Brilliant Star

LET YOUR SPIRIT SHINE BRILLIANTSTARMAGAZINE.ORG VOL. 54 NO. 4



Are You a World Citizen?

Plant Seeds of Friendship

ALL FOR ONENESS

Brilliant Star

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Subscriptions: 1.800.999.9019
brilliantstarmagazine.org

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National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States

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Historical photos courtesy National Bahá'í Archives, unless noted

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES AND RENEWALS
To subscribe, visit brilliantstarmagazine.org or contact Bahá'í Subscriber Service:
Toll-free: 1.800.999.9019 / Email: subscription@usbnc.org
Standard U.S. rates: $18 (6 issues); $32 (12 issues)
International airmail: $38 (6 issues); $68 (12 issues)
Canada and Mexico: $28 (6 issues); $48 (12 issues)

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Brilliant Star empowers kids to explore their roles as world citizens. Inspired by the principles of peace and unity in the Bahá'í Faith, we encourage readers to use their virtues to make the world a better place.

The Bahá'í Faith is the second most widespread religion in the world with over five million Bahá'ís. It 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 all religions come from one God. Bahá'u'lláh's eldest son, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, interpreted His teachings and led the Bahá'í community after Bahá'u'lláh's passing.

Today, Bahá'ís work to bring love and justice to the world, and end prejudice and discrimination of all kinds.

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*Learn more about STEAMS

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printreleaf

PRINTED WITH SOY INK

DEAR FRIENDS,

Imagine you're on a superb soccer team. Some players are amazing defenders, and you're great at scoring goals. When you combine your strengths, your team is unstoppable!

Working together is what makes true champions. It's not always easy, though. Sometimes people unfairly judge others because they have a different skin color, language, or religion. But diversity makes our world beautiful. If we were all the same, we'd lose a lot of joy in life!



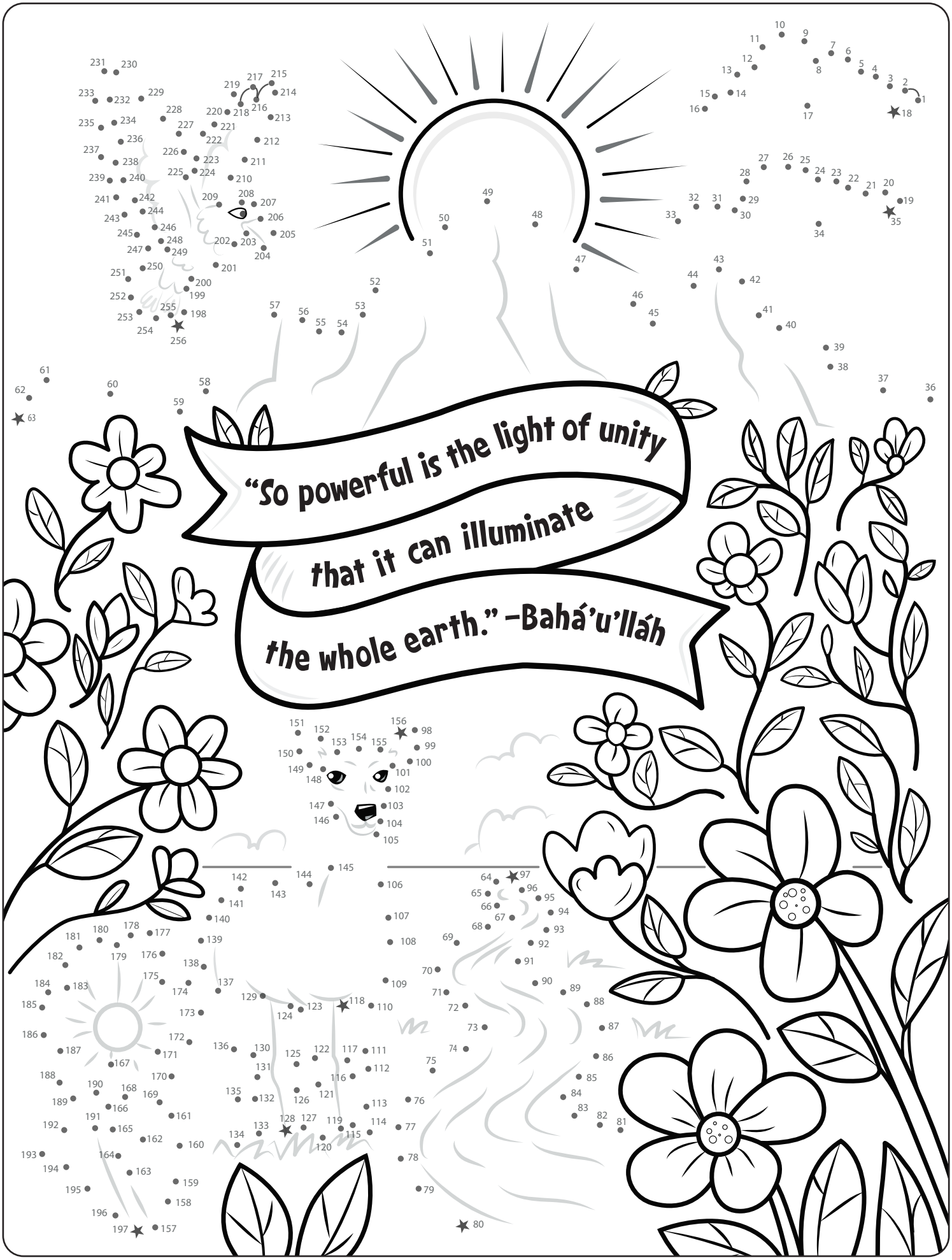
In this issue, practice being a team player for unity. Take a quiz on exploring new things with zest. Make a drum with Nur to create harmony. Discover tips for connecting with your neighbors. And meet Carol Mansour, a former journalist who builds love among people of all backgrounds.

How can *you* embrace diversity? Maybe you can sit with a new kid at lunch, ask a friend to teach you a new sport, or visit a different faith's place of worship. With curiosity and respect, we all win victories for oneness!

LOVE, BRILLIANT STAR



Images: Stars by Markovka/Shutterstock, skyline by Spectrum Studio/Shutterstock, soccer players by andresr/Getty, ball by appleuzr/Getty



★ STARS: Pick up your pencil at each star, then go to the next number and start your line again.

Share Your Stories

"Peace must first be established among individuals, until it leadeth in the end to peace among nations." —'Abdu'l-Bahá

Are you friends with your neighbors? It can be hard to find time to connect when you're juggling school, sports, and other activities. But those friendships can turn your neighborhood into a real community.

Sharing is a great way to start. Some families have a small "library" in their yard to swap books with others. You can explore your interests by picking up a book about sharks, space, or skateboarding. In a similar way, you and your family can get to know your neighbors by reaching out with curiosity and kindness. Ask about their favorite foods or places to explore in your area.

As neighbors get on the same page and become friends, bonds of unity are created. In time, those connections can encircle the globe and write the story of a truly peaceful world!

Fill in the blanks to find tips for connecting with neighbors and building community.



Answers on page 28

Bahá'u'lláh's Life: Mission of Peace
Courageous Journeys

A Brief Timeline
The Life of Bahá'u'lláh

The highlighted area marks the time in which this story takes place.

