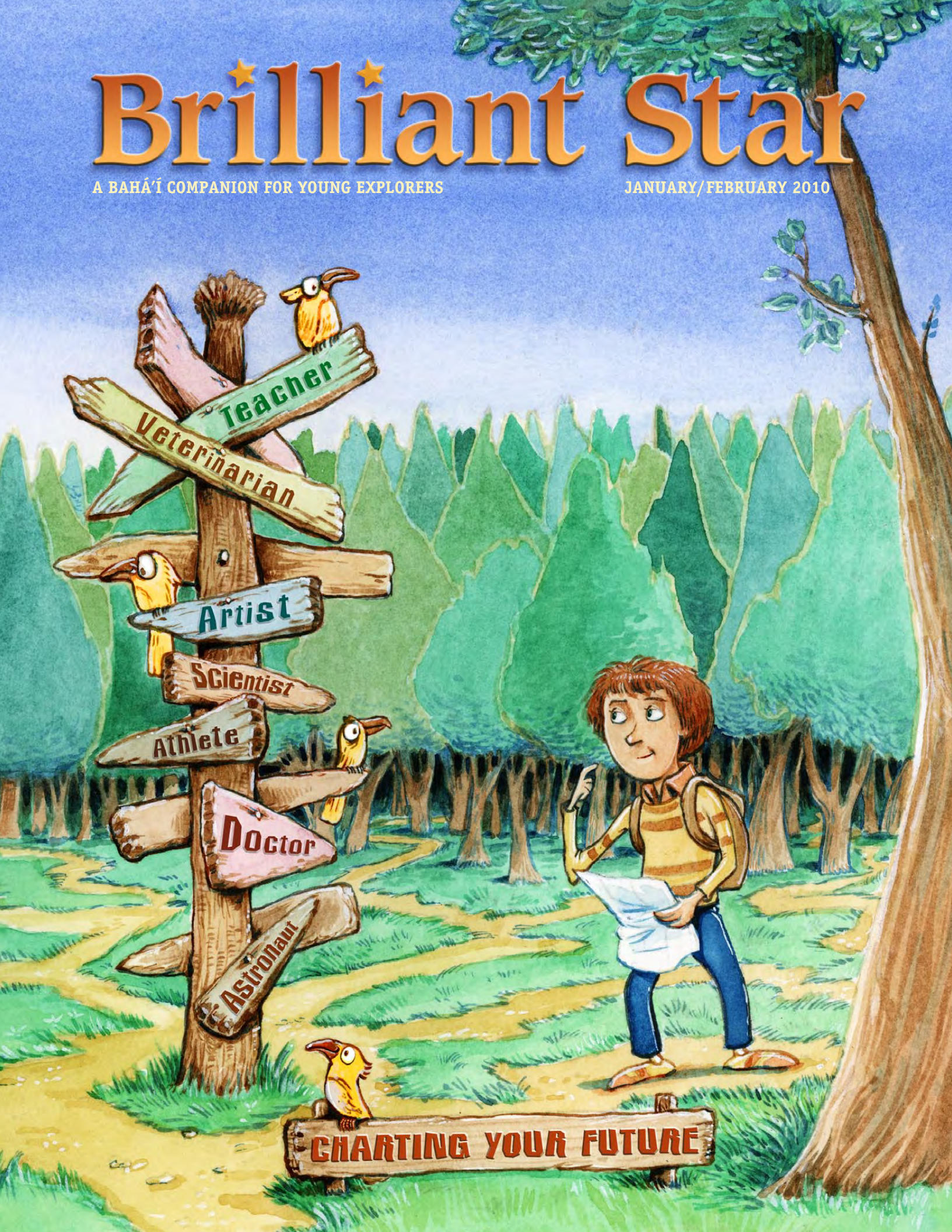


Brilliant Star

A BAHÁ'Í COMPANION FOR YOUNG EXPLORERS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2010



Brilliant Star

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Brilliant Star magazine invites all kids to explore the Bahá'í Faith. It is the second most widespread religion in the world, with more than five million Bahá'ís.

The Bahá'í Faith was founded by the Prophet **Bahá'u'lláh** ("Glory of God" in Arabic) in 1863. Bahá'u'lláh taught that all people are part of one human family, and that all religions come from one God. Bahá'ís work to bring peace and unity to the world, and end prejudice and discrimination of all kinds.

Bahá'u'lláh's eldest son, **'Abdu'l-Bahá**, interpreted His teachings and led the Bahá'í community after Bahá'u'lláh's passing.

Brilliant Star encourages kids to bring their virtues and talents to light, and use them to make the world a better place. **Brilliant Star** is produced bimonthly by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the U.S.

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We often provide Internet resources to encourage readers to explore a topic, or to share our references. While we make every effort to choose reliable websites, **Brilliant Star** does not endorse or account for all content in referenced websites. Furthermore, we urge caution and parental guidance when using the Internet. For more information about Internet safety, visit: www.wiredkids.org/wiredkids_org.html

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Navigate the bridges to the Sea of Serenity.

CHARTING YOUR FUTURE

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2010

NEW DESTINATIONS

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Create a design that expresses your spirit.



DEAR FRIENDS,

Imagine where you'll be
10 years from now . . .

You could be helping
others across the globe,

leading your college team in
a favorite sport, or starting your
first job in an exciting career. The
possibilities are endless. Your life's
journey will be full of wonderful
surprises and opportunities. You
can make the most of them by
envisioning your dreams and
setting goals now.

This issue of **Brilliant Star** invites
you to create a road map to your
future. You'll investigate clues
to your career, explore your
character, balance a budget, and
design your own coat of arms.
You'll learn about Shoghi
Effendi, who became
the leader of the
Bahá'í Faith at age
24. And you'll meet
Andy Grammer,
who talks about
charting his career
path as a musician.

You have brilliant
ideas, virtues, and talents to share
with the world. What will you do
with them? We can't wait to find out.



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With love from **Brilliant Star**

Look Ahead and Reach High

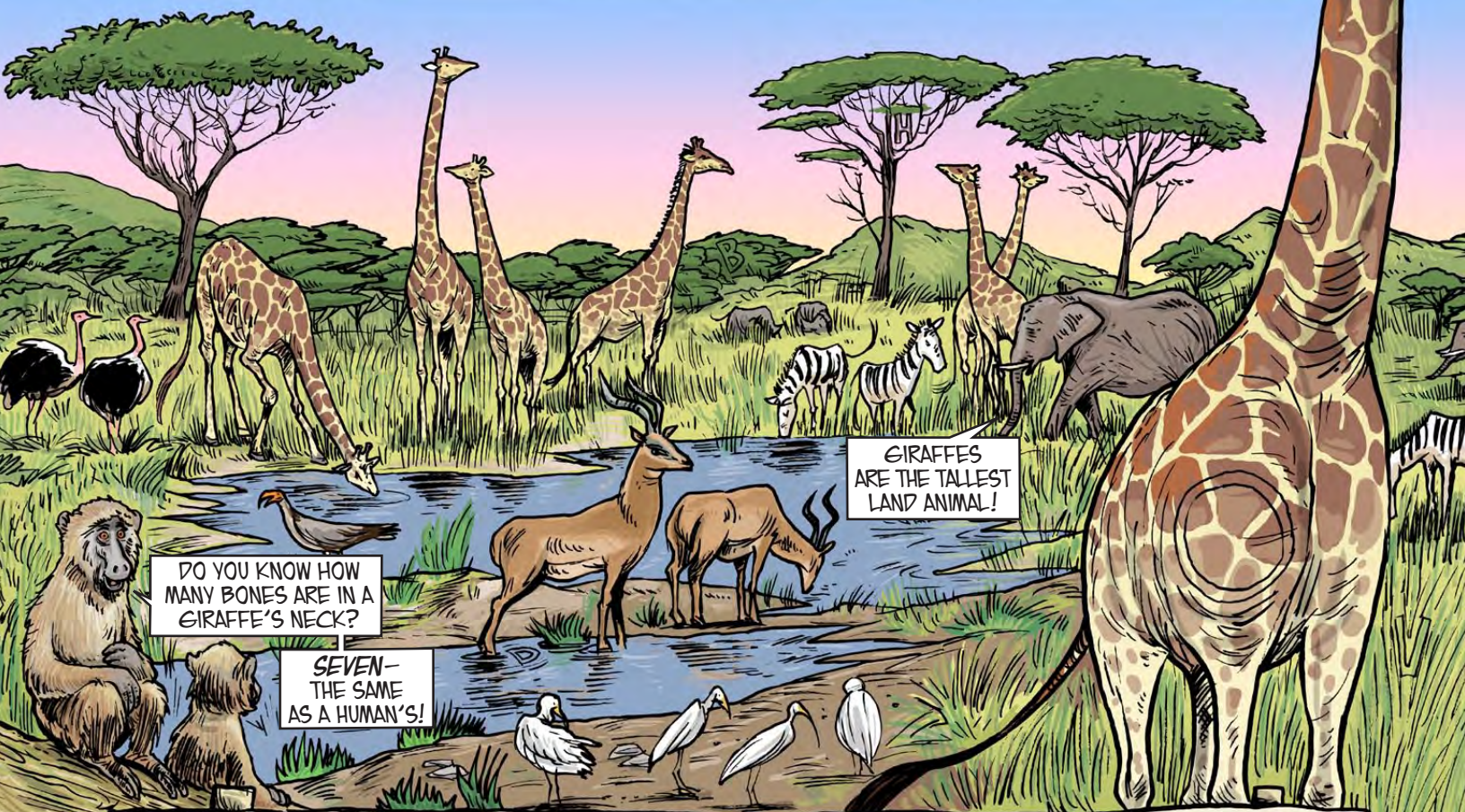
On the Serengeti Plains in eastern Africa, giraffes use their keen eyesight to watch for lions and other predators. At up to 19 feet (6 m) tall, they can see for long distances. Some scientists say other animals, like zebras and antelope, stay nearby for protection. Giraffes work together, too. When one rests or takes a drink, the others stay alert for danger.

We can succeed with the same foresight and teamwork that help giraffes survive on the savanna.

Whether you want to excel in math or lead your soccer team to victory, it's important to look ahead and create a vision for your future. Set goals, and push yourself to achieve them, as a giraffe reaches for the best leaves to eat on high branches. When you meet obstacles, be patient and determined in overcoming them.

Like giraffes, you can develop the skill of looking far off on the horizon and staying alert to future challenges. When you do, you can reach new heights.

On this African savanna, use your sharp vision to find eight letters to complete the quote.



