



In the Name of Allah, Most Beneficent, Most Merciful

Suffa Weekend Islamic Learning Program (WILP) Curriculum

The first year of Suffa provided us with great insight into our community's needs and we have updated the curriculum accordingly for the academic year 2016-17.

Objectives

Our primary goal is to impart a strong Islamic identity to our youth and complement their regular education to build a strong community for the next generation. The Suffa community is very diverse in terms of national origin, ethnicity, and theology. Our curriculum aims to impart an authentic introduction to Islam, drawing on material that is contemporary as well as historical.

The academic objective of Suffa is to introduce and instill the main teachings of Islam into our students by the time they are ready to enter high school and enabling students to live Islam.

A student who has attended 8 or more years of this weekend school should be competent in the following areas:

- 1. Recitation of Qur'an:** The objective of the school is to facilitate students in the reading of the Qur'an (not learning Arabic language). This however requires very active follow-up by parents at home. Most parents who are serious about this but don't have the time, are advised to also send their children to a supplementary class dedicated exclusively to the teaching of the recitation of the Qur'an. Basic introduction to Qur'anic Arabic terms/phrases also provided. **The Suffa WILP is not intended to be a program that trains children in the reading or memorization of the *entire* Qur'an in Arabic.**
- 2. Memorization of Surahs and Duas:** Memorize 15-20 Surahs and Duas related to Salat and everyday affairs.
- 3. Salat:** Our goal is to make sure children know how to perform the Salat before they get to an age when it becomes mandatory. *Children in 6th grade and higher are expected to know how to perform Salat.*
- 4. Qur'anic Studies:** Basic Qur'anic Teachings. Study about the tafseer/exegesis at higher



levels.

5. **Islamic Morals and Manners** in the light of the Qur'an and the Hadith.
6. **Faith and Worship:** Articles of Faith, Five Pillars and Worship of Allah (SWT).
7. **Introductory Fiqh:** Basic Fiqh, Shariah and Usul-Fiqh.
8. **Seerah:** Life history and Shama'il of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) - taught at various levels.
9. **Introductory Islamic History:** Brief overview of Islamic history
10. **Introduction to Prophets:** Stories of Prophets for younger children.
11. **Introduction to Hadith:** Introduction to the science of Hadith and some important Ahadith.
12. **Islam's contributions to civilization:** taught at the High school level.
13. "Living Islam": Practical applications of topics taught through Suffa's WILP.
14. A personal development practicum for the youth group to enable them to build key skills essential for success.

General Daily Schedule

At each grade level, four subject areas are covered - two in the first session (Qur'anic Studies) and two in the second session (Islamic Studies):

1. 1st Period: Qur'anic Studies (Grades KG-7)
 - a. Qur'an
 - b. Faith and Worship
2. Personal Development Practicum (1st period for Youth Group)
3. 2nd Period: Islamic Studies (Grades KG-7, Youth Group)
 - a. Seerah/Islamic Social Studies
 - b. Morals and Manners

The first 'Qur'anic Studies' period focuses on learning how to read the Qur'an, memorization and teachings of the Qur'an.

At the end of the 1st period there is a 30-minute recess for snacks, games and socialization.



The second period is also divided into two parts: Seerah/Islamic Social Studies and Faith/Worship or Morals/Manners.

At the end of the second session students prepare for, then assemble for Dhuhr Prayers.

Curriculum Specifics

For children in lower grades (KG and 1st Grade), teachers make extensive use of hands-on activities, story-telling and play-based activities.

For higher grades, more emphasis is placed on Teachings/Meaning of Qur'an (as opposed to recitation) and general Islamic History (in addition to the Seera of the Prophet - SAW). Advanced subjects - including Fiqh, Science of Hadith and Islamic Akhlaq/Adab - are introduced at the Middle/High School level. Though the advanced classes use the same structured approach as the rest of program, they tend to be more discussion-oriented and deal with current events and topics of general interest to the older students.

Two new concepts introduced starting 2016-17:

- Living Islam
 - This will be a 15 minute session conducted periodically at the end of the 2nd period to emphasize the practical nature of what has been taught in class
- Personal Development Practicum for Youth
 - The Youth class has already accomplished their Arabic learning, so the 1st period of Qur'anic studies is substituted with the personal development practicum that will cover a wide range of topics pertinent to skills essential to our youth: Leadership, Public Speaking, Finance, Volunteering at an Islamic Organization, Volunteering outside etc.