1817 November 12
Birth of Bahá'u'lláh in Tihrán, Iran

1844
Recognizes the Báb as a new Messenger of God

1852
Imprisonment in the "Black Pit" of Tihrán

1853 – 1863
Exile in Baghdád, Iraq. From 1854–1856, He goes into the mountains to pray in solitude.

1863 April
Declares Divine Mission as Prophet-Founder of the Bahá'í Faith

1863 – 1868
Exile in Constantinople (Istanbul), then Adrianople (Edirne), Türkiye. 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 teachings about the oneness of humanity were groundbreaking for His time. Women, the poor, diverse ethnic groups, and people of non-Muslim religions were severely oppressed in Persia (now Iran). Yet Bahá'u'lláh encouraged true friendship with people of all backgrounds and religions.

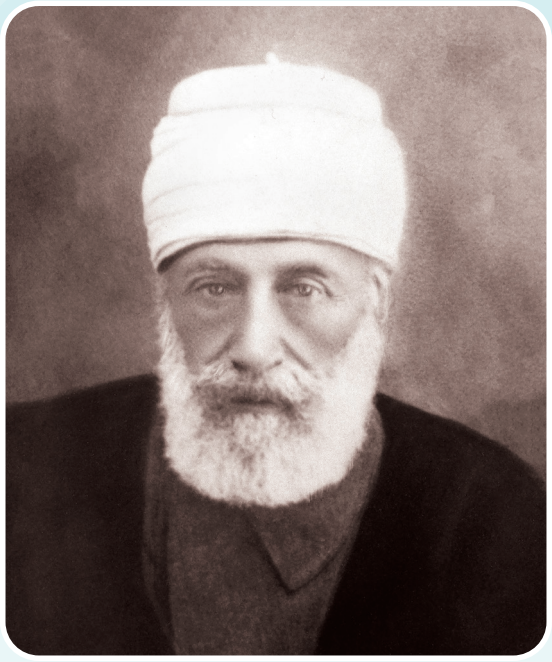
Though travel was difficult and dangerous, His followers journeyed around the Middle East and as far as India and China to share the new faith. One courageous traveler was known as Ibn-i-Asdaq.

When he was a child, Ibn-i-Asdaq and his father spent 14 months with Bahá'u'lláh in Baghdád (now in Iraq). It was life-changing for Ibn-i-Asdaq. Bahá'u'lláh revealed a prayer for him, asking God to help him be of service.

After returning to Persia, Ibn-i-Asdaq and his father were imprisoned because of their faith. They spent over two years in the terrible Síyáh-Chál, or "Black Pit" of Tihrán. Due to the filthy conditions and poor food, Ibn-i-Asdaq grew seriously ill. The guard sent for a doctor, but no one was willing to treat a Bahá'í. The guard called on Hakím Masíh, who was Jewish, and he immediately went to the prison.

As Hakím Masíh treated Ibn-i-Asdaq over the next two months, the boy's father shared the Bahá'í teachings. Even after Ibn-i-Asdaq recovered, the doctor was so eager to learn that he often returned to the prison. He soon became the first Bahá'í from the Jewish community.

After their release, Ibn-i-Asdaq and his father traveled around Persia teaching the Faith. Later, Bahá'u'lláh encouraged Ibn-i-Asdaq in this service, writing, "The movement itself from place to place, when undertaken for the sake of God, hath always exerted, and can now exert, its influence in the world."



Ibn-i-Asdaq, pictured above, offered extensive service to the Faith. After Bahá'u'lláh's passing, he helped Bahá'ís understand the role of 'Abdu'l-Bahá as the leader of the Bahá'í community.

When he grew up, Ibn-i-Asdaq married 'Udhra Khánum, a well-educated woman with royal heritage. Because of his wife's social position, Ibn-i-Asdaq was able to share the Faith with officials who could help the persecuted Bahá'ís. Over time, Ibn-i-Asdaq journeyed to India, Burma (now Myanmar), and Russian Turkestan (now Turkmenistan and other countries).

He also helped organize the first classes about the Faith for women, at a time when most women were not allowed to get an education.

Photos © Bahá'í International Community

"Consort with the people in a spirit of amity and concord, and be unto them a loyal counselor and a loving companion." —Bahá'u'lláh

In 1887, Ibn-i-Asdaq received a tablet from Bahá'u'lláh that named him the first Hand of the Cause of God—part of a group of devoted Bahá'ís who taught and protected the Faith.

Thanks to heroic souls like Ibn-i-Asdaq, the Bahá'í Faith had reached 15 countries by 1892, when Bahá'u'lláh ascended to the next world. Today, it is found in virtually every country on Earth, helping humanity to become a global family. In the words of Bahá'u'lláh's son, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, "It is now easy to travel to any land . . . Hence the unity of all mankind can in this day be achieved."



Every five years, delegates from more than 170 countries meet in Israel to elect the Universal House of Justice, the global governing body of the Bahá'í Faith.

Use the key to decode a quote that Bahá'u'lláh sent to Ibn-i-Asdaq.

"_ le_ _ed i_ the _ _ot, and the hou_e, and the _la_e,

and the _it_, and the hea_t, and the _ountain, and the

_e_u_e, and the _a_e, and the _alle_, and the land,

and the _ea, and the i_land, and the _eadow whe_e _ention

of _od hath _een _ade, and Hi_ _ _ai_e _lo_i_ied."



Answer on page 28

Do You Add Spice to Your Slice?

You might love pizza, but if you eat the same kind all the time, it can get boring! Why not experiment with new flavors? Instead of tomato sauce, try barbecue or ranch. Add veggies, like banana peppers or spinach. You may create a new favorite!

Ideas work the same way. If you always do the same things, they can start to feel dull. Exploring new ideas and experiences keeps your mind active. Wander around the library and see what grabs you. Ask friends or family to visit a park or museum. Try cooking a new recipe with them.

Your brain is wired to seek out new experiences. Curious people are happier and have more empathy for others. When you hear an opinion you don't agree with, stop and listen. Like new toppings can make pizza more exciting, fresh ideas can brighten your world. When we explore life with wonder, it's a delicious feast!

Do you explore new ideas and experiences?
Circle your answers and add up your score!

Try this quiz online! Scan the code to go to ***Brilliant Star***'s website.

1. I'm curious about a wide range of foods, topics, people, and cultures.
   Often = **3** • Sometimes = **2** • Rarely = **1**

2. I consider other people's feelings and tastes.
   Often = **3** • Sometimes = **2** • Rarely = **1**

3. In a discussion, I try to stay humble and learn from it.
   Often = **3** • Sometimes = **2** • Rarely = **1**

4. When I'm interested in learning something new, I explore it in lots of ways.
   Often = **3** • Sometimes = **2** • Rarely = **1**

5. When someone has an opinion, I listen to what they have to say.
   Often = **3** • Sometimes = **2** • Rarely = **1**

6. I watch for prejudices in my thoughts and stay open to new perspectives.
   Often = **3** • Sometimes = **2** • Rarely = **1**

7. I ask questions if I don't understand someone's point of view.
   Often = **3** • Sometimes = **2** • Rarely = **1**



8. I keep in mind that life is an exciting menu, and there are always new things I can try.
   Often = **3** • Sometimes = **2** • Rarely = **1**

9. When someone disagrees with me, I try to learn more about their ideas.
   Often = **3** • Sometimes = **2** • Rarely = **1**

10. If I lose my patience or temper, I calm down and then apologize sincerely.
    Often = **3** • Sometimes = **2** • Rarely = **1**

11. If a disagreement with a friend continues after we discuss it, we're able to stay friends and move on.
    Often = **3** • Sometimes = **2** • Rarely = **1**

12. I enjoy talking with people who inspire me to think in different ways.
    Often = **3** • Sometimes = **2** • Rarely = **1**



My Score

36–28 POINTS You're exploring life with an open mind and seeking out new ideas. Keep dishing up curiosity!