Letters found:

"Wit_ cle_r _isi_n we _re en__le_ t_ stru__le
 _nw_r_ _n_ u_w_r_, e_er _r_ _ressin_ in
 t_e _t_s _f _irtue . . . _n_ _ec_min_ t_e
 me_ns _f li__t t_ t_e w_rl_." —'Abdu'l-Bahá

A Brief Timeline

The Life of Bahá'u'lláh

1817 November 12

Birth of Bahá'u'lláh
in Tíhrán, Iran

1844

Recognizes the Báb as
a new Messenger of God

1852

Imprisonment in the
Black Pit of Tíhrán

1853–1863

Exile in Baghdád, Iraq.
From 1854–1856, He
goes into the mountains
to pray in solitude.

1863 April 22

Declares Divine Mission
as Prophet-Founder
of the Bahá'í Faith

1863–1868

Exile in Constantinople
(Istanbul), then Adrianople
(Edirne), Turkey. Begins
writing letters to kings
and rulers in 1867,
urging world unity

1868

Last exile, to prison-
city of 'Akká, Israel

1877

Finally free to live in
countryside homes
of Mazra'ih and then
Bahjí, outside 'Akká

1892 May 29

Bahá'u'lláh passes
away at Bahjí.

Bahá'u'lláh's Life: Mission of Peace Standing Up for Justice

Even from His early years, Bahá'u'lláh stood up for what was right.

He grew up in Persia (now Iran), in the early 1800s, at a time when injustice was commonplace. For example, when the king needed money, he would send

tax collectors to people's houses and make them pay high taxes, beyond what was normal or fair.

When Bahá'u'lláh was young, one of the king's tax collectors came to His house. Although His father, Mírzá Buzurg, was a minister in the government, the tax collector rudely demanded that he pay a large amount of money. Mírzá Buzurg paid him. But the tax collector returned later and asked for more money. Again, Mírzá Buzurg paid. The tax collector came a third time, and demanded even more. This time, Bahá'u'lláh's father didn't have the money to pay. The tax collector forced his way into the house and began taking furniture for payment.

Bahá'u'lláh decided something had to be done. Though He was only in his teens, He mounted His horse and rode the two days' journey, in the snow, to Tíhrán to see the king. He told the king that His father had paid the tax, and that it was unfair to demand more. He also explained how badly the tax collector had treated His family.

Incredibly, though Bahá'u'lláh was just a youth, the king listened to Him and agreed!



The house of Bahá'u'lláh's family in Tákur, Iran. It was destroyed by the Iranian government in 1981.

The king also decided to dismiss the tax collector from his job.

As He grew up, Bahá'u'lláh dedicated His life to promoting justice and serving others. When Mírzá Buzurg passed away, Bahá'u'lláh was offered his prestigious

government position. He was only 22 years old, and the job could have given Him a life of luxury and ease. But Bahá'u'lláh had no interest in earthly titles or wealth, and He refused the job. Many people were surprised by this unusual choice. However, the prime minister sensed that Bahá'u'lláh had a greater calling. He said, "Leave him to himself. Such a position is unworthy of him. He has some higher aim in view."

The prime minister was right. Bahá'u'lláh focused on assisting people who were poor or in need of help. His home was open to all—no one who came to Him was turned away. Whether someone needed food, shelter, or comfort, Bahá'u'lláh shared whatever He had.

His generosity was so great that His friends worried He would give away everything He owned. Throughout the land, He became known as "Father of the Poor."

Bahá'u'lláh provided a living example of the words He later wrote: "Dedicate the precious days of your lives to the betterment of the world . . ." His actions, as well as His writings, can inspire all people to choose a truly noble path.



Muhammad Sháh was the king of Persia during Bahá'u'lláh's youth.

Clues to Your Career



Grab your magnifying glass and your Sherlock Holmes hat. There may be a big mystery in your life right now: What do you want to be when you grow up? Even if you have ideas, you can find new clues by looking closely at your life. What do you do for fun? What are your favorite school subjects?

What volunteer work do you like most?

Though your skills and interests may change over time, you have some talents that come naturally. Maybe you enjoy taking care of pets, learning about nature or science, or performing in front of crowds. These are important clues to finding a job you'll love.

Investigate your life to solve your career mystery. Circle all of your skills and work preferences. Then use these clues to summarize your ideas below. Have fun discovering your dream job!

I am good at ...

building things
computers
consulting
cooking
crafting
creativity
drawing
encouraging others
exploring nature
fixing things
gardening
hand/eye coordination
helping others
interviewing people

inventing
leading
learning languages
listening
making music
math
memorizing
organizing
planning
public speaking
reading
researching
resolving conflicts
science experiments

selling
setting goals
sewing
sign language
singing
solving puzzles
sports
taking pictures
teaching
working with animals
working with younger kids
writing

I enjoy working ...

alone
with a big group
with a few people
with the public
as a leader
as part of a team
in the morning
at night
at a desk
on my feet
in a busy place
in a quiet place

in a city
in a rural area
in a classroom
in a lab
indoors
outdoors
on a set schedule
on a flexible schedule

I like to work with people who are ...

adventurous
artistic
athletic
confident
cooperative
creative
culturally diverse

curious
detailed
energetic
enthusiastic
flexible
friendly
funny

helpers
idealistic
imaginative
independent
logical
musical
nature lovers

optimistic
organized
outgoing
planners
practical
quiet
realistic

responsible
sensitive
serious
studious
talkative

My dream job would include ...

Using these skills: _____

With people who are: _____

In this kind of environment: _____

Possible dream jobs for me: _____



"The light of a good character surpasseth the light of the sun and the radiance thereof." —Bahá'u'lláh

LET'S SEE ...
WHAT KIND OF
PERSON AM I?



YOUR RADIANT CHARACTER

You are like a treasure chest, and your precious jewels are your virtues and talents. Which gems are your strengths, the ones that shine most brilliantly?



Being aware of your strengths can help you remember to use them. You can also figure out qualities you'd like to develop, to make your life the best it can

be. The choices you make every day are a big part of your character—your unique way of being *you*.

Answer the questions below, then use your answers to fill in your personal statement. Put the statement in a place where you'll see it often. Read it to yourself to affirm your sparkling character, especially when you're facing challenges.

DISCOVERING THE BEST ME

Find a quiet place, free from distractions. Clear your mind as much as possible, then answer these questions.

1. What are three of your strongest virtues or qualities? (Examples: adjectives like kind or creative)

- a. _____
b. _____
c. _____

2. What are two virtues or qualities you'd like to improve? (Examples: adjectives like forgiving or patient)

- a. _____
b. _____

3. Who are two of your heroes or role models? (people)

- a. _____
b. _____

4. What are two of your favorite talents or skills? (Examples: verbs ending in "ing" like dancing or drawing)

- a. _____
b. _____



5. What is your favorite way to help others? (Example: include a verb ending in "ing" like helping friends with homework)

6. What blessings are you most thankful for? (Example: nouns like family or friends)

- a. _____
b. _____

Your Name _____

's Light of Character

Write your answers in the blanks with the matching numbers and letters.

I am a unique and noble person. I have many wonderful things to contribute to the world. I am

_____ 1a, _____ 1b, and _____ 1c. I am thankful for all the blessings in my life, such as

_____ 6a and _____ 6b. I enjoy practicing my talents, such as _____ 4a and



_____ 4b. I help others in many ways, including _____ 5.

I am becoming more _____ 2a and _____ 2b. I look up to the examples of _____ 3a and _____ 3b as

I reveal the gems of my character. Every day, I grow and change. My life is an awesome adventure!

SHOGHI EFFENDI: Guardian of the Bahá'í Faith

One day, when Shoghi Effendi was a small child, he picked up the pen of his grandfather, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and tried to write. 'Abdu'l-Bahá gently told him, "Now is not the time to write, now is the time to play, you will write a lot in the future." Shoghi Effendi *did* grow up to write thousands of pages—as leader of the Bahá'í world community.

Born in 1897 in what is now 'Akká, Israel, Shoghi Effendi was a courteous child who played with boundless energy. He adored his grandfather, who led the Bahá'í Faith at that time. 'Abdu'l-Bahá was the eldest son and successor of Bahá'u'lláh, the Prophet-Founder of the Bahá'í Faith.

In his teens, Shoghi Effendi went to college in Lebanon.* He loved learning and preparing to help 'Abdu'l-Bahá in his work. After graduation, he spent two years as 'Abdu'l-Bahá's secretary and constant companion, often translating letters and conversations into English. Serving at his grandfather's side brought him great joy.

In 1920, Shoghi Effendi went to Oxford University in England to continue his studies and perfect his English. He worked hard on his school-work and enjoyed debating and tennis. He also loved photography, a hobby he pursued throughout his life.

An Incredible Challenge

In 1921, Shoghi Effendi's world collapsed when 'Abdu'l-Bahá passed



"Look at his eyes, they are like clear water," 'Abdu'l-Bahá said of the young Shoghi Effendi (left). Climbing the Alps refreshed his spirit (middle), especially after 'Abdu'l-Bahá's passing, when he discovered he was to head the Bahá'í Faith (right).

away suddenly. He was so grief-stricken, he stayed in bed for days.

When he returned to Israel, Shoghi Effendi learned that in his will, 'Abdu'l-Bahá had named him the Guardian, the new head of the Bahá'í Faith. Shoghi Effendi was just 24 years old. Overwhelmed, he confided in a friend, "Wherever I go I remember my beloved grandfather and whatever I do I feel the terrible responsibility He has so suddenly placed upon my feeble shoulders."

To prepare himself for the challenging tasks ahead, Shoghi Effendi retreated to the Swiss Alps. Some days he climbed for 16 hours, renewing his spiritual and physical strength. After eight months, he returned to Israel to take on his new role "with feelings of joyful confidence."

Inspiring Leadership

In 1937, Shoghi Effendi married a Canadian Bahá'í, Mary Maxwell. He gave her the name Amatu'l-Bahá

Rúhiyyih Khánum.** They had a loving relationship, and she was a great help to him with his work.

For 36 years, Shoghi Effendi worked tirelessly. He encouraged Bahá'ís to strengthen their characters, deepen their knowledge of the Faith, and share its teachings of peace and unity.

He wrote over 26,000 letters, translated many writings of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá into English, and wrote a history of the Faith. He also oversaw the construction of sacred buildings and gardens. Under his leadership, the number of Bahá'ís quadrupled. His energy, enthusiasm, and devotion inspired many around the world.

On November 4, 1957, Shoghi Effendi unexpectedly passed away from a heart attack at age 60. His life of service and words of encouragement still help guide the Bahá'í community today.† He wrote, "A glorious future awaits you all, more brilliant than any you can imagine."

* His school is known today as the American University of Beirut.

** Learn more about Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhiyyih Khánum in Sept/Oct 2005, p. 22 and Mar/Apr 2009, p. 8.

† Learn more about Shoghi Effendi in Nov/Dec 2000, Jan/Feb 2002, p. 10; and Sept/Oct 2005, p. 21.

Full Speed Ahead

A train engine barrels down the track, building speed and momentum. Winding up steep ridges and down treacherous slopes, it forges ahead, determined to reach its destination.

