



# Active Learning In Faith

**ALIF**

# Agenda

## ALIF

Mission and Objective

School Calendar and Class Schedule

Program Overview

Educational Approach and Curriculum

Staff

Enrollment and Registration

Tuition Overview

Pilot Program

# Our Vision

## **Empowering Young Hearts, Nurturing Strong Souls**

Our vision is to create a nurturing and inclusive community that inspire a generation of confident and strong individuals who feel empowered to learn and live the principles of Islam

# Our Mission

## **Fostering Faith, Illuminating Minds**

To provide a comprehensive and enriching educational environment that cultivates a deep understanding and practice of Islamic principles, values and teachings among students and community using engaging lessons that incorporate nature and play

# ALIF Objectives

Build a strong foundation of faith

Nurture islamic values and develop a deep connection to Allah

Build a deep understanding of the Quran beyond memorization and recitation

Holistic learning and character development

Engaging active learning

Community involvement

# ALIF 23-24 Academic calendar

**September 2023**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**October 2023**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**November 2023**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

**December 2023**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**January 2024**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**February 2024**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

**March 2024**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**April 2024**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

**May 2024**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**June 2024**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

DATE	DESCRIPTION
9/17	First day of instruction
11/19	End of Trimester 1
11/26	Thanksgiving break
12/24	Winter Break
12/31	Winter Break
1/7	First day of 2nd term
2/18	Presidents Day Break
2/25	End of Trimester 2
3/10/2024 - 4/7/24	Ramadan break
3/10	First day of Ramadan
4/9	Eid ul Fitr
6/2	Last day of Instruction
6/17	Eid ul Adha

# Class Schedule

10:00 am - 10:15 am	Morning Circle and Dua (school wide)
10:15 am - 11:00 am	Session A
11:00 am - 11:30 am	Recess
11:30 am - 12:20 pm	Session B
12:20 pm - 12:30 pm	Closing Circle (class specific)

# Education Approach

- Inspired by Montessori and Waldorf teaching methods
- Emphasize a holistic education that nurtures a child's intellectual, artistic, and spiritual capacities.
- Integrate creative arts, imaginative play, and a developmentally appropriate curriculum to foster a deep connection to Islam and learning
- Promote independence, critical thinking, exploration and discussion
- Incorporate nature to deepen connection
- Will not be teaching Arabic language or Quran recitation or memorisation