27–20 POINTS You're experimenting with new flavors. Try a tip from the quiz to keep your brain happy.

19–12 POINTS You can try tasting more fresh ideas. Use tips from the quiz to add some excitement to your plate.

PANCAKE PARTY!

Did you know pancakes are one of the world's most ancient foods? These tasty treats have simple ingredients and are easy to make. Over the centuries, people around the globe have whipped up their own recipes. Pancakes can be sweet or savory, topped with fruit, stuffed with veggies, or sprinkled with soy sauce.

Just like pancakes, people come in diverse colors, shapes, and sizes. Each person has unique tastes and ideas to share. What if we only had one type of pancake, or if all people were exactly the same? Life would be so *dull!*

On the flip side, imagine a world where everyone explores diverse cultures and listens to new points of view. Keeping an open mind makes life rich and flavorful—and stuffed with joy, too!

Read fun facts to help match each pancake to its country!

1 MY COUNTRY IS HOME TO ALMOST 600 INDIGENOUS NATIONS. I GET MY COLOR FROM SPECIAL CORNMEAL.

Blue Corn Pancakes

2 I'M FILLED WITH BERRIES, EGGS, OR SPINACH. MY LAND HAS GREAT ART AND A FAMOUS *TOWER*.

Crepes

3 I'M MADE WITH VEGGIES LIKE ZUCCHINI AND ONIONS. MY COUNTRY IS KNOWN FOR K-POP MUSIC!

Yachaejeon

4 I'M FRIED AND STUFFED WITH CHEESE OR NUTS. MY COUNTRY IS KNOWN FOR ITS ANCIENT PYRAMIDS.

Qatayef

5 I'M MADE FROM RICE AND LENTILS AND OFTEN STUFFED WITH POTATOES. MY COUNTRY IS HOME TO THE BAHÁ'Í LOTUS TEMPLE.

Dosa

6 I'M FRIED IN OLIVE OIL AND OFTEN SERVED WITH HONEY. THE *OLYMPICS* STARTED IN MY LAND.

Tiganites

7 I'M MADE WITH COCONUT MILK, AND MY COLOR COMES FROM PANDAN LEAVES. MY COUNTRY HAS KOMODO DRAGONS!

WHERE'S MY *BUTTER* HALF?

Serabi

8 I'M FLUFFY AND OFTEN STUFFED WITH APPLES. MY COUNTRY IS WHERE LEGO BRICKS WERE INVENTED!

Aebleskiver

BERRY GOOD!

9 I HAVE A CRISPY, CHEWY TEXTURE THAT COMES FROM STARCH. MY COUNTRY IS HOME TO THE *AMAZON RAINFOREST*.

Tapioca Pancakes

Brazil | Denmark | Egypt | France | Greece | India | Indonesia | South Korea | United States

Answers on page 28

SHINING LAMP

A Bahá'í who served humanity with radiance

Glenford E. Mitchell (1935–2026)

By Nasim Mansuri



When Glenford Mitchell was a kid, he memorized poems from *World Order* magazine to recite at Bahá'í gatherings. He never imagined that one day he'd be in charge of that Bahá'í publication *or* serve on the global governing body of the Bahá'í Faith!

Born in Jamaica in 1935, Glenford was the eldest of 10 children. His uncle, William Mitchell, was the first Jamaican man to embrace the Faith. He taught the first Bahá'í children's class in the country and took Glenford on trips to share the Faith's peaceful teachings with others.

Glenford left Jamaica when he was 21 to study in North Carolina, U.S. At a bus station there, he saw that Black and White people couldn't buy tickets from the same counter. The harsh reality of segregation and racism suddenly became clear. He found comfort in a letter that Shoghi Effendi, the Guardian of the Faith, had written to American Bahá'ís about eliminating prejudice.* Glenford said, "In reading that letter . . . I was able to sort out my own way of reacting to what I was looking at."

He soon began to write and give talks about racial unity, justice, and the oneness of humanity.

Powers of Insight

Glenford earned a bachelor's degree in business from Shaw University and later received a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University in New York City. He worked in publishing and taught English and Journalism at Howard University in Washington, D.C., while serving his Bahá'í community.

In 1967, Glenford became the director of youth activities at the Bahá'í National Center in Illinois. His knowledge, love, and humor made him an inspiring speaker at youth conferences around the country.

Soon, Glenford was elected to the National Spiritual Assembly, the council that leads the Bahá'ís of the U.S. At age 33, he was its youngest member and the first Black man to be its secretary. He also became the managing editor of *World Order* magazine and helped produce Bahá'í films.

Illustrious Life of Service

Through the years, Glenford gave talks to all kinds of audiences, from Bahá'í youth to government leaders. In 1971, he even joined the unique "Floating Institute"—a Caribbean cruise dedicated to intensive study and fellowship.

When the persecution of Bahá'ís intensified in Iran, Glenford raised awareness about the crisis. In 1982, he testified before members of the U.S. Congress about the injustice.

Later that year, he was elected to the Universal House of Justice, the international governing body of the Bahá'í Faith. He moved to Haifa, Israel, with his wife, Bahia, and their daughter, Tarissa. He served on the Universal House of Justice for 26 years.

When Glenford passed away at age 90 on February 7, 2026, in Georgia, U.S., the Universal House of Justice praised his "penetrating powers of insight and uncommon good sense . . ."

Wherever he traveled, Glenford encouraged Bahá'ís to share Bahá'u'lláh's vision for humanity with courage. He said, "We don't need to worry. We have all of the forces on earth and in heaven working for us. So let's get going."

*Learn more: brilliantstarmagazine.org/uploads/play/AdJ.pdf

PLANTING HOPE

When the United States was founded 250 years ago, leaders planted seeds for a society based on equality and justice. Generations have nurtured this hopeful garden. We've had progress as well as problems. Just as gardeners uproot weeds, we must stop prejudice, racism, and other injustices.

We all have a role in growing a garden of unity. We can make friends with people of all faiths, celebrate all cultures, build friendly neighborhoods, and pray for a better future. What will *you* do to help peace take root?



