy Qur'an, to lower unto them our wings of submission through compassion and recite this dua'a.

Parents are always praying for their children. This dua and the one covered previously forms part of the salaah that parents recite for their children.

DISCUSSION POINTS:

- Allah is Ar Rahman and Ar Raheem. He will forgive our sins if we ask him. Is there any special way to ask Allah? Are there any conditions for our forgiveness?

REFLECTION:

- Remember Allah will not forgive a sin that has been committed against another human being until that person has forgiven us. What do you think we should do if we have wronged another person? How can we avoid such sins?

ACTIVITY:

Give each child 2 pieces of paper.

- 1 Ask them to tear the first bit into 2 big bits and then place them somewhere in the room.

When all the children have placed the papers, ask them to go back and collect their own bits of paper.

2. Now ask them to tear up the other paper in to lots of really tiny bits and scatter them around the room and different places.

Once all the children have done that, ask them to go back and collect every single one of their own pieces.

Give them a couple of minutes and then gather them together and explain that the first were sins they would consider as really big like not praying, not fasting etc.

But the little ones were sins that we do every day without even thinking – little lies, hurting friends, gossiping about others etc. These sins are easy to forget and many times we don't even remember to ask for forgiveness for them.

Discuss this concept with feedback from children.