Like a dynamic engine, Shoghi Effendi led the Bahá'í Faith from 1921–1957. His wife, Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhiyyih Khánum, described him as “a doer, a builder, an organizer . . . traveling at high speed in one direction, which gives him almost infinite driving power.”

Another Bahá'í compared him to “a great powerful locomotive, pulling behind him a long, long string of cars . . .” His spirit inspired Bahá'ís globally, as he helped the Faith spread from 35 countries and territories to 254.

Shoghi Effendi faced fierce challenges as a leader, but they never derailed him—he saw the positive in every hardship. He wrote, “The greater the challenge, the more bountiful the blessings which will be vouchsafed from on high . . .”

Unscramble the letters on the train cars to find virtues that helped Shoghi Effendi lead the Bahá'í community.





Smart Spending



As you journey through life, it's important to have maps. A budget is a map that helps you plan the use of your money. Budgeting and knowing how to handle money is one of the most important skills needed to reach your goals in life.

To make a budget, list your income—how much you earn or have. Then list what you think you'll buy—your planned expenses. Make sure your expenses aren't more than your income.

But money isn't *just* for spending. It's important

to save, as well as give to charity. Sharing money helps those in need and can make you feel good, too. One idea is to divide your money in thirds, for spending, saving, and sharing. If you have \$12, you could save \$4, give \$4 to charity, and still have \$4 to spend.

After planning your budget, do your best to stay on track with it, just like you'd check a map on a trip. Using money wisely can make the difference between getting lost in a jungle or successfully arriving at your destination.

Create your monthly budget by writing in your income, savings, and expenses.

_____ 's Budget for the Month of _____
Your Name Month and Year

MONTHLY INCOME	Amount
Weekly allowance earned	\$ x 4 weeks = \$
Gifts received (From birthdays or special occasions)	\$
Other (Such as doing extra chores. Write below.)	
	\$
	\$
TOTAL INCOME	\$

MONTHLY SAVINGS and EXPENSES	Amount
Weekly savings (Put in jar or savings account.) What are some special things you'd like to save up for?	\$ x 4 weeks = \$
Donations to charity	\$
Expenses (Such as books, clothes, or movies. Write below.)	
	\$
	\$
	\$
Total Savings and Expenses	\$

MONTHLY TOTALS (Use numbers from above.)	Amount
TOTAL INCOME	\$
Total Savings and Expenses	- \$
How much is left over? (Consider putting the remainder in your savings account or giving more to charity.)	=



Leap into Action

"Success or failure, gain or loss, must, therefore, depend upon man's own exertions. The more he striveth, the greater will be his progress." —Bahá'u'lláh

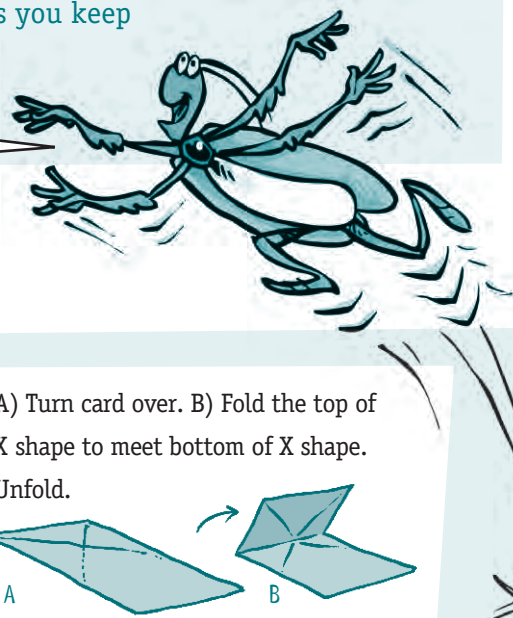
Did you know some frogs can jump more than 50 times the length of their body? These amphibians are among the world's best jumpers. That's like a person who's six feet tall jumping 300 feet (91m)! Like a powerful jumping frog, you can accomplish amazing things when you leap into action.

It's easy to set a goal you'd like to achieve, such as making it onto the team, passing a test, or going to college. But sometimes it can be hard to get started, stick with it, and make it to the finish line. You may worry about making mistakes, or lose confidence in your talents or skills. If this happens, start with small hops forward, and ask for help when you need it.

Look for things that inspire you, such as an encouraging friend or uplifting music. You may choose to pick up the pace or take a new trail to get where it is you want to go.

When you take action, you might feel energetic or joyful. These feelings could be **confirmations**—clues that you're headed in a good direction for you. Even when fears or challenges come up, you can say prayers and have faith that the right thing will happen as long as you keep leaping forward.

I CAN LEAP TO GREAT HEIGHTS!



You'll Need 3" x 5" (76 x 126 mm) piece of card stock, markers

Joyful Jumping Frog

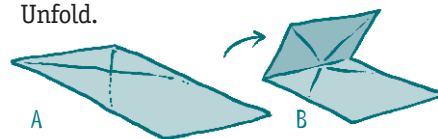
- 1** A) Fold upper left corner of card to meet upper right edge. B) Unfold.



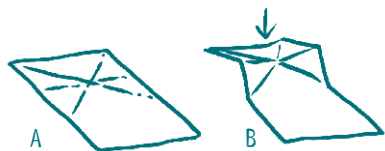
- 2** A) Fold upper right corner to meet upper left edge. B) Unfold.



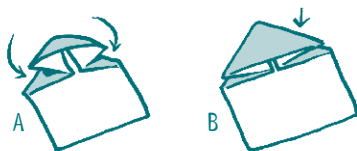
- 3** A) Turn card over. B) Fold the top of X shape to meet bottom of X shape. Unfold.



- 4** A) Turn card over. B) Press down center crease, so triangle shapes on long sides of card are raised slightly.



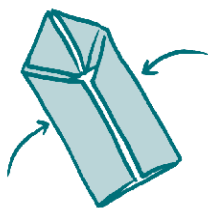
- 5** A) Push two raised triangles inward. B) Flatten short edge on top of them to make a house shape.



- 6** A) Fold the right tip of roof shape so it touches the top. B) Repeat on the other side, so you have a diamond shape for the frog's front legs.



- 7** Fold in the sides of the house shape to meet in the center.



- 8** A) Fold bottom edge up to meet the top point. B) Fold same edge back to meet its opposite edge to make the frog's back legs.



- 9** Turn your frog over. Use markers to decorate it and name it after one of your goals. Gently slide your finger down the middle of its lower back to make your frog leap into action!



Champions of Teamwork

The Olympics, the most spectacular and diverse sporting and cultural event in the world, takes place every two years, alternating summer and winter. At the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver, athletes from dozens of countries will compete, while promoting peace, respect, and good sportsmanship.

Being at the Olympics is often a lifelong dream. The athletes put in many years of dedicated

training, working long hours nearly every day, often with teammates. It's rewarding to be part of a team and put forth your best effort. Like an Olympic athlete, you may be committed to a group's goal. You can work together and encourage each other.

Whatever your dream, teaming up with others who strive for excellence can make it even more fun to work toward success.

These athletes are practicing their winter Olympic sports. Read their clues, then match them to the flags of their countries.

1. FINLAND

2. CANADA

3. JAPAN

4. NORWAY

5. RUSSIA

6. AUSTRALIA

7. SWITZERLAND



A IN WHEELCHAIR CURLING, WE MOVE A HEAVY STONE TOWARD A TARGET ON THE ICE.* I PRACTICE IN OSLO, NEAR ONE OF MY COUNTRY'S FAMOUS FJORDS.

B SPEED SKATERS USE LONG BLADES FOR EXTRA ACCELERATION. SKATING PROBABLY STARTED IN MY NORTHERN COUNTRY, WITH AT LEAST 60,000 LAKES.

C IT TAKES TEAMWORK AND TRUST TO DO THE DANGEROUS LIFTS IN PAIRS FIGURE SKATING. MY TEAM IS FROM THE WORLD'S LARGEST COUNTRY.

D IN ALPINE SKIING, I CAN REACH 80 MILES PER HOUR (130 KM/H). I TRAIN IN THE ALPS, WHICH COVER TWO-THIRDS OF MY COUNTRY.

E ORGANIZED ICE HOCKEY WAS DEVELOPED IN MY COUNTRY. THE 2010 WINTER OLYMPICS ARE IN MY HOMETOWN!

F SNOWBOARDING COMBINES SURFING, SKIING, AND SKATEBOARDING FOR AERIAL TRICKS. IN MY COUNTRY, WINTER STARTS IN JUNE.

G WE RACE AT SPEEDS OVER 83 MILES AN HOUR (135 KM/H) IN A ONE-MINUTE RUN OF BOBSLEIGH. I TRAIN IN MY COUNTRY MADE OF THOUSANDS OF ISLANDS.

EXPLORE AND PROTECT THE EARTH AND ITS CREATURES

"All the members of this endless universe are linked one to another." —Bahá'í Writings

WE
ARE
ONE

EARTH-SAVING TIP

Switch a bulb.

If every home in the U.S. alone replaced just one incandescent light bulb with a compact fluorescent bulb (CFL), we'd save enough energy to light more than three million homes for a year!

WOW, REALLY?

The endangered blue whale is larger than 25 elephants!



OUR CONNECTIONS



Did you know that the Earth's continents were once part of a giant landmass? This ancient supercontinent is called *Pangaea* (Greek for "all lands").

About 200 million years ago, Pangaea began to break apart, very slowly forming the continents of today. But they didn't stop there. Earth's land is always moving gradually—at about the same rate as our fingernails grow. In another 250 million years, scientists think the continents will join together again.

PROTECTING OUR PLANET

Xiaoyi (Sheri) Liao is known worldwide as an activist and journalist. She founded the Global Village of Beijing, promoting environmental awareness in China. She also helped plan the "Green Angels" project, inspiring 830,000 kids and their families to live greener lives. She says about Earth, "We all breathe the air of the only global village."



WHERE IN THE WORLD?



Near Chile, 887 stone carvings, called *moai*, average 13 feet (4 m) high. At about 14 tons each, and created between about 1250 and 1500 CE, scholars are mystified by how they were moved. *Unscramble the letters to find their location:*

ERSATE DANSIL



AMAZING ANIMALS



These flightless birds are the largest of their kind. After laying an egg, the mother travels up to two months for food, while the father warms the egg in the Antarctic cold. *Fill in the blanks to find their name:*

M E R R E N U I N

RADIANT STARS

Getting to know kids who shine

Connect with kids around the world! How are they like you? How are they different? Each of us has a unique story to tell. What's yours?

Caiden A.

Age: **12**

I live in: **Warsaw, Poland**

Best quality or virtue: **Creativity**

Something I like about me: **I love to make new friends.**

Hobbies or sports: **Tennis and reading**

Place I'd love to visit: **Go on pilgrimage to Haifa [Israel]**

What's your career goal? **[Work] with animals ... I want to help save them because of what humans have done to animals and their habitats.**

What are new things you'd like to learn to do? **Speak Polish ... drive a boat, and ... learn about robotics**

If you could be famous for one thing, what would you choose? **Saving the world's environment or inventing new machines to help in space travel**

If you could travel through time and see yourself, what would you want to see? **I would like to see that I helped a lot of people, and ... the environment ... and made a difference.**



Maedeh P.