Textbooks

The textbooks are drawn primarily from the Weekend Learning curriculum. This is a change over our previous year's selection.

For the primary and elementary division (up to grade 5), we have reduced the number of texts in use and increased focus on application.

For the middle school and higher levels, we have added a selection of reference texts that the teachers will draw from in order to provide thought provoking, contemporary material based on traditional teachings. At this age, critical thinking is developed, and



our youth are guided in reading various texts and understanding various positions of thought.

In the program, students will encounter a diverse school of thought and we will guide our youth in recognizing the diversity in preparation for what they will encounter in real life.

Building Confidence in Our Children

At Suffa WILP we believe that our children need to be proud of their identity and be confident in presenting themselves. Suffa provides multiple forums for our children to gain these skills:

- Recitation at assembly
- Class presentations at assembly
- Performance at signature SBIA events that have large audiences such as Mawlid and Annual Banquet



Kindergarten@Suffa

Qur'anic Studies

Text:

1. Ready to write Alif Ba Ta (Weekend Learning)
2. Basic Arabic Letters (Workbook by Rahmah Ibrahim)

Memorization:

Tasmia

Taudh

Shahada

Fatihah (1)

Ikhlas (112)

Al-Nas (114)

Islamic Studies

Lecture for 20-30 minutes:

1. Islamic Studies, Level K (Weekend Learning)
2. My Islamic Coloring Book (Weekend Learning)

Coloring and discussion (~ 20 minutes)

Stories of Prophets and other stories (text not provided to students but used as reference by teachers)

(~30 minutes): Cover Prophets Adam (AS), Nuh (AS), Salih (AS), Ibrahim (AS), Ismail (AS)

Class Project

Suggested: Art Exhibition contributions from students



Grade 1@Suffa

Qur'anic Studies

Revise Letters, Start Joining, Teach Fathah, Kasrah and Dammah

Text:

- Ajmal Al Qawa'id
- Arabic Alphabet Worksheets (education.com)
- Short Surahs (Iqra)

Memorization:

Fatihah (1)

An-Nas (114)

Al-Falaq(113)

Ikhlas (112)

Kawthar (108)

Islamic Studies

Text: Islamic Studies, Level 1 (Weekend Learning)

Stories from the Lives of Prophets (~30 minutes): (text not provided to students but used as reference by teachers)

- Cover Prophets Yusuf (AS), Musa (AS), Dawud (AS), Sulaiman (AS), Isa (AS)

Class Project



Grade 2@Suffa

Qur'anic Studies

Text:

- Ajmal Al Qawa'id
- "Let's Read and Write Arabic Book 2"
- Short Surahs (IQRA)

Tashkeel

Revise Fathah, Kasrah and Dammah
Continue with Sukun and Tanween

First half of "Let's Read and Write Arabic Book 2"

Memorize/Study:

[Review Grade 1 Surahs]

Fatihah(1)

An-Nas (114)

Al-Falaq(113)

Ikhlas (112)

Kawthar (108)

New surahs to memorize:

Al-Asr (103)

Al-Masad (111)

Nasr (110)

Kaferoon (109)

Islamic Studies

Texts

- Islamic Learning, Level 2 (Weekend Learning)
- "Our Book of Dua" (IQRA)

Duas: (Waking Up, Sneezing, Eating)

Class Project



Grade 3@Suffa

Qur'anic Studies

Students are expected to read fluently by the end of Grade 3
Text:

- Ajmal Al Qawa'id
- "Let's Read and Write Arabic Book-2"

Finish "Let's Read and Write Arabic Book-2"

Practice reading from "Short Surahs" Memorize/Study

Revise:

[Review Grade 1 and 2 Surahs]

Fatihah(1)

n-Nas (114)

Al-Falaq(113)

Ikhlas (112)

Al-Asr (103)

Kawthar (108)

Al-Masad (111)

Nasr (110)

Kaferoon (109)

Ma-oon (107)

Quraish (106)

New surahs to memorize:

Ma-oon (107)