Answers on page 28

Equality in Numberville

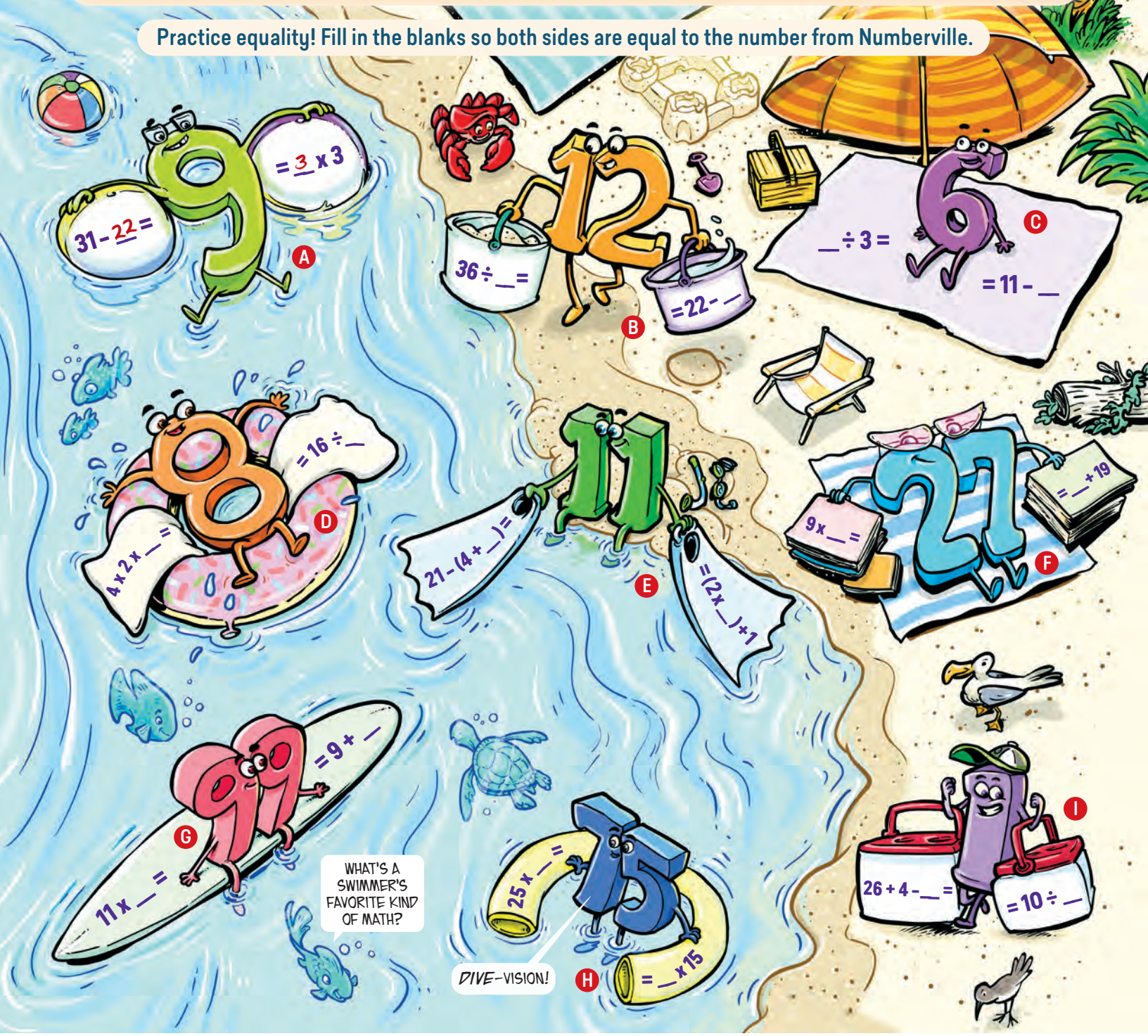
In the human world, people come in wonderfully diverse colors, sizes, and personalities. But no matter how different we are, everyone should have equality and be treated fairly. For example, girls and boys should get equal chances to play sports, be in a band, or explore science.

Here in Numberville, equality works differently. The number 16 isn't better than 12, but each number has a different value. If we want equality, we work together. 12 teams up with their friend 4, and together, 12 + 4 = 16.

Among humans, lots of people struggle for equal rights. Some are treated unfairly due to their skin color, ethnic background, religion, gender, physical ability, or another trait. That doesn't add up!

Try doing the math. When you focus on working together with love and respect, you can count on each other to solve almost any problem!

Practice equality! Fill in the blanks so both sides are equal to the number from Numberville.



Answers on page 28



Explore and Protect the Earth and Its Creatures

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

EARTH-SAVING TIP

Home Grown
Look for a local seed library. They offer free seeds to grow plants that can thrive in your climate. You can also donate *your* seeds!



WOW, REALLY?

There are 18 species of penguins. They live in Antarctica as well as South America, New Zealand, Australia, and southern Africa!

OUR CONNECTIONS



What is **environmental racism?** It happens when communities with many people of color are unfairly exposed to more pollution or other unhealthy conditions. It's also when the community has fewer healthy resources, such as clean water or parks. **Environmental justice** helps make sure that *all* communities thrive in safety. You can help by learning more and sharing your thoughts about it with others.

PROTECTING OUR PLANET

Dr. Carolyn Finney is a cultural geographer from Vermont. She uses arts, storytelling, and activism to bring diverse voices to our interaction with nature. She says, "By sharing our love of Nature, we might call each other into a better relationship with the Earth and with each other . . ."



WHERE IN THE WORLD?



This Bahá'í Temple opened in 2018 in one of Earth's most biodiverse countries. Its design reflects the unity and diversity of the land and its peoples. Ruhi study materials about the Bahá'í Faith were developed here. *Unscramble the letters to find its country:*

LOMCOBAI

AMAZING ANIMALS



These are the smallest of the Antarctic flightless birds, at about 27 inches (69 cm). They walk, swim, jump, or slide on their bellies from their rocky nests to the ocean, seeking krill and small fish. *Fill in the blanks to find their name:*

A_EL_E PE_GU__S

Images: City by Si-Gal, kids by Ekkasit Jokthong, birds by nicholas_dale, all via Getty; Dr. Carolyn Finney by Nicholas Nichols; temple by Farzam Sabetian. Answers on page 28

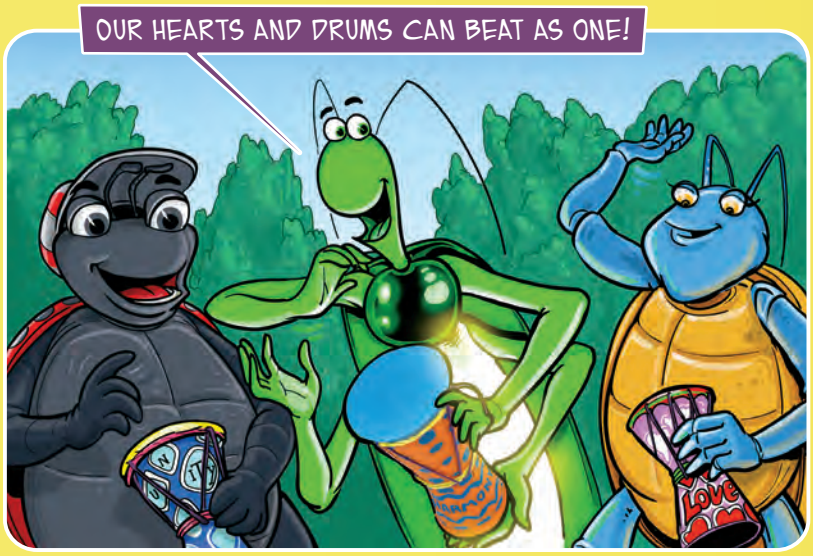
Create Harmony: Make Your Own Drum

"We work and pray for the unity of mankind . . . that all hearts may beat as one heart, working together for perfect unity and brotherhood." —'Abdu'l-Bahá

I was super excited to make music at school today. We're learning about my favorite instrument—drums! I love how they're created and played in different ways in cultures around the world.