Age: **13**

I live in: **Washington, U.S.**

Something I like about me: **I am brave, and I help my friends with their homework.**

Hobbies or sports: **Basketball**

I like to help people by: **Help [others] learn Farsi***

Place I'd love to visit: **The Holy Land [Israel]**

What's your career goal? **Doctor, because you could make [people] feel better**

Who is your hero or role model? **My teacher, Miss Anthis, because she teaches very good stuff about science**

If you could be famous for one thing, what would you choose? **I would teach math and science in Africa for kids.**

If you could travel through time and see yourself, what would you want to see? **I would live in Iran, and I would be cleaning my house, and I would live with my family.**



Jose R.

Age: **12**

I live in: **Illinois, U.S.**

Best quality or virtue: **Courage**

Hobbies or sports: **Violin, baritone, chess club, Boy Scouts**

Favorite Bahá'í activities: **Going to Feast****

Favorite animal or pet: **Eagle**

Place I'd love to visit: **Mexico**

What's your career goal? **I would like to be a cook or work with computers ... Cooking and changing recipes are like experimenting.**

Who is your hero or role model? **My hero is Garry Kasparov ... a world chess champion who ... beat a computer.**

What are new things you'd like to learn to do? **I would like to learn to play Go, learn more about computers, and learn about business.**

If you could be famous for one thing, what would you choose? **Inventing lunar-powered computers. Today computers use electricity that pollutes the earth. With solar-powered and then lunar-powered computers, they could work ... day and ... night.**



*Farsi is a term for the Persian language, which is spoken in Iran and other countries.

**Feast is a Bahá'í community gathering with prayers, consultation, and fellowship.

Jose Angel G.

Age: **13**

I live in: **South Carolina, U.S.**

Best quality or virtue:
Honesty and caring

Favorite Bahá'í activities:
Junior youth group and Feast**

Favorite animal or pet:
My dog, Boots

Place I'd love to visit:
Egypt

I like to help people by:
Being a good listener, [being] someone they can trust, and giving good advice

What's your career goal?
I want to be a robotic engineer for NASA to explore other worlds and to benefit humanity.

Who is your hero or role model?
My mom. She is caring, loving, and always taking care of me. She prays and reads the Bahá'í scripture to me every night at bedtime. She cares for everyone else, too.

If you could be famous for one thing, what would you choose?
Finding life on other planets



“God has crowned you with honor and in your hearts has He set a radiant star; verily the light thereof shall brighten the whole world!” — ‘Abdu’l-Bahá

Nia F.

Age: **11**

I live in: **New York, U.S.**

Best quality or virtue:
Love

Something I like about me:
I try to make the best out of everything.

Favorite Bahá'í activities:
Going to NEBY Fest[†] and ... Green Acre [Bahá'í School in Maine, U.S.]

Hobbies or sports:
Knitting, dancing, soccer, basketball

Place I'd love to visit:
Europe

What's your career goal?
I want to be a preschool teacher, because I love being around little kids and spreading education.

What are new things you'd like to learn to do?
Learn how to sky dive ... ride a horse ... drive a car



Who is your hero or role model?
My mom ... She is always willing to give a helping hand and is a kind, loving person.

If you could be famous for one thing, what would you choose?
I would want to be famous for finding the cure for cancer.

If you could travel through time and see yourself, what would you want to see?
I would want to see myself with a kind, happy, and loving family.

Gabrielle K.

Age: **9**

I live in: **Quebec, Canada**

Best quality or virtue:
I'm thoughtful of others.

Hobbies or sports:
Reading and drawing

Favorite Bahá'í activities:
I like reading Bahá'í stories, especially books by William Sears.

Favorite animal or pet:
I like many animals, but my favorite is the panda ... [which is] in danger of becoming extinct.

Places I'd love to visit:
All places where there are Bahá'í Temples, and the Eiffel Tower

What's your career goal?
I would like to be a doctor, so I can help sick people.

Who is your hero or role model?
‘Abdu’l-Bahá, because he is very kind, very generous, and he has many virtues

If you could travel through time and see yourself, what would you want to see?
I would like to see ... the past. I would like to see the dinosaurs (if they do not eat me), how people lived in the past, and especially see ‘Abdu’l-Bahá and Bahá'u'lláh.

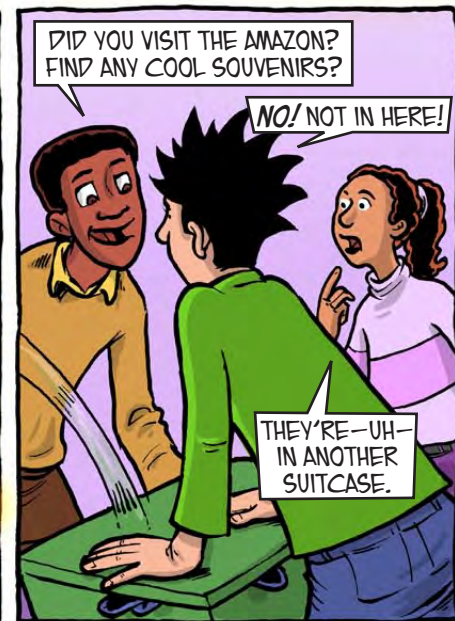
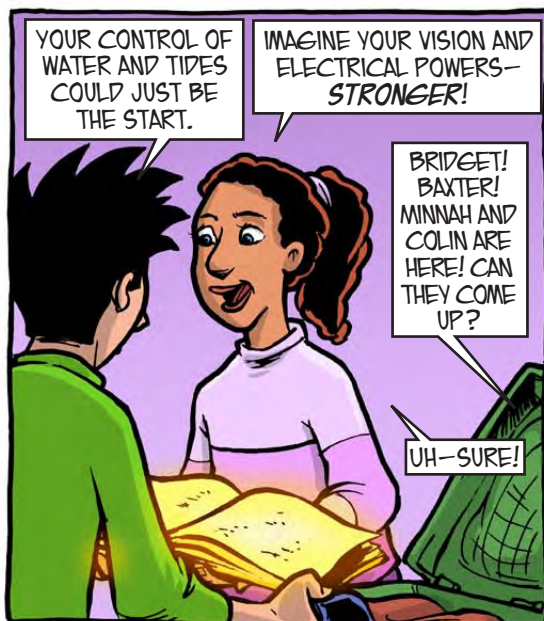
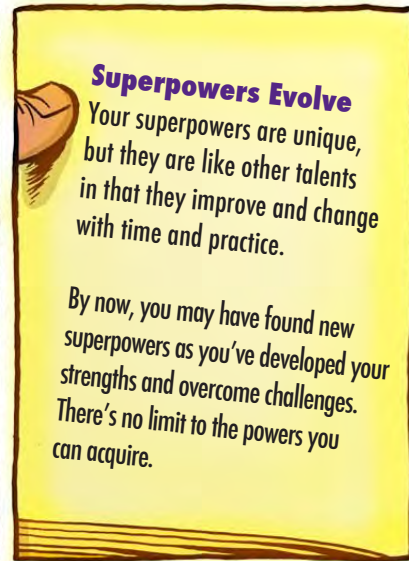


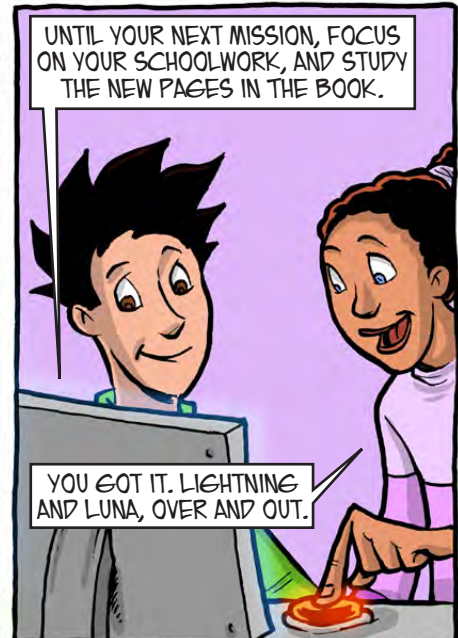
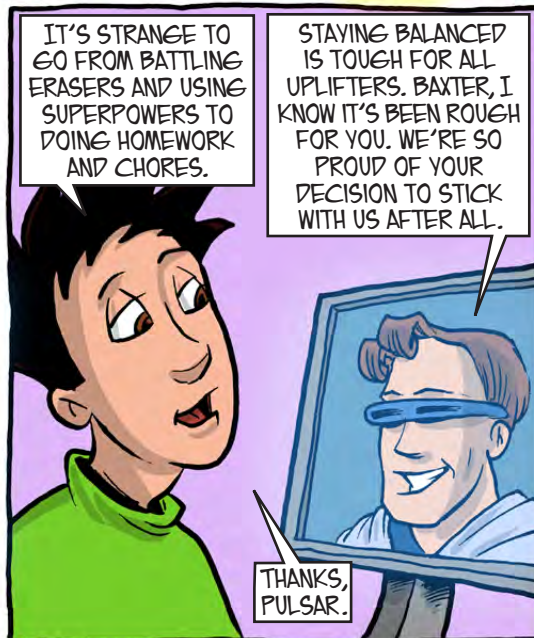
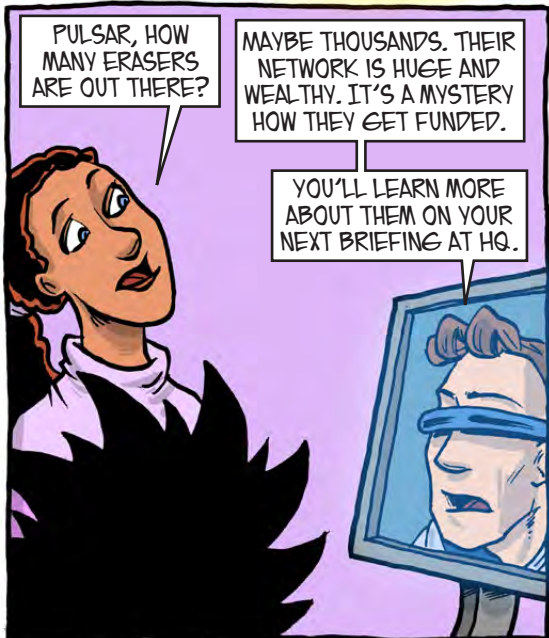
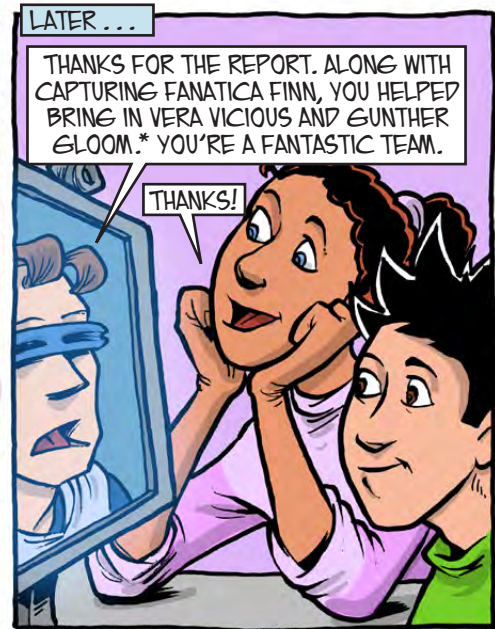
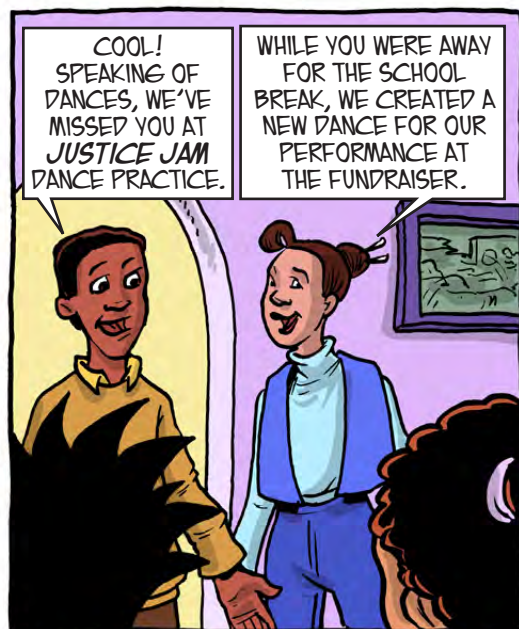
You can be a Radiant Star!