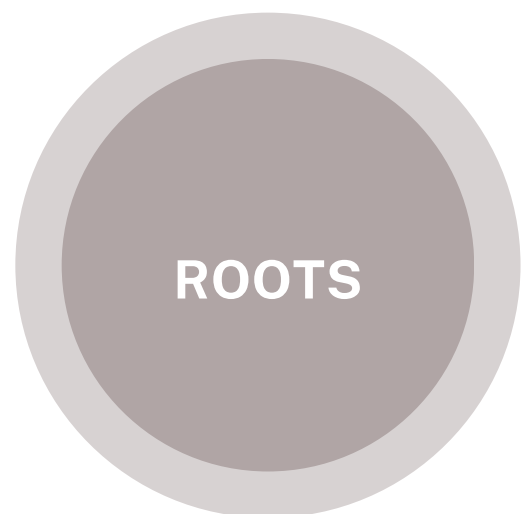
# Program Overview



**SEEDS**

---

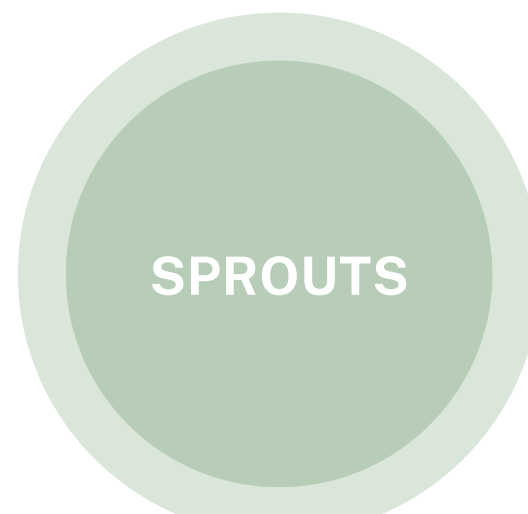
**Ages 4-6**



**ROOTS**

---

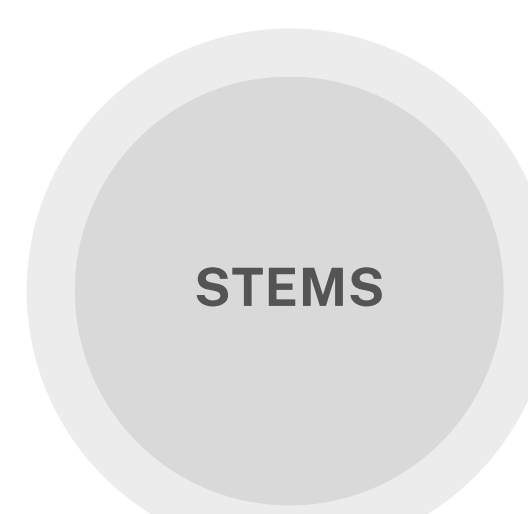
**Ages 7-9**



**SPROUTS**

---

**Ages 10-12**



**STEMS**

---

**Ages 13-15**



**HARVEST**

---

**Ages 16-18**



# Seeds

## 4 to 6 years old

Exploring the Wonders of Allah's Creations

This theme focuses on introducing students to the concept of Allah as the Creator and showcasing the beauty and diversity of the world around them. Through this theme, students can develop an understanding of their place in the world as part of Allah's creation, while also learning the foundations of Islamic values, teachings and practices. Lessons and activities will revolve around nature, animals, plants and the importance of gratitude and kindness in our interactions with Allah's creations. This theme encourages a sense of wonder, curiosity and appreciation of Allah's blessings and provides a strong foundation for their spiritual and ethical growth.

<b>Basics of Belief</b>	<b>Ways of Worship</b>	<b>Manners and Morals</b>	<b>Impact Initiatives</b>
Allah the Creator	Gratitude to Allah	How I fit in Allah's World	Community Service Project
Surah Fatiha	Five Pillars in Islam	Islamic Etiquette	How to be a Friend
Surah Ikhlas	Islamic Festival and Celebrations (Ramadan, Hajj, Eid al Fitr and Eid Adha)	Greetings	
Surah Nas		Islamic Values (Honesty and Respect)	
Surah Falaq		Manners	
Surah An-Nasr			
Surah Al-Kawthar			
Al-Kafirun			

# Seeds: 4 to 6 years old

## Sample Lesson Plan

Learning Objectives	Learning Context	Cornerstone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Surah Fatiha</li><li>• Teach Surah Fatiha in a manner that incorporates nature and the child's world and hence can foster an understanding and deeper connection with its meaning.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Engage students by asking them to observe and appreciate their surroundings in nature and take note of elements of nature such as trees, flowers, birds and water. Focus on sounds, textures, sizes, colors and beauty. Encourage students to share their observations and relate them to the themes found in Surah Fatiha, such as gratitude, praising Allah and recognising His blessings in nature.</li><li>• Introduce Surah Fatiha as a special chapter in the Quran that teaches us how to praise Allah and ask Him for guidance.</li><li>• Breakdown a simple translation of Surah Fatiha and explain the meaning of keywords and phrases.</li><li>• Open discussion on how students' connect with Allah and make dua.</li><li>• Discuss the power of dua</li><li>• Develop activities that encourage students to use art to express what they are grateful to Allah for</li><li>• Gather the students in a comfortable informal space and play different recitations of Surah Fatiha and encourage them to listen attentively and follow along with translation, if possible and notice and reflect on how it makes them feel.</li><li>• Emphasize the importance of expressing gratitude to Allah and seeking His guidance.</li><li>• Encourage students to recite Surah Fatiha with appropriate pronunciation and Tajweed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Basics of Belief</li><li>• Ways of Worship</li></ul>

# Roots

## 7 to 9 year olds

Theme: Strong Faith and Strong Character

This theme focuses on building strong foundations of faith and strong foundations of character by using the stories of the Prophets to teach students the importance of values, virtues and ethical principles. Each Prophet's story can be used as a platform to discuss moral dilemmas, decision making and the importance and application of these values in their own lives. This theme will not only impart Islamic teachings but also help students develop a solid moral foundation and understanding of the significance of character development in their lives as Muslims. Roots will also be the level where the students' foundational practices are developed and strengthened.