Mrs. Mantis let us use drumsticks to play her barrel-shaped **taiko** from Japan. We also played a small pair of hand drums called a **tabla** from India. My fave was the **djembe**, a hand drum from West Africa that's shaped like a goblet.

I was inspired by how drums have the power to connect us. So I invited my friends over for a drum circle! Everyone brought a cool drum they made using the steps below. It's amazing how each made unique sounds, but we still played in harmony! We sang prayers to lift our spirits even higher. You and your friends can make drums and play in unity, too!



You'll Need

- wax or other nonsticky paper
- scissors
- two sturdy 9 oz. (266 mL) plastic cups
- duct tape
- printer paper
- tablespoon
- white glue
- water
- paper plate
- paintbrushes
- nontoxic paint
- ruler
- unused 9" (22.9 cm) latex balloon
- two 4" (10.2 cm) rubber bands
- 3 ft. (91.4 cm) and 7" (17.8 cm) pieces of yarn
- dark permanent marker

1 Protect work area with wax/nonsticky paper. Carefully cut off bottoms of both cups with scissors.



2 Cut open the side of one cup. Remove ½" (1.3 cm) off one cut edge, then tape cup's edges back together, inside and outside.





3 Fit bottom of taped cup inside bottom of other cup. If needed, trim base of untaped cup to help. Secure with tape.



4 Tear printer paper into 1½" (3.8 cm) square pieces. Mix 3 tablespoons (44 mL) glue and 3 tablespoons (44 mL) water on plate. Dip paper in glue mixture and press smoothly to sides of drum. Use paintbrush to help. Continue until drum is covered (inside and out) in one or two layers. Let dry.



5 Paint drum to cover paper. When dry, paint with colorful designs or words like harmony, respect, or unity.



6 Cut tail off balloon so top portion is 2" (5.1 cm) long. Stretch to fit snugly over larger end of drum.*



7 Wind rubber band twice around balloon edges. Wind other rubber band twice around center of drum.



8 Tuck one end of longer piece of yarn under center band. Keeping yarn taut, thread through upper and center bands to make triangles around drum. Wind leftover yarn around center band and tuck in end.



9 (A) Knot one end of shorter piece of yarn to upper band. Under that, knot its other end to center band for handle. Decorate drum with marker. (B) To play, hold drum in one hand. Use your free hand to make drumbeats. Try using a marker as a drumstick.





Make more fun crafts with Nur!

*You may notice a dimple due to the balloon's shape.



BAXTER AND BRIDGET

LIGHTNING & LUNA

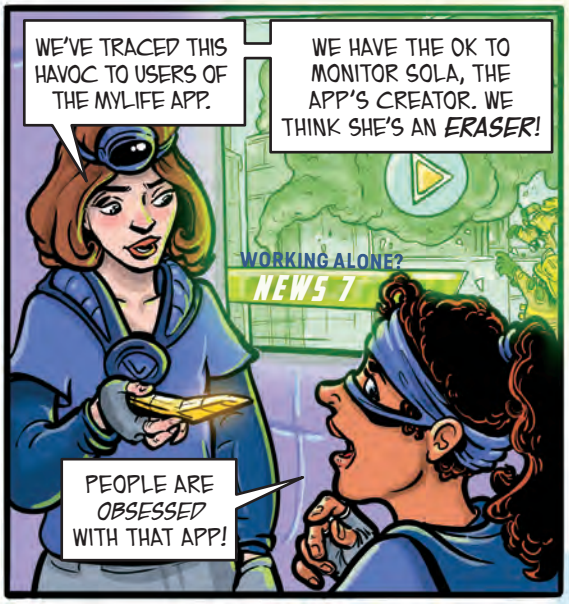
SOLA'S LAIR

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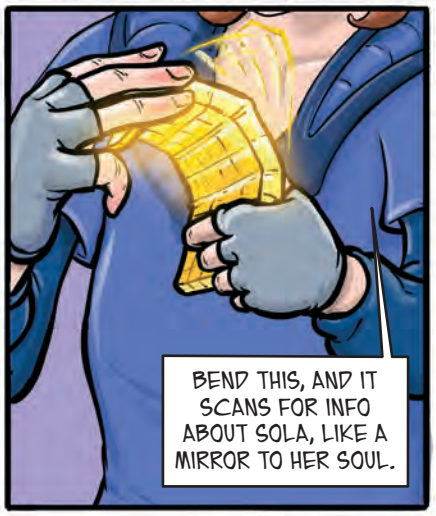


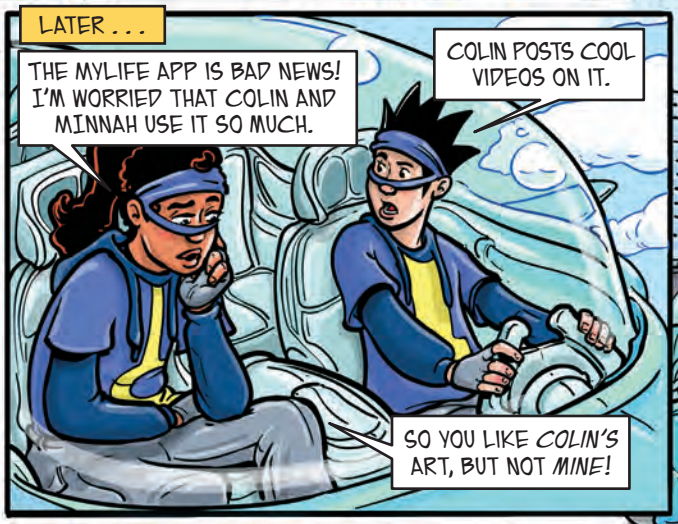
BY JULIET MONIREH BOGAN • ART BY C. AARON KREADER





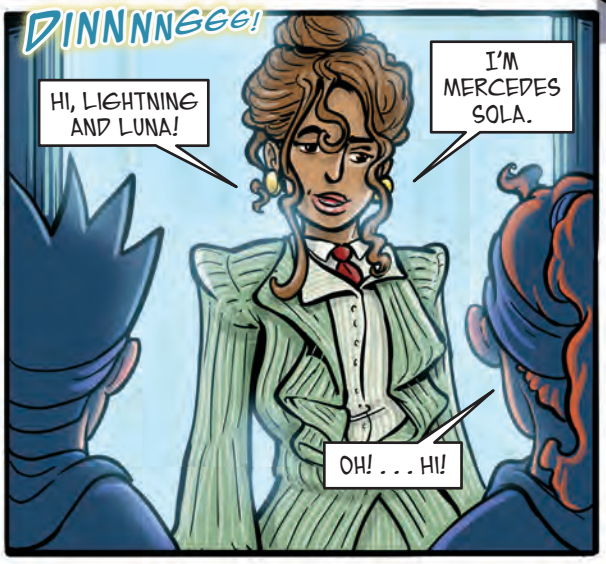














*See Ep #101: brilliantstarmagazine.org/luminous-library/LLTheme
**See Ep #102: brilliantstarmagazine.org/luminous-library/LLTheme



SCAN FOR ALL EPISODES OF *LIGHTNING & LUNA*

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?