Here's how:

1. If you're age 7–14, write us at brilliant@usbnc.org or Brilliant Star, 1233 Central Street, Evanston, IL 60201. Include your name, age, mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address.
2. When it's your turn to shine, we'll send you questions and a form for you and your parents to sign.
3. Answer the questions and send them to us with the signed forms, along with at least two good-quality, close-up photographs of your smiling face. Photos should be in sharp focus and show your eyes clearly. Please don't send color copies, low-resolution digital images, or copyright-protected images (like school portraits).

[†] A conference for Bahá'í youth in the Northeastern U.S.





WHAT'S NEXT FOR LIGHTNING AND LUNA?

NOW SHOWING: YOUR LIFE

Lights, camera, action! In the movie of your life, you're the screenwriter, actor, and director, all rolled into one. Your choices help determine the movie you make. Is it a creative animated adventure? A documentary about scientific discoveries? Or a story about an athlete who struggles, but rises to the top?

Your life is full of opportunities to make your



movie what you want it to be. Your education and major goals will play a big role. It may be years before you begin your career, but you can start thinking and planning for it now.

It's wonderfully satisfying to have an enjoyable career that makes you feel good about being of service to the world. Try out this quiz and see what it says about your personal movie.

QUIZ: REHEARSING FOR SUCCESS

For each question, select the answer that's closest to your interests.



- Your idea of a fun service project is ...
 - Performing at a charity event
 - Joining a walk for an important cause
 - Finding ways your school can recycle and save energy
 - Tutoring younger kids with their homework
- An accomplishment you'd be really proud of is ...
 - Winning a drawing or story-writing contest
 - Scoring the winning points in a championship game at school
 - Getting the grand prize at the science fair
 - Helping build a home for a family in need
- An article you might write for the school newspaper would be ...
 - A review of a movie or art exhibit
 - A piece about the swim team's recent win
 - News about the latest earth-saving or space technology
 - Tips for solving problems with friends
- When you have free time, you're more likely to ...
 - Draw or write in your journal
 - Play sports
 - Try out a science experiment
 - Help with a neighborhood clean-up project
- If you were going to start a club at school, it would be a ...
 - Drama, art, or poetry club
 - Biking or running club
 - Math or science club
 - Service club
- It's the most fun in ...
 - Art class
 - P.E. class
 - Math or science class
 - Social studies class
- Your idea of the perfect field trip is ...
 - Going to the art museum or bookstore
 - Touring a professional sports stadium
 - Classifying birds and trees at a nature reserve
 - Cheering up kids at the children's hospital
- You're helping out with your school's spring festival. You'd rather ...
 - Create posters
 - Be in charge of the basketball-shooting game
 - Help set up the equipment
 - Greet volunteers and give them snacks
- If you were going to start a business, it would be ...
 - An art supplies store or photography studio
 - A fitness center or sporting goods store
 - A computer business or garden center
 - A medical clinic for the poor or a charity group



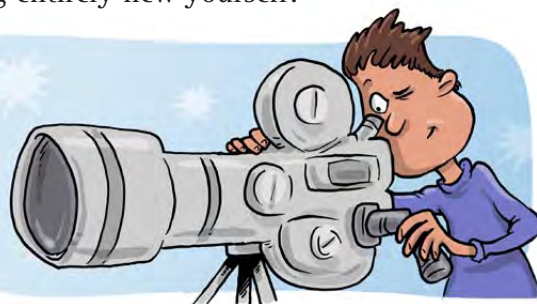
SCORING

Take a look at your answers, and see which letter you circled most often. If you answered . . .

- Mostly A's = Your movie is an Artistic Achievement
- Mostly B's = Your movie is a Sporty Success
- Mostly C's = Your movie is a Scientific Smash
- Mostly D's = Your movie is a Humanitarian Hit

SETTING THE SCENE

Once you have an idea about the kind of movie you want to make, think about the details. Check out the careers below and circle the ones that interest you. Write in your own ideas, too. Keep in mind that these are just a start—the list of possibilities goes on and on. Your dream job may combine two or more fields—or you may invent something entirely new yourself!



Artistic Achievement

Actor
Animator
Architect
Author
Choreographer
Film director
Graphic designer
Illustrator
Musician
Photographer

Or _____

Sporty Success

Athletic trainer
Coach
Fitness instructor
Game official
P.E. teacher
Physical therapist
Professional athlete
Sports agent
Sportscaster
Team manager

Or _____

Scientific Smash

Accountant
Astronaut
Biochemist
Ecologist
Environmental scientist
Marine biologist
Medical scientist
Pharmacist
Robotics engineer
Veterinarian

Or _____

Humanitarian Hit

Civil rights lawyer
Diplomat
Doctor
Firefighter
International aid worker
Language interpreter
Mental health counselor
Nurse
Social worker
Teacher

Or _____



MY MOVIE ABOUT ME . . .

Fill in the blanks to get a start on your personal script.

Stars _____ as a(n) _____ with a passion for _____
your name your career

_____. In the movie, my goal is to _____
subject or field you love your most ambitious goal

_____. I like to help others by _____
something helpful you would often do in your work

In the end, I know I've succeeded when _____
the most positive, exciting result of your efforts



PHOTO BY DAVID TUMAN

ANDY GRAMMER

“Ladies and gentlemen, give it up for ANDY GRAMMER!” A round of applause from the audience greets Andy and his guitar. At age 26, he’s a rising star doing what he loves most: writing and performing his own music. After growing up with the example of his parents, songwriters Red and Kathy Grammer, Andy studied music in college.

In 2007, he released his first collection of songs called “The World Is Yours.” Now he’s a popular performer on college campuses and at music festivals, and has toured around the U.S. and abroad. When he’s home in California, Andy can spend eight hours a day writing music. He wants to reach as many people as possible with encouraging lyrics such as these from the song “Couple More Sleeves”: “Take the sparks from your heart, let them burn like a star in the sky, for everyone to see. Don’t be scared of who you are, let it out of the jar.”* *Brilliant Star* talked to Andy about his adventures as he charts his career path.

Q. What was the most challenging experience for you as a kid, and how did you handle it?

The most challenging thing was . . . when I was getting teased by certain friends, not understanding what the heck that was. Like, why are you guys doing that? . . . I learned that [if] you just stop hanging around people like that, that they’ll stop. [The teasing] only works if you engage the way they engage.

Q. What was it like to grow up with a father who is a musician?

Really cool. He would be gone for long stretches, but then he’d be home for long stretches . . . When he was home, he was *really* home. We got to make tree houses and do stuff . . . It was great. I learned from him. I just saw how, when you’re doing art for a living, it’s just a lot of work. So when you grow up seeing that, you can start doing the work early, rather

Q. When did you know you wanted to be a performer?

It’s funny, because I just always thought that that would be what would happen . . . I knew it was a struggle. I just knew I wanted to do *something* creative . . . In high school, I took screenwriting



Left: Andy, age 8, with the family dog, Millie, at home in New York. Right: In middle school, Andy started playing guitar. His favorite sport, at that time and through high school, was basketball.

than kind of thinking it’s some random thing that’s going to happen that’s going to make you famous . . . Art as a career . . . [is] a business.

classes and joined the theater. Then when I went to college, I studied theater . . . [I figured] out that that wasn’t quite right, and that I wanted to write the things I was going to say. So I learned music instead.

Q. How does being a Bahá'í affect your work?

I think it affects your life, like it's your whole outlook on why we're here. It affects your work. Anything you do, you're attempting to do in the best possible way. If you're dealing with the money you receive for the night, you want to deal with [it] very justly. If you're writing music, you want to be writing from a place that's real . . . I think it's the biggest effect of anything on my career . . . Sometimes it's hard [being different] . . . It's created a real interesting challenge of how do I, with who I am, connect to everybody else? . . . The whole idea is that we are all really similar. So I try to not make any barriers in my music, because I don't think there are any.

Q. In this issue of *Brilliant Star*, we're talking about planning for the future. Any words of wisdom?

Everything around you changes . . . Like my dad told me when I was in school, that all the people that are popular one year, or mean to you at one point, everything changes. So always make moves just based on *love* . . . You can't be basing your friendships . . . and the way you treat people on any sort of social status. It's just gotta be like, I love everybody and I'm going to be the best guy that I can be to everybody . . .

Q. What advice do you have for kids who want to be professional musicians?

My advice is: do. Do the work . . . I think, in anything, if you're talking more than you're doing, you're in trouble . . . If you want to be a musician, take the simple steps. Really, really work on your music and then find a way to do it . . . Go play open mike. Or figure out a way to get all your friends together and play a lot.

Q. If you had one wish for *Brilliant Star* readers, what would it be?

My one wish would be that . . . you are a safe place for every friend . . . in your school. You're the safe person. And you really have to fight to be that person.



Left: "My message that I want to convey is one of truth. Being true to yourself," says Andy about his goals as a musician.

PHOTO BY TY WATKINS

Below: Andy plays at an open mike night at The New Spot in Encino, California.

