

JOYFUL SPRING

“The spiritual springtime has come. Infinite bounties and graces have appeared.” —‘Abdu’l-Bahá

As plants and flowers begin to sprout, it’s a wonderful time to celebrate the physical *and* spiritual renewal of spring. This year, we commemorate Naw-Rúz, the Bahá’í New Year, on March 20. The Ridván Festival, honoring Bahá’u’lláh’s announcement of His mission as a Messenger of God, is April 20 – May 1.

Share the joy of spring in your community. Even if you don’t meet in person, you can find creative ways to spread the spirit of hope and renewal. It’s important to maintain unity and connection while also staying safe and healthy. Here are some ideas for fun activities you can enjoy in person or online.

SERVICE SURPRISES

Consult with your family about small acts of kindness, such as “Write a sweet note to Grandma” or “Bake cookies for the neighbors.”

Write each idea on a slip of paper. Decorate an empty jar for the slips. Every day of the 12-day Ridván Festival, ask each family member to draw one surprise to carry out.

SPRING SCENE



Start with a clean, empty glass jar and lid. Fill lid with green modeling clay, and shape it to form grass. Make balls from colorful tissue paper and glue them to a twig that fits inside the jar.

Press twig into clay. Add pebbles if desired. Place the jar over the tiny tree and screw it in place.

PERSONAL POETRY

Players write their name vertically down the left side of the paper, and next to each letter, they write a word that starts with that letter and describes them. It can be a virtue, interest, or quality.

Take turns reading the poems aloud. The person reading explains why they chose those words. Family and friends share feedback about how they see those virtues or qualities in the person.



BUTTERFLY TREATS



Decorate a wooden clothespin with paint or permanent markers. Glue on two small googly eyes. Let glue dry.

Put snack pieces (like crackers, pretzels, or grapes) on each side of a snack-sized plastic bag and seal it. Gather the middle together and clip it with the clothespin. For antennae, bend a 6" length of pipe cleaner in half, then curl the ends. Clip the pipe cleaner in the clothespin. Deliver the treats to your friends and neighbors.



Writing by the **Brilliant Star** Team
Art by C. Aaron Kreader