Nova R.



Age: **15**

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

I want to be: **A cosmetologist**

This career interests me because: **I like to play with hair and makeup.**

Virtue I admire most: **Truthfulness, because it is the foundation of all virtues**

Hobbies or sports: **Aerial silks**

My heroes or role models: **My grandparents, because they are first-generation Bahá'ís, and they are always active and wanting to serve others in any way they can.**

A favorite food: **Sushi**

Favorite Bahá'í activity: **Helping in children's classes**

To help build unity, I: **[Participated in a] game night with people in a nursing home**

What helps me stay hopeful: **Seeing other people helping those in need and teaching the younger generation how to be kind and sweet to others**

Being sincere means: **Using love rather than just using words, therefore fostering unity and overcoming hate**

Daniel S.

Age: **15**

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

I want to be: **A professional athlete**

This career interests me because: **I love to run, and I am currently training for it.**

Favorite Bahá'í activity: **Feast***

I like to help people by: **Providing people the necessary resources needed for survival**



A favorite food: **Pizza**

My hero or role model: **Jakob Ingebrigtsen (middle distance runner)**

What I love about my culture or faith: **I love the kindness and acceptance of every member of the Faith and their generosity in helping people.**

If everyone were the same: **Life would be very boring, and every aspect of life would be dull. No one would have any original ideas and it would be bad.**

Being sincere means: **Being honest all the time and never lying to someone who trusts you**

I'd like to visit: **Korea, because it looks like an interesting place and the culture looks spectacular**



Starr P.

Age: **12**

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

I want to be: **Professional dancer/ dance therapist**

This career interests me because: **I love to dance . . . Dance therapy interests me because I want to help people through movement.**

I like to help people by: **Doing the small things that they need to get done when they cannot**

Favorite Bahá'í activities: **Reflection gatherings with my community and being able to learn more about the Faith**

My hero or role model: **[Ballet dancer] Misty Copeland**

What I love about my culture or faith: **How nice and welcoming the people are**

To help build unity: **My family is starting a junior youth group in our neighborhood.**

What helps me stay hopeful: **Knowing that even though the world is really divided, there are still nice people out there**

Being sincere means: **That you're pure and honest to everyone**

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

Dominic F.

Age: **11**

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

I want to be:
I'll figure it out when I get older

Virtue I admire most:
Kindness

Favorite Bahá'í activity:
Bahá'í summer schools

I like to help people by:
Showing or teaching them how to do things

What I love about my culture or faith:
All of the Bahá'í social activities

To help build unity:
During Ayyám-i-Há, my dad, sister, and I gathered clothing from our neighborhood to give to a homeless shelter.**

My hero or role model:
[Pro soccer player] Lionel Messi

What helps me stay hopeful:
Sports, because they show how people from different backgrounds and cultures can play together, and sports are fun!

Being sincere means:
Following your word

I'd like to visit:
United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.) to visit Dubai. Seems like an interesting and fun place to visit!



Avina A.

Age: **11**

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

I want to be:
A dermatologist or cosmetologist

This career interests me because:
It's fun and something I'm interested in.

Virtue I admire most:
Kindness

Hobbies or sports:
Soccer, basketball, drawing

Favorite Bahá'í activity:
Ayyám-i-Há

Favorite animals:
My fish, guinea pigs, dogs

I like to help people by:
Sharing

My hero or role model:
My mom

To help build unity, I:
Played with kids in the park

When a friend was bullied or excluded:
I stood up for them.

What helps me stay hopeful:
Knowing that I can solve those problems when I grow up

Being sincere means:
Being kind and friendly

I'd like to visit: **Iran**



**Ayyám-i-Há is a festival of hospitality, gift-giving, and preparing for the Bahá'í Fast.

"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

Collis M.



Age: **10**

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

I want to be: **Doctor**

This career interests me because:
My grandpa is a doctor and is still working at the age of 82. I hope to be like him one day.

Virtue I admire most:
Kindness

Hobbies or sports:
Yo-yo, soccer, swimming, piano, and running. I play xylophone, vibraphone, marimba, keyboard, congas, bongos, drumset, and shekeres in the Louisville Leopard Percussionists.

Favorite Bahá'í activities:
Children's classes and junior youth group

I like to help people by:
Helping with dishes

Favorite animals:
Dogs and cats

My hero or role model:
My grandpa. [He] always helps me when I am hurt or need help with something.

What I love about my culture or faith:
It focuses on unity.

To help build unity:
My friends and I made a garden.

What helps me stay hopeful:
Remembering that there are people that build peace and unity, including me!

Being sincere means:
Being kind from your heart

How to be a Radiant Star

1. If you're aged 7–14, scan the QR code with a smart phone's camera. Or go to **brilliantstarmagazine.org** and from the top menu, choose "Discover." Click "Become a Radiant Star or Trailblazer." Or email us at brilliant@usbnc.org. Include your name, age, birthdate, mailing address, and phone number.

2. When it's your turn to shine, we'll ask for 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).

3. We'll send you questions and a form for you and your parents to sign. Answer the questions and send them to us with the signed form, and you'll be in our next issue!

Leva D.

Age: **11**

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

I want to be: **A doctor**

This career interests me because:
I'll get to help people that are sick or hurt.

Virtue I admire most:
Generosity

Hobbies or sports:
Ballet

Favorite Bahá'í activity:
Children's class

I like to help people by:
Being kind to them

A favorite food:
Persian rice with chicken and tart cherries (Albaloo polo)

My hero or role model:
My mom

What I love about my culture or faith:
I get to meet new friends.

To help build unity, I:
Invited friends to children's class!

What helps me stay hopeful:
I pray.

Being sincere means:
To be truthful

I'd like to visit:
Iceland, so I can sled



Zayn F.

Age: **9**

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

I want to be:
Basketball player and philosopher

This career interests me because:
I like asking and answering really tough questions . . . [and] my favorite thing to do is play basketball.

Virtue I admire most:
Humor

Hobbies or sports:
Basketball, listening to music, playing the trumpet, art

Favorite Bahá'í activity:
Children's class

Being sincere means:
Actually meaning what you say



My hero or role model:
My cousin, Aria

I like to help people by:
Bringing joy and energy

What helps me stay hopeful:
I remember that I have a legacy of civil rights activists in my family.

To help build unity:
We hosted a children's camp called Camp Umoja, which means "unity" in Swahili . . . and invited friends to be counselors, learn prayers, and do service projects. We even had an ICEE truck!

Badi K.

Age: **9**

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

I want to be: **A storm chaser**

This career interests me because:
I love tornadoes.

Virtue I admire most:
Truthfulness

Hobbies or sports:
Baseball

Favorite Bahá'í activity:
Stories



A favorite food:
Spaghetti

My hero or role model:
My parents

What I love about my culture or faith:
The friends I make

When I was bullied or excluded:
I once was not allowed to play a game because of my skin color. This made me feel very sad. I told a teacher, and they handled it.

What helps me stay hopeful:
I think in my mind that it will be over soon.

Being sincere means:
Saying something and you mean it

I'd like to visit:
Finland, because they won the award for happiest country in the world

Hazel D.

Age: **10**

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

I want to be: **A veterinarian**

This career interests me because:
I love animals.