PHOTO BY DAVID TUMAN



Q. How do you get ideas for songs? Do you start with the lyrics or the melody or the rhythm?

It's different all the time. Most of the time I start with the chords that I think are really cool, and then try to write a melody on top of those chords. And then finding what the colors of those chords make me think of and what emotions they bring out of me, and then try to fit words to the chords. I just started doing things where I'll write lyrics and then try to go backwards, and it was a completely different process for me. But I like both ways . . .

But everyone respects you and loves you for that. And it's the most fulfilling place to be. That would be my wish . . . you're the safe one with your friends.



MUSIC CAFÉ

"Music, sung or played, is spiritual food for soul and heart." —Bahá'í Writings

HEY GUYS, THE MUSIC CAFÉ IS *HUMMING*. ANDY GRAMMER,* A RISING STAR IN MUSIC, STOPPED BY TO SHARE THIS AWESOME TUNE.

ANDY IS BACK ON THE ROAD WITH HIS GUITAR, BUT WE'RE STILL SINGING ABOUT HOW...

THE WORLD IS YOURS

By Andy Grammer

Verse 1

1. This is the song that you throw on when life
 These are the words that make you feel that all

2. is feel - ing ra - ther long and you're long - ing for con - fi - dence to
 your dreams aren't dreams but real e - vents that sim - ply haven't ta - ken

4. 1. make it place yet 2. But if you stare high the sky will

Chorus

8. come right down and kiss you and if you keep your head towards the

12. stars they will as - sist you The world is yours

14. The world is yours

2. Well, this is the time of night when all
 The streetlights rub their waking eyes
 The day and night find compromise
 In dark blue

This is the magic in the air
 That whispers you are almost there
 The worries, cares and daydreams
 Will leave soon

Chorus
 1st verse again
 Chorus
 What are you waiting for? (2x)
 The world is yours (2x)

*CHECK OUT
 BRILLIANT STAR'S
 INTERVIEW WITH
 ANDY ON P. 18.



RILEY'S RAINFOREST

"Send down... from the clouds of Thy mercy the rains of Thy healing..." —Bahá'u'lláh

Take Control of Your Time

School, homework, music lessons, sports, faith activities, eating, sleeping, family, friends—you're living a busy life! How do you fit it all in?

Managing your time can feel like a daunting task, but it doesn't have to be. When you feel overwhelmed, it's time to **prioritize**—figure out what's most important and do those things first. Which deadlines are coming up next? Which tasks will help you reach your goals? Choose activities carefully, so you don't take on more than you can handle. Then you can have fun and focus on doing well with your priorities.

It's also a good idea to plan regular times for "must do" tasks, such as doing homework or practicing a musical instrument. For example, you might decide to do your homework every day at 4:30, then practice your instrument at 5:00. A daily routine helps you get the



necessary things done, and shows you when you have free time for friends or hobbies.

A calendar is essential for scheduling deadlines and events. Write in when things are due, and figure out how much time each activity will take. Break down large projects into smaller steps, and plan those into your schedule. If you're building a model, decide to do one section each day. That way you won't put it off until the last minute.

Finding time to do it all can be a stressful challenge. With time management tools, you can be relaxed and have fun no matter what's on your to-do list.

Explore and Soar Ready, Set . . . Relax

What do you do when you're feeling stressed or worried? Stress can give you headaches, stomachaches, tense muscles, and restless sleep. Try these tips to calm your body and mind:

- ☐ *Breathe deeply.* Close your eyes. Breathe slowly, in through your nose and out through your mouth.
- ☐ *Meditate.* Choose an inspiring word or phrase from a prayer or sacred writing, and repeat it to yourself until all negative thoughts leave your mind.
- ☐ *Use positive images.* Imagine a favorite place that's peaceful and serene.
- ☐ *Get the giggles.* Laughter relaxes your muscles and makes feel-good chemicals in your brain.



Fruit for Thought

"Happy the days that have been consecrated to the remembrance of God, and blessed the hours which have been spent in praise of Him Who is the All-Wise."

—Bahá'u'lláh



Curiosity Canopy

True or False? Kids in the U.S. spend an average of four hours a day in front of a TV or computer.

Answer: False. It's six hours! And that's not including schoolwork on the computer. TV and computers can be fun, but it's easy to overdo it. Shoot for less than two hours of screen time a day.

Mapping Your Future

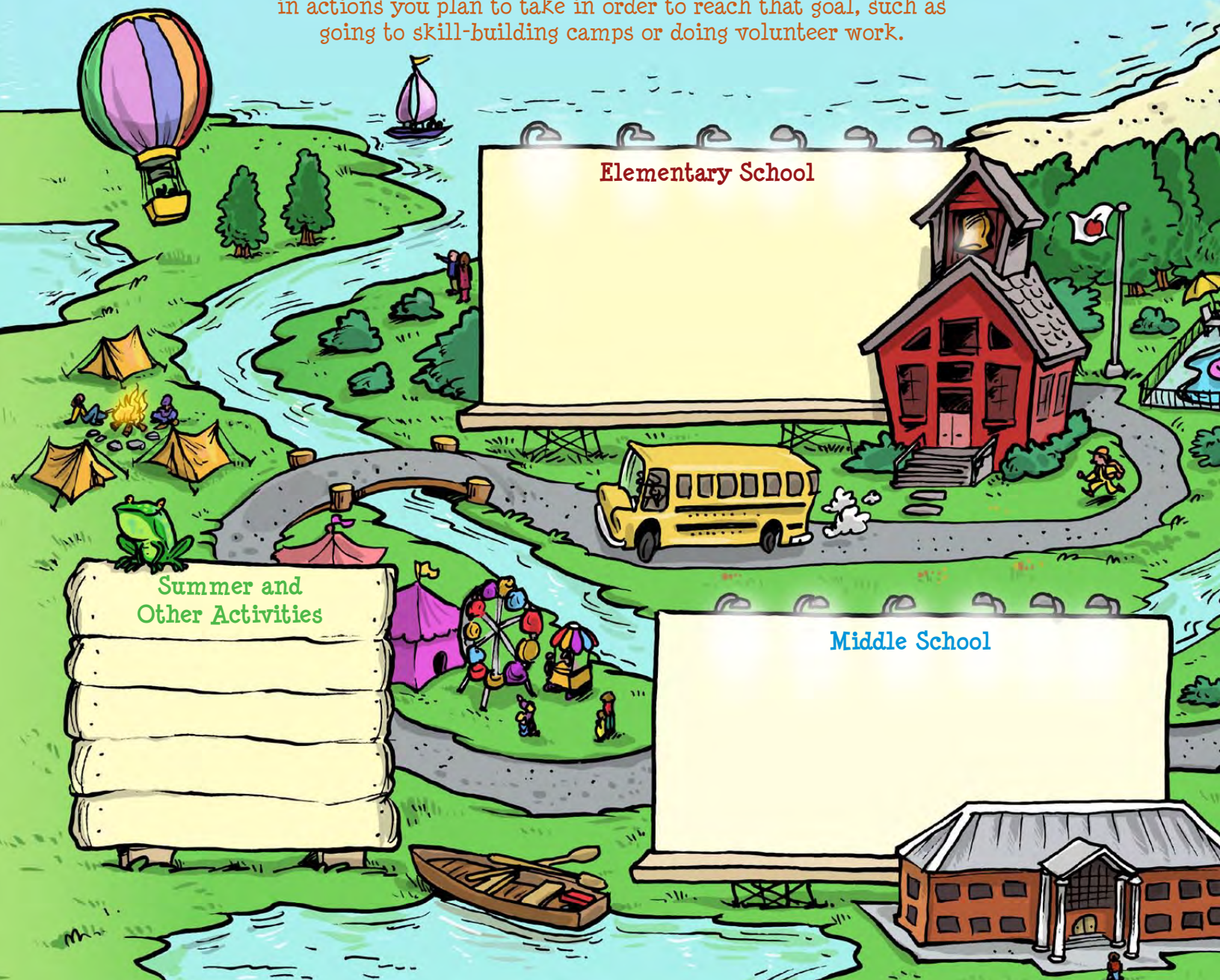
On the road of life, you have many choices to make. What kind of job will you have? How will you serve the world? Where will you live? You can't decide it all now, but you can map out the route to your goals.

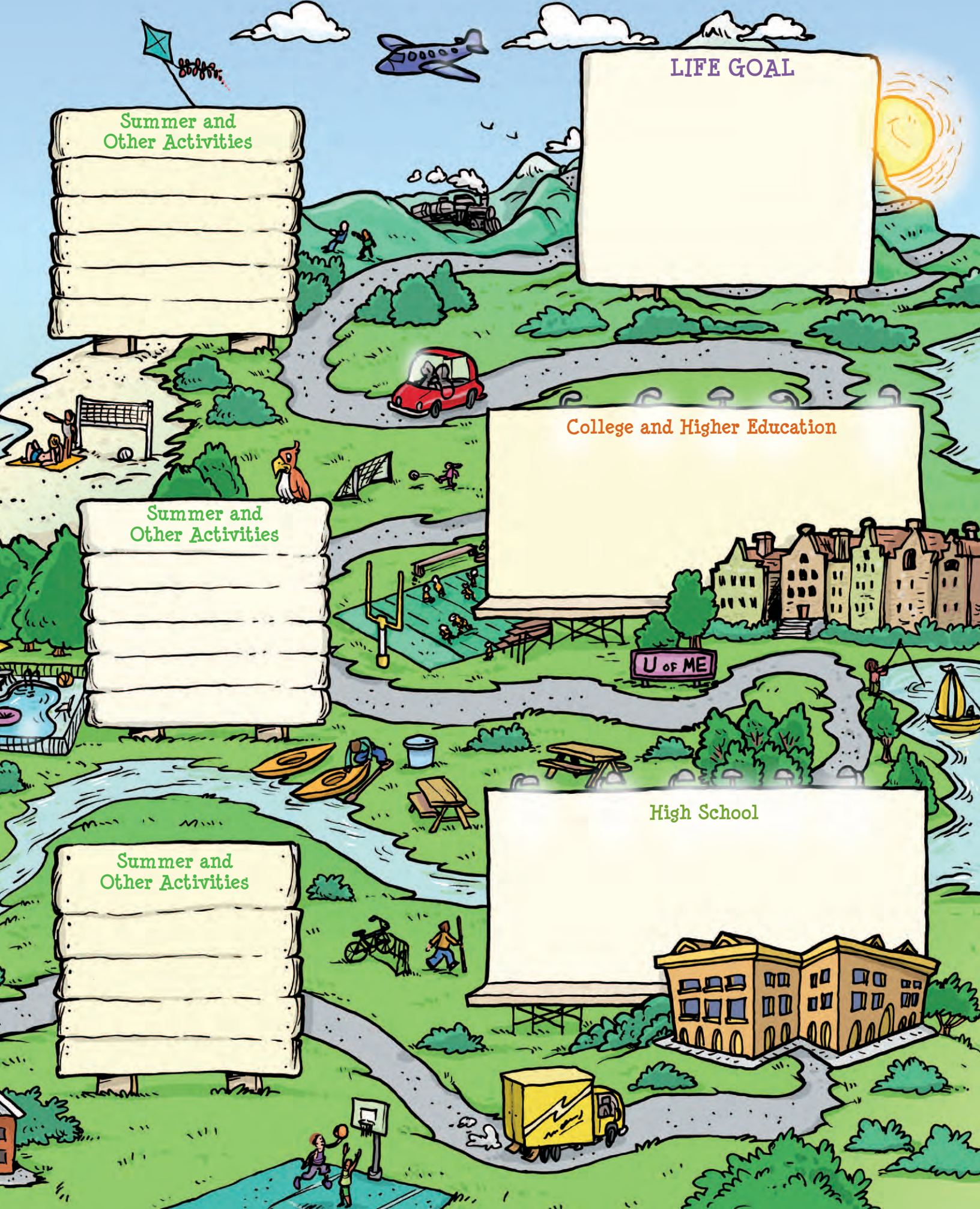
A life map is a visual guide to planning your education and activities. Courses in school, clubs, jobs, camps, and volunteer work can all help you reach your destination. You can also think about

skills you'll need, such as learning another language, solving conflicts, or being wise with money. As you make progress, you can refer to your map to make sure you're staying on track. You can also change your map as you gain experience and make decisions.

