

Light of Truth: Make a Lighthouse

“The light of truth kindled in your hearts will shine out to the distant horizon!” –‘Abdu’l-Bahá

My family and I love to soar over and hang out at the beach! It’s fun to watch the lighthouse shine in the night sky. Its lantern flashes on and off in a pattern that tells sailors where they are. Even when sailors navigate using satellite signals, lighthouses still help them find their way and steer clear of dangers like rocks.

The lighthouse reminds me that truth is like a powerful light, too. Especially when I talk honestly about tough

things like prejudice and racism. Sometimes our neighbors come over for “Unity Talks & Treats” night. It isn’t easy to listen to people’s struggles with racism, but it’s a great way to learn. It helps us see how we can navigate challenges and sail toward justice.

Make your own mini lighthouse with me. Use it in your prayer gatherings or to light up your conversations about reaching race unity.



You'll Need

- two 16 oz. (473 mL) paper drink cups with one lid
- black, white, and colorful paper
- scissors
- pencil
- tacky glue
- ruler
- plastic 20 oz. (591 mL) water bottle without label
- small paper plate
- nature items (e.g., small rocks, pebbles, sand, seashells, decorative moss)
- battery-operated candle

- 1 Cut side and base seams of one cup, removing cup’s bottom. Trim to smooth edges.



- 2 Press cup flat on white paper. Trace with pencil and cut out. Repeat with colorful paper.



- 3 On colorful paper, draw evenly spaced lines about 1" (2.5 cm) apart that follow curves at top and bottom of shape. Cut along lines to make stripes.





- 4 (a) Glue a few stripes to white paper so they're centered and evenly spaced.
 (b) Glue striped paper to second (uncut) cup.



- 5 With adult help, carefully cut off top of bottle, just above widest portion. Cut off bottom of bottle to make lantern section 3 1/2" (8.9 cm) tall.



- 6 On colorful paper, trace bottom of cup's lid. Cut circle out, and cut a slit to circle's center.



- 7 (a) Wrap cut ends of circle around each other to form cone-shaped roof. Secure with glue. It should be large enough to cover top (smaller end) of lantern. (b) Tightly roll a stamp-sized paper and secure end with glue for lightning rod. Glue rod to tip of roof. Glue roof to lantern's top.



- 8 Cut out black or colorful paper shapes for windows, doors, and guardrails. Glue to tower and lantern.



- 9 Glue bottom of tower to top of cup's lid. Glue bottom of lid to bottom of plate and let dry. Glue nature items around plate.



- 10 Place battery-powered candle on top of tower. Fit lantern on tower's top and watch your lighthouse shine!