Virtue I admire most:
Truthfulness

Hobbies or sports:
Building with LEGO bricks, reading

Favorite Bahá'í activities:
Children's classes, Feast, and Ridván*

My heroes or role models:
My parents

I like to help people by:
Getting to know them

If everyone were the same:
Life would be really boring

Favorite pet:
Phoenix, a guppy fish



A favorite food:
Chicken tacos

What I love about my culture or faith:
Ridván!

To help build unity, I:
Started a devotional

What helps me stay hopeful:
I say prayers.

Being sincere means:
That everything you say is the truth

I'd like to visit:
Madagascar, because there are animals there that are nowhere else in the world

*The 12-day Festival of Ridván celebrates Bahá'u'lláh's declaration of His Mission as a Messenger of God.

BRIDGE OF FRIENDSHIP

"One of the most effective ways to rise above prejudice is to work in unison towards a common goal." —Bahá'í Writings

Dwarves are the worst!" snapped Egan Elf. "Don't let them cross the canyon. They'll steal our fruit!"

Elvira asked, "Have you ever *talked* to a dwarf?"

"No—why would I?" cried Egan.

Across the canyon, Darla Dwarf felt the same way about elves. "They're selfish. They just want our tools."

"Our tools are great—let's share them," said Denzel.

"That'll never work!" Darla scoffed.

"Let's find out," said Denzel. He gathered some tools and headed down the canyon trail. Halfway across, he saw an elf in the distance. She was carrying a basket of fruit.

"Hi, I'm Elvira," she said. "Want some apples and pears?"

"Uh . . . sure, thank you! I'm Denzel. I brought you some tools."

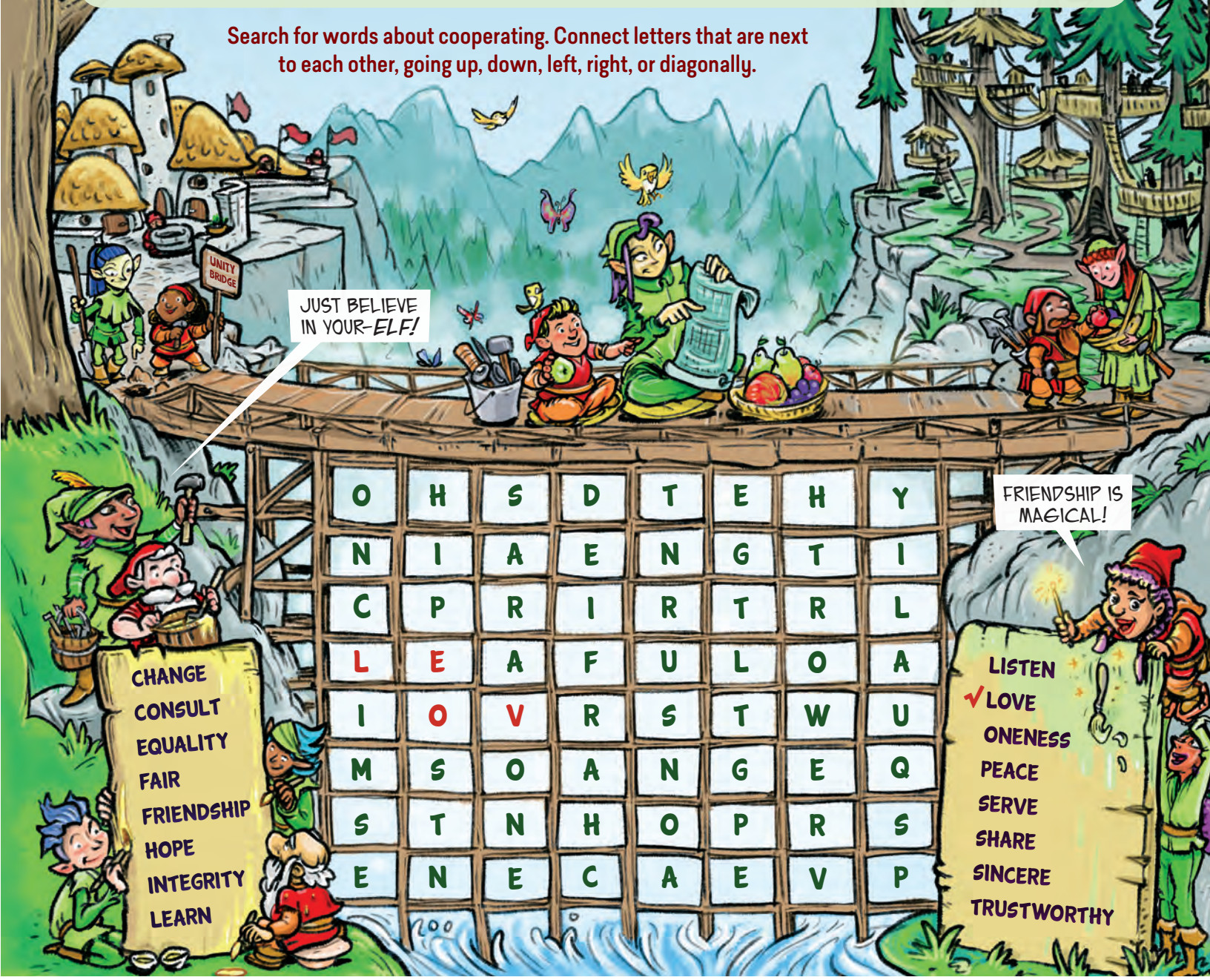
They sat by the river and talked until the sun began to set.

"Why are our villages so prejudiced against each other?" asked Elvira.

Denzel bit into an apple. "I don't know. But I bet we can fix it!"

Elvira picked up a mallet and grinned. "When do we start?"

Search for words about cooperating. Connect letters that are next to each other, going up, down, left, right, or diagonally.



SPACE ACE



In April 2026, NASA's Artemis II mission set a new record for human distance from Earth—252,756 miles (406,771 km)! Dr. Steve Scotti, *Brilliant Star*'s STEAMS Education Advisor and Distinguished Research Associate at NASA Langley Research Center, answered our cosmic questions about the mission!



Why was the Artemis II mission significant for humanity?

It was the first time a crew flew aboard the Orion spacecraft, and many systems they needed hadn't been used in space. The life support system proved it could provide oxygen and remove carbon dioxide. The environmental control system maintained the cabin temperature and humidity. The crew tested a "storm shelter" that would help protect them from radiation in a solar storm. On Earth, nature's "systems" that keep us alive are often taken for granted. In space, you need to bring them with you.

Another objective was safely flying a crew to the Moon, which we hadn't done in over 50 years. The technical systems worked very well. On a human level, the crew created hopeful moments around the world by sharing the perspective of Earth as seen from beyond the Moon. To me, it called to mind the quote by 'Abdu'l-Bahá, "This is one globe, one land, one country. God did not divide it into national boundaries." —Steve





Left: The Artemis II rocket launches on April 1, 2026. **Above:** NASA astronaut Christina Koch hugs the Orion spacecraft after landing.

How did you feel about the Artemis II mission, and why?