No matter where you are on the road of life, getting organized and planning ahead will speed you along the highway to your dream.

At the end of this road map, write in your "Life Goal," such as becoming a doctor or a teacher. Then start at the beginning and write in actions you plan to take in order to reach that goal, such as going to skill-building camps or doing volunteer work.





Summer and
Other Activities

LIFE GOAL

Summer and
Other Activities

College and Higher Education

Summer and
Other Activities

High School

If you have a dream, one of the most powerful things you can do to make it come true is also very simple: write it down. Studies show that people who set goals and write them down are more successful. Goals give you confidence and help you focus your energy. Once you've written your goal, take action—even with small steps. Do research on how to achieve your goal, and learn from others who have done it. Write a list of steps you need to take. Imagine yourself being successful. Talk to friends and family members who will help and encourage you. Don't give up until you've accomplished your dream!



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



New Year's Day
Ancient Greeks began using a baby to symbolize the new year around 600 BCE.



2010 is the International Year of Biodiversity.



My Goal for the Month:



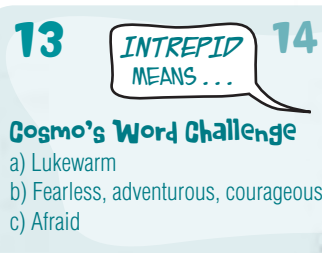
True or false?
67% of teens say caring about others is most important in a role model.



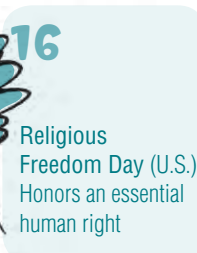
World Religion Day (Bahá'í)
Pray for those who are persecuted for their faith.



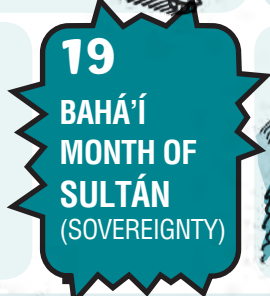
Seijin No Hi (Coming of Age Day, Japan)
Ceremonies honor 20-year-olds' entry into adulthood.



Gosmo's Word Challenge
a) Lukewarm
b) Fearless, adventurous, courageous
c) Afraid



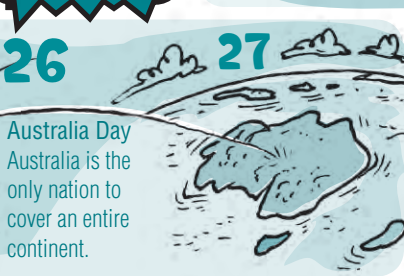
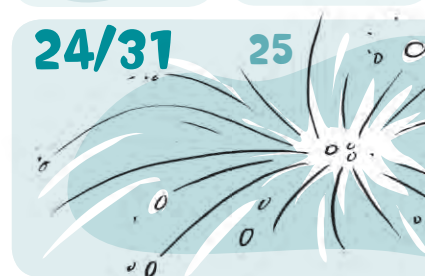
Religious Freedom Day (U.S.)
Honors an essential human right



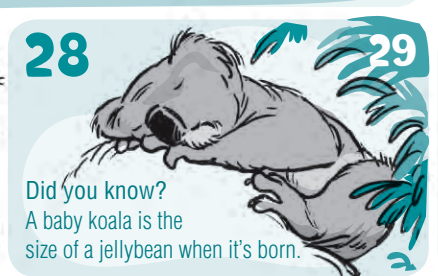
Name three places you'd like to visit in your lifetime.



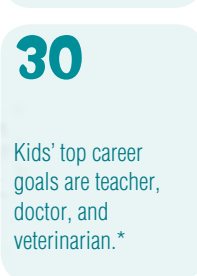
In 1849, Elizabeth Blackwell was the first woman to earn a medical degree.



Australia Day
Australia is the only nation to cover an entire continent.



Did you know?
A baby koala is the size of a jellybean when it's born.



Kids' top career goals are teacher, doctor, and veterinarian.*





During the Bahá'í festival of Ayyám-i-Há at the end of February, you might enjoy Persian food and try salsa dancing. You could play your guitar for others, exchange presents, or help out with a service project. This holiday, February 26–March 1, is a celebration of fellowship, hospitality, gift-giving, and charity. Since Bahá'ís live all over the world, many cultural traditions and foods can be part of the fun. This is also a time to prepare for the Nineteen-Day Fast, March 2–20, when Bahá'ís ages 15–70 don't eat or drink between sunrise and sunset.* What talents can you share at Ayyám-i-Há?

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Every 19 days, Bahá'í Feast is held on or near the first day of the Bahá'í month.

7
BAHÁ'Í MONTH OF MULK (DOMINION)

1

Black History Month (U.S., Canada)
Learn about Mae Jemison, the first African American woman in space.

2



Groundhog Day (U.S., Canada)

3

Setsubun (Japan)
People throw beans to chase away bad spirits.

4



5

My Goal for the Month:

6

8



American Heart Month (U.S.)
Your heart beats about 100,000 times each day.

9

10

List five of your favorite activities. Which could lead to a future career?

11



12



Winter Olympics (Vancouver, Feb. 12–28)

13

14

Valentine's Day
Chinese New Year (Year of the Tiger)

15

Presidents' Day (U.S.)
President Barack Obama won the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize.

16



17

Ash Wednesday (Christianity)
Lent begins, a time of prayer and preparing for Easter.

18



19

20

World Day of Social Justice (UN)
About 1.4 billion people live on less than \$1.25 per day.

21

International Mother Language Day (UN)
Builds understanding of languages and cultures

22

AUDACIOUS MEANS...

Gosmo's Word Challenge

- a) Able to be heard over a long distance
- b) Very pleasant to the taste
- c) Willing to take bold risks, daring

23

24



25



26

Ayyám-i-Há (Bahá'í)

27

Ayyám-i-Há

28

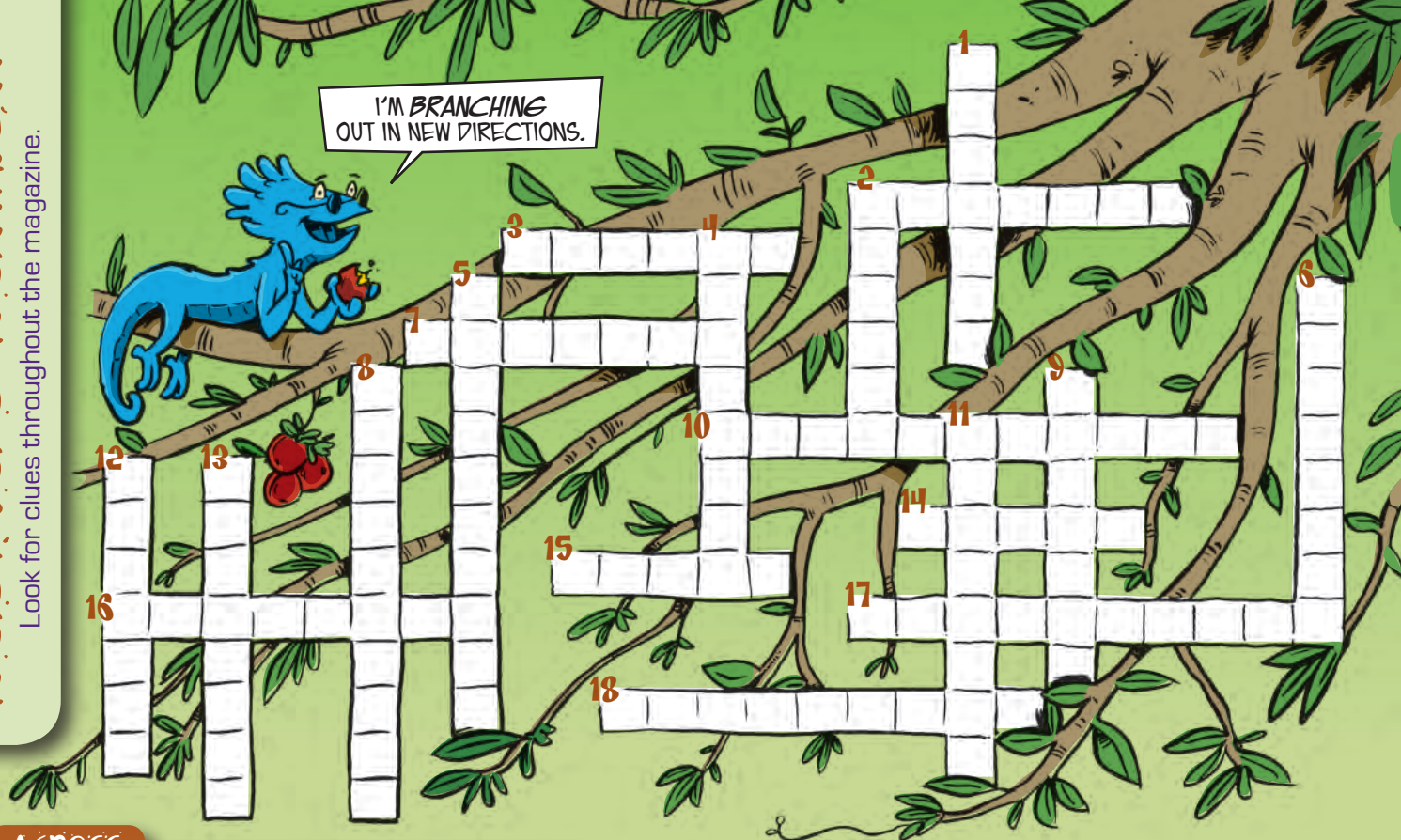
Ayyám-i-Há



WHAT IS AN ARTIST'S FAVORITE DRINK?



