



Raising Children the Islamic Way

Session Seven

Teaching children social etiquette

What is the link between social skills and success in life?

أَحِبُّوا الصِّبْيَانَ وَارْحَمُوهُمْ ، وَإِذَا وَعَدْتُمُوهُمْ شَيْئًا
فَفُؤُوا لَهُمْ ، فَإِنَّهُمْ لَا يَدْرُونَ إِلَّا أَنَّكُمْ تَرْزُقُونَهُمْ

Love children and have mercy on them
and when you promise something to them fulfill it
for them. Surely they think it is only you who are
sustaining them.

Holy Prophet (s)

Agenda

- Socializing
- Teaching children etiquette
- List of good manners
- Dealing with differences
- Reminders from the Holy Prophet (s)

Socializing

- Human beings were created to live in society, and learn to consider the feelings of others. There is great reward and blessing in congregation. The Holy Prophet (s) said: *The hand of Allah is with the group.*
- Having harmonious relationships enhances life and is emotionally satisfying.
- Good manners and etiquette helps create and maintain harmonious relationships. People are drawn towards someone who shows courtesy and consideration.

Hadith

The best of you are those who are best in manners, who befriend others and others befriend them.

Holy Prophet (s)

The closest of you to me tomorrow at the station is the one who has good manners and is close to people.

Holy Prophet (s)

Teaching children etiquette

- Role modeling – be a good role model of the etiquettes you expect from your child
- Talk to your child about specific etiquette; teach, discuss, show examples, read stories.
- Consistency; etiquettes should be practiced both at home and outside
- Coach your child – listen, guide, advise, care about the progress, help set goals.

List of Important social etiquette

- Greeting people
- Having eye contact
- Smiling, cheerfulness
- Having a conversation
- Using important words; *Please, thank you, excuse me, may I, no thank you . . .*
- Asking caring questions that show consideration
- Being courteous; holding the door, getting a chair, serving, giving up a seat,
- Appropriate behavior – what to say and what not to say in certain situations.

Dealing with differences

- Children may come across people who are physically or mentally different. They need to be taught consideration, compassion and understanding when interacting with these people.
- Teach them;
 - That all human beings are different
 - Not to focus on one quality only – they may have other great qualities
 - Being different does not mean being inferior

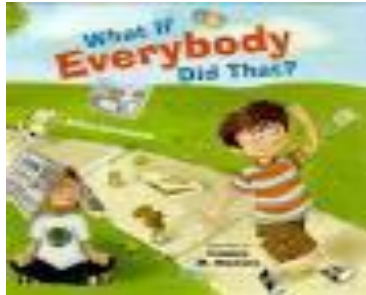
Do not stare at the people in difficulty and the handicapped, for it grieves them

Holy Prophet (s)

Once Imam Zaynul Abidin (a) was walking and he passed a group of handicapped people who were eating. He greeted them and went on his way. Then he thought perhaps his passing by them and not joining them would be interpreted as looking down on them. Allah does not like those who look down on others. So he returned to them and told them; I am fasting [otherwise I would have joined you]. I would like you to come to my home. They went with him to his house, where he gave them food and gifts.

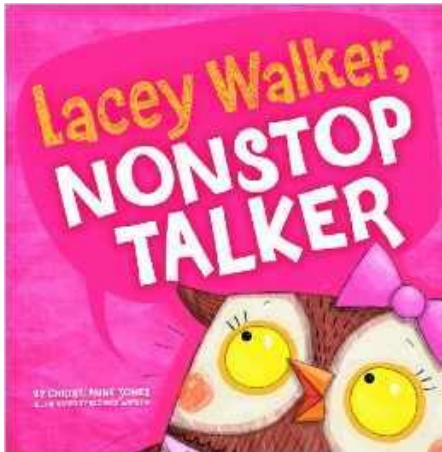
Incident from the life of Imam Zaynul Abidin (a), narrated by the 6th Imam (a).

Children's books on Social skills



What if everybody did that? Ellen Javernick

If you drop just one soda can out the window, it's no big deal ... right? But what if everybody did that? What if everybody broke the rules ... and spoke during story time, didn't wash up, or splashed too much at the pool? Then the world would be a mess. But what if everybody obeyed the rules so that the world would become a better place?



Lacey Walker, non stop talker.

Christianne C. Jones

Lacey Walker loves to talk. She talks all day, and sometimes all night. But when she loses her voice, Lacey learns the importance of listening.



Social Skills

Accepting differences
Asking for help
Communicating clearly
Complimenting others
Disagreeing politely
Encouraging others
Following directions
Listening actively
Participating equally
Resolving conflicts
Sharing materials
Staying on task
Taking turns
Taking risks
Using quiet voices
Waiting patiently

10

Social Manners for Children

1

Say,
Please,
when asking

2

Say,
Thank you,
when
receiving

4

Put down your
electronics
when someone
enters the room

3

Say,
Excuse me,
after bumping
into someone

5

Look people
in the eye
when speaking

7

Shake hands
firmly

6

Let others
finish
before you
speak

8

Say *Yes ma'am*
and *Yes sir,*
when talking to
grownups

9

Greet people,
with "Hi"
and
"How are you?"

10

Open doors
for others



IMOM.

hhgregg

electronics & appliances

Reminders from the Holy Prophet (s)

1) When you reprimand children, do it gently so that a barrier is not created between the parents and the child. One day Imam Hasan (a) gathered his children and said; *you are the children of society today and it is hoped that tomorrow you will be the elders of society. So struggle to seek knowledge, and whoever cannot remember what is taught in class should write it down and keep it safely at home.* Imam told them about the importance of their learning by making them feel good about their position.

2) When a child is respected at home and has a good relationship with the parents, he/she is less likely to disobey the parents. The Holy Prophet said: *Respect your children and make their manners good.*