Quraish (106)

Al-Feel (105)

Al Humaza (104)

Islamic Studies

Text:

- Islamic Learning, Level 2 (Weekend Learning)
- Duas: "Our Book of Dua" (Going Outdoors and Traveling)

Class Project



Grade 4@Suffa

Qur'anic Studies

Texts:

- Juz Amma for School Student with transliteration (Weekend Learning)

Memorization

Tashahud and Darood (Salat)

Qunoot

Review memorized Surahs from earlier grades 102-114

Study new Surahs 98-102

Islamic Studies

Text:

- Islamic Learning, Level 4 (Weekend Learning)

Duas: (Anger, Using the Restroom, Sadness, Going to Bed)

Class Project



Grade 5@Suffa

Qur'anic Studies

Texts:

- Juz Amma for School Student with transliteration (Weekend Learning)

Memorization/Study

Review previously learned surahs

Study new surahs 91-97

Duas:

Duas related to Salat

Islamic Studies

Text: Islamic Learning, Level 5 (Weekend Learning)

Class Project



Grade 6@Suffa

Qur'anic Studies

- Students to use mushaf from masjid or bring their own
- The Study Quran: A New Translation and Commentary. Surah selections for study based on instructor/class

Islamic Studies

- Islamic Studies, Level 6 (Weekend Learning)
- Being Muslim, A Practical Guide: Asad Tarsin: Ch 1, 2, 5

Class Project



Grade 7@Suffa

Qur'anic Studies

- Students to use mushaf from masjid or bring their own
- The Study Quran: A New Translation and Commentary. Surah selections for study based on instructor/class

Islamic Studies

- Islamic Studies, Level 7 (Weekend Learning)
- Being Muslim, A Practical Guide: Asad Tarsin Chapter 3,4,6
- The Book of Assistance, Ch1-20

Class Project



Youth@Suffa (Grade 8 onwards)

Youth classes are organized in a discussion format rather than a traditional lecture



**Personal
Development
Practicum**

Texts:

The Leadership Moment: Nine True Stories of Triumph and Disaster and Their Lessons for Us All

Other texts and materials to be provided as modules are finalized

Planned Modules:

Module1	Introduction to the Practicum	1	Structure of the course and what to expect
Module2	Leadership		Case Study 1:
			Case Study 2:
			Case Study 3:
			Project: Present a leadership story. Skills will be baselined here to compare after Module 3 and 4
Module3	Presentation Skills	4	What are presentations all about?
			Presenting Data
			Communicating a message
			Presentation Project (ties into volunteer project)
Module4	Public Speaking	3	Review good speeches (and bad!). Practice 1-min instant speeches
			The Greeks: Pathos, Logos, and Ethos. Persuasive communication
			Project: Speech + Q&A
			[Optional] TEDx talk?
Module5	Volunteer Project -- Internal	4	Collaborate on an idea. Plan
			Promotion and Fundraising
			Execution - 1
			Learning from project. Importance of debrief and retrospectives
Module6	TA	2	Shadow teachers in lower grades and volunteer
			Deliver a part of a lesson (15 min or so); volunteer in class
Module7	Debate	4	Learn about debate rules, argument construction
			Practice various debate formats



			Debate 1
			Debate 2
Module8	Finance for teens	4	The concept of money; accounts; currency
			The market
			Savings and investments
			Financial prudence -- borrow with care
Module9	Volunteer Project -- External	4	Collaborate on an idea. Plan
			Promotion and Fundraising
			Execution - 1
			Learning from project. Importance of debrief and retrospectives
Module10	Health and wellbeing	3	Social Media: The good, the bad, the ugly
			Responsible nutrition. Lets cook and eat!
			Dealing with stress and anxiety for teens
Module11	Capstone presentation	1	Final presentation by youth group

Islamic Studies

- Being Muslim, A Practical Guide: Asad Tarsin: Ch 7,8
- The Book of Assistance, Ch21-32
- Vision of Islam – chapter selection by instructor. Selection varies by year as students return to this group in their high school years
- Reclaim Your Heart by Yasmin Mogahed – chapter selection by instructor. Selection varies by year as students return to this group in their high school years

Reference: The Study Quran: A New Translation and Commentary

Class Projects