

RAMADAN WORKSHOP SERIES

MakkahCentric
Education

ACTIVITY # 1 BUILD A CALENDAR



THE MONTH OF RAMADAN – Building my Calendar

GOAL: To learn about the significant events pertaining to Ramadan such as the phases of the moon; the superiority of the last 10 nights, Laylatul Qadr, Zakatul Fitr, and Eidul Fitr and then document them on students' own personal calendar.

MATERIALS

- Blank calendar with numbers (printed on A3 or A4 paper)
- Stickers (or cut and paste)
- Coloured pencils, crayons, or markers
- Construction paper or bristol board for border.
- Decorative items (optional if using plain construction paper for background)
- Each student receives a pouch with all the stickers they need (pre-assembling required)

LESSON

Step 1: Moon Phases

- Ask “How do we know when Ramadan is?” And “How do we know when Ramadan Ends?”
- 'Abdullah b. Umar (Allaah be pleased with both of them) reported Allaah's Measenger (sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam) as saying: When you see the new moon, observe fast, and when you see it (again) then break it, and if the sky is cloudy for you, then calculate it [Sahih Muslim, Book 6, No. 2369].
- Who knows how the new moon looks like? Can you see it? We only need one person to see the new moon and then that's enough for all of us.
- Ask children to identify the new moon from the stickers and then plot it on the first on the month (just before the number one to indicate the new day starts the night before).
- Ask what happens to the moon throughout the month? It's bigger and bigger until it reaches a full moon and then smaller and smaller until it disappears. Plot the rest of the moon phases on the calendar accordingly.

Step 2: Last 10 nights of Ramadan

- Ask “What is the best part of Ramadan? The beginning, middle, or end? The last 10 nights are the best 10 nights in Ramadan. And They are also the best 10 nights in the whole year.
- Point out the last 10 nights on the calendar and colour them in.
- Discuss the virtues of the last 10 nights and how the Prophet used to exert himself even more in the last 10 nights.
- Discuss some of the deeds we can do these 10 nights – qiyam and dua being the greatest!
- The last 10 nights are so important and blessed because they have a special night in it – Laylatul Qadr

Step 3: Laylatul Qadr (The night of decree)

- What is laylatul Qadr and why is it so special? A: Quran was revealed on this night. It is better than 1000 months. It’s the night Allaah decrees everything for the coming year. Allaah will forgive all your past sins if you stand in worship.
- But when is this night? The Prophet said: “*Seek it in the last ten nights, on the odd-numbered nights.*” [Al-Bukhari and Muslim].
- Point out the odd nights and stick the laylatul Qadr stickers on it (position sticker to indicate the night before).
- Briefly mention that many people believe that laylatul Qadr is on the 27th night. There are many hadiths that say so. But we should still work hard in all the nights. (draw a box or star around the 27th night).

Step 4: Zakatul Fitr

- In Ramadan there is a special zakat (or charity) all Muslims have to pay. If you have no money and are small, your parents pay for you. This is called zakatul Fitr. It is a different kind of zakat because it is given in food and not money. This food is delivered to the needy person before the Eid Salah. You can give it the day before or a few days before. But it should be near the end of Ramadan and before you pray salatul Eid.
- Plot the zakatul Fitr sticker on the map a day or two before Eid.

Step 5: Eidul Fitr

- Eidul Fitr is our happy day. On this day it is time to celebrate. Let children share their eid experiences and what they do as a family in Eid.
- How do we know when it’s Eid? A: By the sighting of the new moon. So do we know exactly when? No we have to wait until that night to check.

- Plot the Eid sticker on Day 30 or After while emphasizing that Ramadan could be 29 days or 30.

Step 6, 7, 8 (optional or dependent upon time)

- ❖ Decorate the border of the calendar.
- ❖ Write a mid-point message to encourage self to keep working hard.
- ❖ Allow students to share their calendars with one another and make goals for Ramadan or review what they have learned in this session.

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13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30

MOON PHASES STICKERS



