

Grade: Kindergarten

Lesson Number: 1-3

Unit Name: Sikh Pledge

Course: Virṣā

Title: 'Sikh Pledge of Allegiance (Lessons 1-3)

Standards

Standard 7: Becoming citizens of the Khālsā

- Students learn the melody of the Khālsā Anthem and Sikh Pledge of Allegiance.

Objectives

1. Students will learn to recite the Sikh pledge of allegiance.
2. Students will illustrate the meaning of the Sikh pledge of allegiance.
3. The class will create a class book of the Sikh pledge of allegiance.
4. The students will recite the Sikh pledge of allegiance in front of an audience.

Prerequisites

- None.

Materials

- Sikh pledge of allegiance on chart paper
- Copies of the Sikh pledge of allegiance on 8 ½ x 11 size paper for all students
- Crayons, color pencils, or markers
- Chart paper
- 11 ½ x 17 white construction paper (six sheets for the actual book, but it's best to have extras)
- Plain white paper (enough for the entire class)

Advanced Preparation

- Three days have been devoted for this lesson, so it is up to the teacher to decide how much of the lesson to teach during each session. Here is an example of how to divide up the lesson:

Day 1: Introduce the Sikh pledge of allegiance – discuss key terms with class.

Day 2: Recite Sikh pledge of allegiance and review key terms and discuss how to illustrate these terms. Divide students into groups and begin to create the illustrated book of the Sikh pledge of allegiance.

Day 3: Students continue to work – book should be completed by the end of this session; if possible, students should recite the Sikh pledge of allegiance in front of an audience and share their illustrated book.

- Write the Sikh pledge of allegiance on chart paper for students to read.
- It is best to divide students into four groups and have them work together to create an illustrated book of the Sikh pledge of allegiance.
- Each group will work on one page in the illustrated book.
- In order to manage each group have a volunteer for each group that can guide them.

- The illustrated book that the students are creating is 11 ½ x 17 – it is best to paste the text (the words of the Sikh pledge of allegiance) ahead of time so that the students use the entire page for the illustration.

Engagement (50 minutes)

Day 1:

- Greet the students and have them get settled.
- Explain to the students that they will be learning the Sikh pledge of allegiance today.
- Remind them what a pledge of allegiance is and what it means. (It means that students are promising to be a good citizen in the Sikh nation and will only do things that are in accordance with the Sikh Code of Conduct or Sikh rules).
- Share the Sikh pledge of allegiance that is written on chart paper.
- Ask students what they understood or if anything sounds familiar.
- As students respond, write their thoughts on chart paper; if a student's thinking is far from the concepts shared in the Sikh pledge of allegiance, then redirect them by helping them understand the concepts more clearly. (Please don't say, "No, you're wrong!")
- Allow about three minutes of sharing – then recite the Sikh pledge of allegiance and break it down by explaining key terms like: allegiance (loyalty, faithfulness), Nishān Sāhib, Kaum, One Nation (Sikh Nation), Akāl (Vāhigurū), Prophets Ten (Ten Gurūs), Fidelity (loyalty), Khande dī Pāhul (Ammrit), justice (everyone is treated fairly)
- Recite the Sikh pledge of allegiance – ask students to help you read some of the words.

Exploration (50 minutes)

Day 2:

- Review the key terms once again – check to see how much the kids remember.
- Discuss how you would illustrate the key terms – ask students to share their thoughts – write down or draw what students suggest.
- Once you have reviewed all the key terms, divide students into four groups:
 - Group 1 will illustrate: I pledge allegiance to the Nishān Sāhib and to the Kaum for which it calls.
 - Group 2 will illustrate: One Nation with faith in the Akāl. Allegiance to the Prophets Ten.
 - Group 3 will illustrate: Loyalty to the Granth-Panth Gurū. Fidelity to the Khālsā through the Khande dī pahul.
 - Group 4 will illustrate: and committed to equality, justice, and freedom for all.
- Make sure that each group has a volunteer who can guide them with their ideas and illustrations.
- Hand each student a piece of paper to start brain-storming their ideas.
- As groups start to have an idea of what they would like to depict for the illustrated book, check their brainstorming to make sure they are on the right track and then hand them their large 11 ½ x 17 paper to draw their ideas. Remind them that they must write above the text.

Exploration: (30 minutes)**Day 3:**

- Recite the Sikh pledge of allegiance.
- Students continue to work in groups on their page for the illustrated book of the Sikh pledge of allegiance. Remind students that today is the last day to work on the book so they must stay on task.

Explanation/Extension (20 minutes)

- 15 minutes before the class is over, collect all group work and have students sit in a semi-circle. Have students recite the Sikh pledge of allegiance (teacher should point to the words and students should follow along).
- Next share the illustrations that students created for the book – once again reading the text that goes with each illustration.
- If possible, it would be great to have the students recite the Sikh pledge of allegiance and share the book with the gurduārā congregation and/or any other audience.

Evaluation (On-going)

- Laminate and bind the student illustrated book.
- You may choose to do this presentation at the local gurduārā or a bigger setting if you feel your students are up to it.

Teachers Resources**Sikh Pledge of Allegiance**

I pledge allegiance to the Nishān Sāhib,
and to the Kaum – the Sikh Nation –
for which it stands.
With faith in the Akāl, Vāhigurū beyond Time and Death.
Allegiance to the Ten Gurūs,
And loyalty to the Gurū Granth and Gurū Panth.
Fidelity to the Khālsā through the Khande-dī-pāhul
and committed to Glory of Vāhigurū and Justice for all.

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