



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



Salam Academy

Why Should I Send My Kid To An Islamic School?

Obligations, Benefits, and Blessings

By: Hussein Abdulwaheed Amin

At state, secular or church schools in the West today Muslim children do not receive a proper grounding in knowledge of Islam. Moreover, both in the classroom and in the playground they are often exposed to ideas, influences and behavior which can both pressurize and tempt them away from the straight path of Islam and its moral code. Thankfully, as Muslim communities expand through immigration and the conversion of westerners, Islamic schools are being set up to cater for the educational and spiritual needs of our young people. Where possible we should do all we can to strengthen and support these establishments. Muslim schools are good for our community and our children because:

- The basics of Islam are taught and practiced in the school
- Students are expected to wear Islamic attire and maintain a proper Islamic manner which is hopefully reflected in the rest of their lives.
- There is less peer pressure to indulge in any un-Islamic behavior.
- Topics covered in classes are presented from an Islamic perspective, thus enabling the students to relate to the world from an Islamic point of view.
- Muslim schools usually have small classes and a good student/teacher relationship and ratio.

Islam calls on Muslims to pursue the path of knowledge and show kindness to our children. Having your child educated at a Muslim school fulfills both of these requirements simultaneously.

"If anyone pursues a path in search of knowledge, God will thereby make easy for him a path to Paradise" - Muslim

"The Mother Mosque"

Do you know that the 1st Mosque/Masjid that was built in North America was completed in 2-15-1934 in the city of Cedar rapids, state of Iowa. The 15 families' members who built it used to call it "Nadi Al-

Islam" (the club of Islam). The mother mosque, as they call it now, served in the past as a religious and social organization. The mother mosque is still open for prayers and visitors till now. The address is 1335

9th St., NW Cedar Rapids, IA 52405. You can visit the mother mosque online: www.mothersmosque.org



Salam Academy Monthly Newsletter

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Special points of interest:

- ☺ Read the benefits of sending your kids to an Islamic School
- ☺ Keep up-to-date with news from the classrooms!
- ☺ Find out what the Mesa Crew is up to!
- ☺ Read about the first mosque built in North America!

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Salam Academy
3939 San Pedro NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87112

Phone: 505-888-7688
Fax: 505-888-7646
E-mail: salamacademy@gmail.com

"Where Education Has No Limits"

This Month's English-Arabic Proverb



Mesa News:

- On Saturday, November 15, 2008 some MESA 5th through 8th grade students went to UNM for a competition workshop. There were 6 attending students who went to different workshops Deena Aggad and Samera Issa went to the robotics workshop. They learned about the new regulations for the robot and had the opportunity to run the robot up the competition ramp. Tawfiq Musleh and Abdullah Shah participated in the trebuchet workshop. They put together a basic trebuchet and Tawfiq and his team won first place in the mini-competition at the end of the workshop. Abu Issa attended the on-site surprise workshop in which he worked with a group to create an ancient aqueduct capable of carrying water. Leena Aggad went to the on-site science workshop which was about the properties of Native American plants. She tested the properties of several plants and won the competition in her workshop. These MESA students represented their school and community with pride on this day.
- On Thursday, November 20, 2008 MESA 5th through 8th grade students went to UNM for a field trip. We went to the geology and meteorite museums. While there, students learned about different types of rocks and had the opportunity to speak with and question some teachers and professors. We all had lunch in the sub and afterward the students went downstairs to the MSA (Muslim Student Association) to pray. Our afternoon was spent doing a water balloon experiment to measure the acceleration due to gravity. Students measured 3 distances of 13 feet, 24 feet, and 35 feet. Water balloons were dropped from each height and students measured the time (for it to reach the ground) in seconds with stopwatches. All data for time and distance was recorded on student data charts. It was a fantastic trip and the middle school students represented themselves with dignity and maturity.

News From The Classrooms

Kindergarten News:

*READING/LANGUAGE ARTS/
PHONICS*

*Read level A books *Listen to stories, answer questions, retell and act out stories *Write journals (draw pictures to express certain topics and copy familiar words) *Review and spell high-frequency words: go, do, for, he, she, has *Initial and medial /o/*Blend sounds to make words *Name, copy, write rhyming words* Use action verbs

MATHEMATICS

*Comparing and ordering by size
*Comparing and ordering length
*Estimating and measuring length
*Comparing and ordering by capacity

*Comparing and ordering by weight
*Estimating and measuring weight
*Temperature

SCIENCE

Unit B, Earth Science *What makes up earth surface? *What are some of earth's landforms? *How can we land on earth? *Where is water found on earth? *How do we use water and air? *How can you help care for the earth?

ARTS / CRAFTS

Using different kinds of materials to create art work

Happy December to you all!

Ms Cindy Tong

Second Grade News:

There will be a lot going on this month in the second grade. We will start working on our Science Expo projects. These projects will be presented sometime in February. Also the Book Fair is also happening in December. It will start on December 5th and go through the 12th. The Biovan is also visiting the school on December 16th. Our second grade Spelling Bee will be December 10th at 11:30 in the morning. All information about the Second grade spelling bee will be sent home December 1st. The school Spelling Bee will be December 17th. The school spelling bee starts 3rd to 8th grade. We will need supplies for the Science Expo projects if any parents are interested in donating money or to bring an item that is needed. It will be much appreciated.

Thanks, Carys Drennan