<b>Basics of Belief</b>	<b>Ways of Worship</b>	<b>Manners and Morals</b>	<b>Impact Initiatives</b>
Surah Mulk	Fiqh of Salah	What is Our Role in the World	Community Service Project
Surah Al-Quraish	Fiqh of Wudu	Islamic Mannerisms (Fairness and Justice)	Different ways to Serve
Al-Qadr	What Makes Me Muslim	Adab in the Classroom	Concepts of Sadaqah
Al-Ma'oon	Six Beliefs in Islam		
Shahadah			
Attributes of Allah			
The Messengers of Allah			

# Roots: 7 to 9 years old

## Sample Lesson Plan

Learning Objectives	Learning Context	Cornerstone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Salah</li><li>• Understand the importance and significance of Salah.</li><li>• Students should know how each Salah is different and what are the times we pray</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss the reason why we pray and why it is important to pray at the prescribed times</li><li>• Use arts and crafts to have students make charts on the different prayer times and the benefits of Salah</li><li>• Breakdown the structure of Salah and go over each detail until the student is familiarized.</li><li>• Have discussions and use worksheet or arts and crafts to convey what is acceptable during Salah and what is not</li><li>• Visit the prayer hall and observe/partake in prayer</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Basics of Beliefs</li><li>• Ways of Worship</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Islamic mannerisms</li><li>• What it means to be fair and just</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss, through storytelling instances where prophets were just or were unjustly treated</li><li>• Discuss where we see injustice in the world now and how we can learn from the prophets on how to achieve change.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Manners and Morals</li></ul>

# Sprouts

## **10 to 12 years old**

We are Muslims; Discovering our Identity

This theme focuses on students exploring and understanding their roles and responsibilities as Muslims in the world. Through this theme, students can delve into various aspects of their identity, including their faith, values and contributions to their communities. The theme introduces and encourages critical thinking and self-reflection. By empowering students to embrace their identity and make positive contributions, this theme supports their holistic development as confident, informed and responsible young Muslims.

<b>Basics of Belief</b>	<b>Ways of Worship</b>	<b>Manners and Morals</b>	<b>Impact Initiatives</b>
Surah Yaseen	Fiqh of Purification	Spiritual Identity	Community Service Project
Surah Hujurat		Muslim Practices	How Can I Make the Word Better?
Introduction to the Seerah		Setting Intentions and Goals	Islam and Earth Conservation
Islamic Civilization		Life Skills (Responsibility, Self-discipline and Accountability)	
Battle of Badr			



# Sprouts: 10 to 12 years old

## Sample Lesson Plan

Learning Objectives	Learning Context	Cornerstone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Surah Hujurat</li><li>• Understand the history, context, meaning and significance of this Surah</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss the significance and context of this Surah</li><li>• Discuss what it means to be a friend and what behaviors/manners are not considered Islamic (this can lead into conversations about friendship groups, peer pressure and bullying and how to stand up for what's right)</li><li>• Arrange students in small discussion circles in a natural outdoor setting.</li><li>• Provide them with discussion prompts related to the themes in Surah Hujurat, such as respect for elders, resolving conflicts, and building unity.</li><li>• Encourage students to share their thoughts and ideas in a relaxed, open environment.</li><li>• Encourage students to reflect using journaling</li><li>• Assign students to role play different scenarios where they need to demonstrate respect, empathy, and unity.</li><li>• Share stories from Islamic history or personal experiences that highlight the importance of respect, kindness, and unity.</li><li>• Ask students to retell the stories in their own words and discuss what lessons they can draw from them.</li><li>• Take a nature walk and have a group discussion afterward about the importance of respect in our interactions with both nature and other people</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Basics of Belief</li><li>• Ways of Worship</li><li>• Manners and Morals</li></ul>

# Stems

## **13 to 15 years old**

### Navigating Faith

This theme is designed to build on the foundations of students' faith and explore how faith can help in navigating the unique challenges and complexities that teenagers face as they grow and mature in a rapidly changing world. It provides students an opportunity to explore their Islamic faith, identity and values. This theme will empower students to confidently navigate their faith and identity while remaining true to their Islamic values. It encourages critical thinking, open dialog and self-reflection as students develop a deeper understanding of their roles as young Muslims in the modern world.