CREATIVI-TEA!



ACROSS

2. The sciences and arts are like _____ that can help you connect to people. (p. 29)
3. On a coat of arms, this means that you're a protector. (p. 28)
7. Ayyám-i-Há is a holiday of fellowship, hospitality, gift-giving, and _____. (p. 25)
10. A hobby Shoghi Effendi loved (p. 6)
14. Some _____ can jump more than 50 times the length of their body. (p. 9)
15. Jose likes to help people by being a good listener and someone people can _____. (p. 13)
16. It may be years before you begin your career, but you can start _____ for it now. (p. 16)
17. Caiden says if he could see himself in the future, he would want to see that he made a _____. (p. 12)
18. The choices you make every day are a big part of your _____. (p. 5)

DOWN

1. On the road of life, you have many _____ to make. (p. 22)
2. A _____ is a map that helps you plan the use of your money. (p. 8)
4. The most diverse sporting event in the world (p. 10)
5. Lightning and Luna find new superpowers as they develop strengths and overcome _____. (p. 14)
6. Shoghi Effendi saw the _____ in every hardship. (p. 7)
8. When you feel overwhelmed, it's time to _____. (p. 21)
9. Earth's ancient supercontinent (p. 11)
11. The tallest land animals (p. 2)
12. Gabrielle would love to visit all the places where there are Bahá'í _____. (p. 13)
13. Andy Grammer always knew he wanted to do something _____. (p. 18)

FROM OUR MAILBOX



I like learning about other Bahá'ís like me, and great Bahá'ís that have done great things, and it is fun to see some of the [people] I even know in the magazine. It's a fun and interesting magazine that young Bahá'ís like us enjoy and can easily relate to in the many stories.
—*Jasmine R., age 14*
Virginia, U.S.

ANSWERS

PAGE 2: A on giraffe at top left, B in leaves at top center, H in branches at top center, V in grass at center right, O on giraffe at center right, D in water at center, G on tree trunk at bottom left, P in grass at bottom left. "With clear vision we are enabled to struggle onward and upward, ever progressing in the paths of virtue . . . and becoming the means of light to the world." —'Abdu'l-Bahá

PAGE 7: Left to right, from top: creativity, flexibility, organization, foresight, initiative, hope, conviction, determination, persistence, focus, enthusiasm, positivity

PAGE 10: A) 4, B) 1, C) 5, D) 7, E) 2, F) 6, G) 3

PAGE 11: Easter Island, emperor penguins

PAGE 27: Amulet on armor at center, bracelet on cord at center left, coin in carving at center right, jewel on table at bottom left, key on side of bookshelf, locket on shelf at top center, necklace near curtain at far top right, ring on kid's hand at bottom right, stone on table at bottom center

“Man is the supreme Talisman . . . Regard man as a mine rich in gems of inestimable value. Education can, alone, cause it to reveal its treasures, and enable mankind to benefit therefrom.” —Bahá'u'lláh

Have you ever imagined owning a magical charm that could give you wonderful powers? In stories, characters make adventurous quests to find such magical objects, often facing danger and difficulty.

But in real life, you don't have to go on a challenging journey to find a magical token. Remarkable powers are right inside of you. Everyone has special talents and skills waiting to be released. With education and practice, you can polish these

gems and use them to help the world.

What excites you and makes you want to learn more? What do you dream of being really good at? Pay attention to the things you enjoy most. You may discover a satisfying career or service that will bring joy to you and others.

No one else has your imagination and ideas. You have abilities that only *you* can use to create a better world. How will you discover your magic and put it in motion?

Search the library for nine magical talismans named for virtues that help us learn and express our talents.



Adventurous Amulet



Brave Bracelet



Coin of Curiosity



Jewel of Justice



Key of Creativity



Loyal Locket



Noble Necklace



Responsible Ring



Studious
Stone



's Coat of Arms

Your Name _____

"Make ye a mighty effort, and choose for yourselves a noble goal." —'Abdu'l-Bahá

Imagine you're a medieval knight, galloping across the European countryside to get to a neighboring kingdom. Will they welcome you or feel threatened? You're recognized by your coat of arms, the distinctive emblem on your cloak and shield. It lets others know you've come in peace.

Since the Middle Ages, it's been traditional for noblemen to display coats of arms on flags, shields, tapestries, and other belongings. The animals,

patterns, symbols, or colors have meanings. For example, gentle animals could represent people with scholarly or peaceful pursuits. A person's values, accomplishments, or family ties can be "read" from a coat of arms.

What would your coat of arms look like? It might include your life dreams or skills and interests. When you hone your strengths, you can face any challenge like a noble knight.

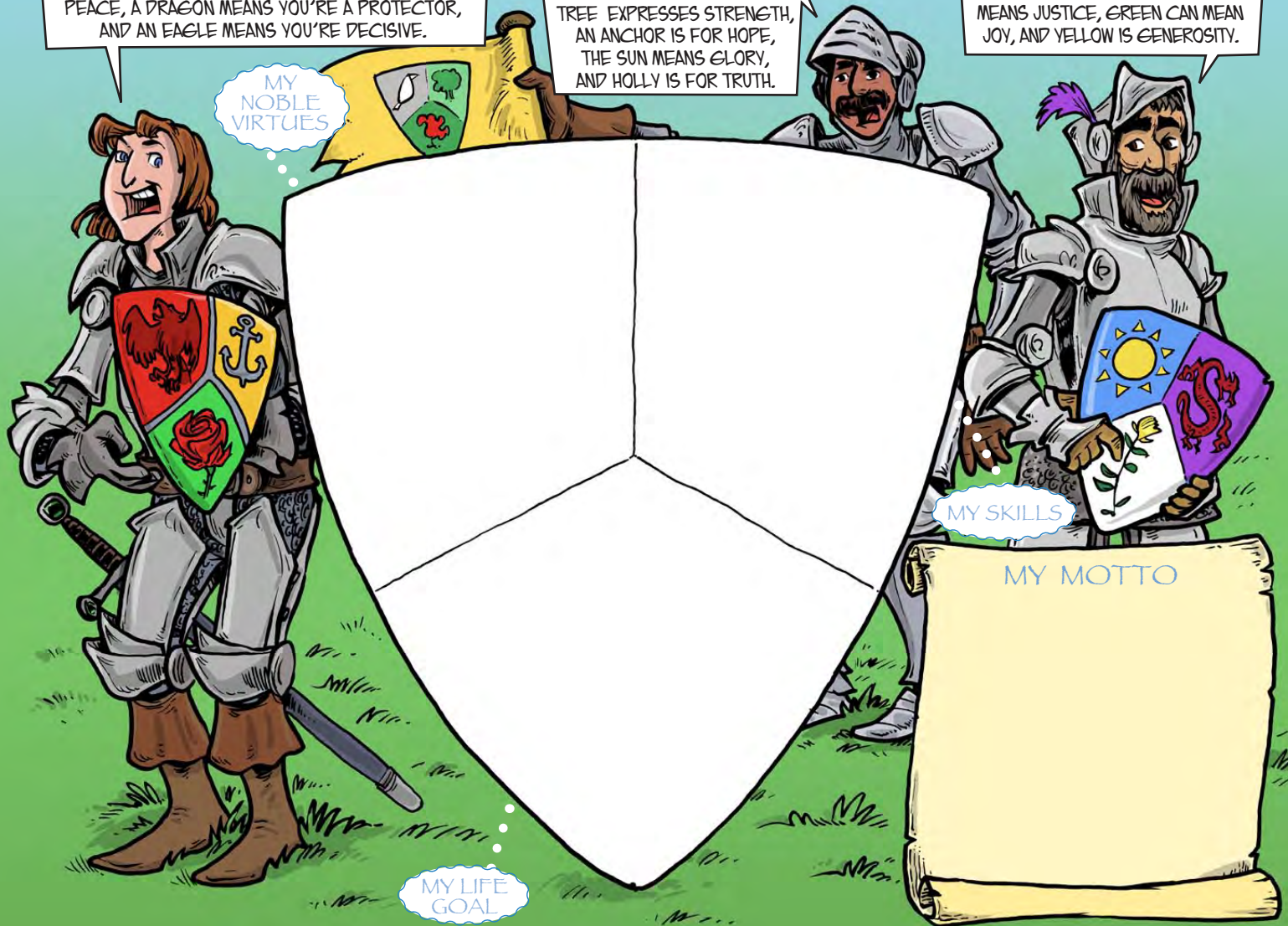
Create your own coat of arms. Draw creatures and symbols in each labeled section of the shield. Then write a personal motto or quote that best expresses you.

CREATURES ON A COAT OF ARMS CAN CONVEY YOUR **QUALITIES**. A LION SHOWS COURAGE, A DOVE IS FOR PEACE, A DRAGON MEANS YOU'RE A PROTECTOR, AND AN EAGLE MEANS YOU'RE DECISIVE.

MY NOBLE VIRTUES

MANY SYMBOLS AND SHAPES CAN REPRESENT YOU. AN OAK TREE EXPRESSES STRENGTH, AN ANCHOR IS FOR HOPE, THE SUN MEANS GLORY, AND HOLLY IS FOR TRUTH.

COLORS HAVE MEANING, TOO. BLUE CAN REPRESENT LOYALTY, PURPLE MEANS JUSTICE, GREEN CAN MEAN JOY, AND YELLOW IS GENEROSITY.



Journey of Discovery

"Although to acquire the sciences and arts is the greatest glory of mankind, this is so only on condition that man's river flow into the mighty sea, and draw from God's ancient source His inspiration . . ." — 'Abdu'l-Bahá

You may not think of it when you're studying for a big test or struggling with homework, but knowledge is one of the greatest gifts from God. You have the ability to learn and investigate anything that sparks your curiosity. The sciences and arts are like bridges that can help you connect to people, solve problems, and build a better world.

You may delve into science and decide to become

a marine biologist or an astronaut. You might use your creativity to become a painter or a poet. Maybe you'll start your own company or save lives in an emergency room. As you explore your interests and build your skills, let your spirit grow, too. Balancing knowledge and faith, you can expand your wonder and appreciation for God's creation. Where will your discoveries lead you?

These kids are ready for the adventure of their lives. Help them find their way over and under bridges, avoid danger, and reach the Sea of Serenity.

PEAK OF PRIDE

SEA OF SERENITY

BLUNDER BLUFFS

CONCEIT CAVERN

START



**"Today's youth must move towards the front ranks
of the professions, trades, arts and crafts which are
necessary to the further progress of humankind . . ."**

—Bahá'í Writings

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