<b>Basics of Belief</b>	<b>Ways of Worship</b>	<b>Manners and Morals</b>	<b>Impact Initiatives</b>
Surah Rahman	Balancing Faith and Modern Life	Interacting with elders, peers and others in society	Community Service Project
Surah Kahf	Islamic Role Models	Modesty	Engagement in the Community
Books of Hadith	Hajj and Umrah		Zakat
Companions of the Prophet			
Seerah			
Early Islamic History (Caliphs)			
Comparative Religion (Surah Imran and Maryam)			

# Harvest

**16 to 18 years old**

Maintaining Momentum; Preparing for Adulthood with Faith, Purpose and Service

This theme is designed to guide older students through the transformative phase in their lives as they transition into adulthood and take on more significant responsibilities. This theme emphasizes the importance of understanding one's purpose as a Muslim, finding alignment between faith and life goals and contributing positively to their communities and living purposeful lives. It will empower students to confidently embark on their adult journeys while upholding their faith and values. Students will also be responsible for their own learning journey by focusing on areas that they would like to deep dive into. Students will leave this program knowing that life as a Muslim is a life of learning and practicing.

# Harvest

All Harvest students will have the opportunity to complete the following:

- Two Focus Areas
- One Community Service (Hours)
- One Research Project on a subject of their choice

## **Focus Areas**

- Quranic Studies
- Comparative Religion
- Islamic History
- The Life of Prophet Muhammad
- Arabic Language
- Islamic Law

# Curriculum Development

- Research
  - Noor Books
  - I Love Islam
  - Ghazali books
  - Learning Islam Series
  - Other Islamic curriculum

# Educational Staff

## Marya Syed

- 1 year of full time substitute teaching at Granada for middle school
- Homeschooling preschool experience for 2+ years
- 2 years of full time islamic school teaching
- longtime volunteer with ICNA, Rahima and Global Deaf Muslim

Seeds

## Tooba Hamid

- 8 years of experience with curriculum and lesson development for math and economics
- 6 + years teaching experience at Khan Academy with a varied level approach to help all kinds of learners

Roots

## Sameeha Shafik

- Graduate student in curriculum design
- Graduated from 2 year Islamic Science program at Qalam Seminary
- Created an Islamic Studies curriculum and program for youth
- Has worked as a youth leader/teacher at MYNA camp and Weekend Islamic School

Sprouts

# Parent Volunteer Roles

## **Class TA**

Helps the teacher throughout the duration of instruction, on a trimester term (or discretion of teacher)

## **Classroom Parent**

Supports the teacher with regards to involvement with all other parents

## **Yard Duty for Break**

4 parents sign up for 6-8 week period to watch students during break

## **Supply Parents**

2 parents who manage shared supplies for all class levels and making sure stock is tidy and prepared each week

## **Traffic Management**

2 parents at drop off and 2 at pickup to make sure that cars are driving safely on a 6-8 week schedule

## **Registration**

Coordinate annual enrollment and making sure all families have paid and signed up for volunteer roles (currently, staff will manage)



# Muhsen Class

- Muhsen teacher has been recruited (Sister Nouran)
- Sessions will be at LGIC on Sundays 1:45-3pm (after ALIF mainstream classes)
- All parents are required to have TA training.
- We will be having a training TA's at LGIC on September 16th from 4-7.
- Because of the high needs of these students adult to student ratio needs to be maintained at 1:1

**Projected start date: October 21st**

# Tuition and Fees

---

**Annual Yearly Tuition of \$450 per student due by September 16**

**Can be paid in 2 installments on the following schedule:**

**\$225 due by Sep 16, 2023**

**\$225 due by Jan 7, 2024**

---

**Annual Yearly Tuition of \$400 per additional sibling due by September 16**

**Can be paid in 2 installments on the following schedule:**

**\$200 due by Sep 16, 2023**

**\$200 due by Jan 7, 2024**

# Pilot Program

- Three classes
  - Seeds
  - Roots
  - Sprouts

# Key Dates

- September 5th
  - Information Event
  - Registration Opens for WVMA Members
- September 8th
  - Registration Opens for Community
- September 17th
  - Pilot Program starts
- January
  - Add Stem Class and/or add additional classes of the existing level
- Ongoing Hiring

# Questions