I was actually a little nervous—I was concerned for the astronauts' safety. When the prior uncrewed flight (Artemis I) returned from the Moon in 2022, the heat from entering the atmosphere at nearly 25,000 mph (40,000 km/h) unexpectedly caused large chunks of the heat shield to **spall**, or break off. If too much had spalled off, the vehicle could have been destroyed. NASA needed to learn why the spalling happened and how to prevent it. I helped with that investigation. We learned the root cause, and we reduced the damage by flying a path with a shorter heating time. But there was still some risk of heat shield damage, which NASA and the crew knew about and accepted. Fortunately, from what we've seen so far, the damage to the Artemis II heat shield was much less severe than with Artemis I. —Steve



Aboard the Orion spacecraft (from left): Christina Koch, Jeremy Hansen, Victor Glover, and Reid Wiseman

ON THE WEB



Scan the QR code with a smartphone to check out our interview with Christina Koch and learn more about the Artemis II mission!

Photos: NASA/JPL-Caltech/SwRI/MSSS/Kevin M. Gill, NASA, NASA/Bill Ingalls, NASA/Josh Valcarcel

Cosmic Collaboration

"The earth is but one country, and mankind its citizens." – Bahá'u'lláh

Do you dream of traveling to space? You'd see Earth with its vivid blue oceans and swirling clouds, and view the rocky, cratered surface of the Moon. You *wouldn't* see boundaries dividing our planet into different countries.

Space missions bring together diverse Earthlings from around the globe. Engineers and scientists combine their skills to create devices and systems for exploring space. It takes respect and clear communication to get their projects off the ground!

We use those skills in earthbound activities, too. When you do a science project with a classmate or help your family pack for a trip, you're part of a crew. With patience and kindness, you can learn new things, strengthen bonds of love, and have adventures that are out of this world!

Unscramble the letters in each star cluster to discover words related to global cooperation.



COOPERATION CHECKLIST

1. C _ _ _ _ _ _
2. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Y
3. _ _ _ O _ _ _ _ _
4. E _ _ _ _ _ _ _
5. _ _ _ _ _ N _ _
6. R _ _ _ _ _ _ _
7. _ _ L _ _ _ _ _
8. _ _ _ _ W _ _ _
9. T _ _ _ _ _
10. _ _ _ D _ _

Answers on page 28

Maya's Mysteries

"Blessed is he who mingleth with all men in a spirit of utmost kindliness and love." —Bahá'u'lláh



ONE BIG HUMAN FAMILY

Today in social studies class, my friend Kiara and I teamed up to explore facts about our world. What we learned blew my mind! Did you know that there are more than ***8 billion*** people on Earth? So wild!

We also read some facts about poverty and inequality that made us sad. But those facts are important to know too, so we can all work to make the world a better place.

Our project made me think of a quote from Bahá'u'lláh that we read in our junior youth group: "The earth is but one country, and mankind its citizens." It's so true! Whether we live in the scorching desert or freezing tundra, we're all ***one*** human family. We need to work together to share resources and protect our planet.

Check out these facts we found, and get to know our global fam!

WORLD WONDERS

Fill in the missing letters to learn facts about our human family and our incredible Earth.

1. There are over 7,000 L__ N__ U__ __ES spoken in the world!
2. Out of 574 Indigenous nations in the U.S., 227 of them are in A__ A__ KA alone!
3. Over 74 million kids and Y__ U__ H under 18 live in the U.S. – 22% of the U.S. population.
4. In the U.S., 68 million people speak a language other than E__ G__ I__ H at home.
5. India and China have 35% of the world's P__ P__ L__ TI__ N – over *2.8 billion* people!
6. Worldwide, four babies are born every S__ C__ N__ !
7. Bangkok, TH__ IL__ N__ , is the most visited city in the world, with over 30 million visitors each year.
8. Worldwide, women earn about 77 cents for every DO__ __AR earned by men.
9. 80% of global E__ E__ GY is from fossil fuels like gas, oil, and coal. We need to use more renewable resources.
10. Over 771,000 P__ __PL__ in the United States don't have a place to live.
11. Globally, 800 million people live in E__ T__ E__ E poverty.
12. Nearly 75% of all food crops depend on honey B__ __S and other pollinators.

Test yourself with Maya's quizzes!





Answers on page 28

Champions of Diversity

Who's the world's fastest sprinter? Who lifts the heaviest weights? We'll find out in summer 2028! Athletes will meet in Los Angeles and other parts of the U.S. for the Olympic Games in July. In August, athletes with disabilities will compete in the Paralympic Games. They'll show skill and determination!

The games are an amazing way to see diversity at play. Athletes from over 200 countries compete in a spirit of unity and respect. Each person has unique strengths to contribute to their team. Collaboration and patience help them overcome hurdles and perform at their best.

Whatever your goal may be, you can have an Olympic spirit by teaming up with friends and family and following your dreams. No matter what obstacles you may face, try to persevere and be a champion of unity!

These athletes are testing their Olympic skills. Read their clues, then match them to their flags.

1 ARGENTINA



2 AUSTRALIA



3 ITALY



4 MALAYSIA



5 TÜRKIYE



6 UGANDA



7 UNITED STATES



A BADMINTON IS THE ***FASTEST*** RACKET SPORT ON EARTH! SHUTTLECOCKS REACH UP TO 351 MPH (565 KPH). I LIVE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

B SOCCER (OR FOOTBALL) IS THE MOST POPULAR SPORT IN THE ***WORLD***! MY COUNTRY IS HOSTING THE 2028 OLYMPICS!

C I CYCLE ON AN INDOOR TRACK CALLED A ***VELODROME*** AND CAN REACH SPEEDS OF 43 MPH (69 KM/H)! MY COUNTRY IS HOME TO THE *COLOSSEUM* AND THE *TREVI FOUNTAIN*.

D IN WHEELCHAIR RUGBY, WE USE TOUGH WHEELCHAIRS THAT CAN HANDLE COLLISIONS AS WE CARRY THE BALL AND SCORE. THE *GREAT BARRIER REEF* IS IN MY COUNTRY.

E IN ARCHERY, WE HAVE TO HIT A TARGET THAT'S UP TO 230 FT (70 M) AWAY! *ISTANBUL* IS THE LARGEST CITY IN MY COUNTRY.

F WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL IS PLAYED IN ABOUT 100 DIFFERENT NATIONS. THE *ANDES MOUNTAINS* RUN THROUGH MY COUNTRY.

G IN PARA SWIMMING, ATHLETES WITH DIFFERENT IMPAIRMENTS CAN COMPETE AGAINST EACH OTHER. MY COUNTRY HAS A ***BAHÁ'Í TEMPLE*** IN KAMPALA.

Answers on page 28

Carol Mansour



When Carol Mansour was a kid in Indiana, Black and White people didn't go to school together or live near each other. It was the late 1950s and '60s, and segregation and racism kept people apart. All of Carol's neighbors were African American, like her. She didn't know one day she'd devote much of her life to uniting people.

Carol was curious and loved to read. In high school, she decided she wanted to be a television news reporter. She studied government and broadcasting at Texas Christian University and earned a bachelor's degree in 1978. After a year working at a radio station, she achieved her dream of becoming a TV news reporter.

Later, Carol moved to Kentucky to continue her career. A neighbor told her about the Bahá'í Faith, and she was drawn to its welcoming community and teachings about unity. She became a Bahá'í in 1992. After marrying Soheil Mansour and moving to Tennessee, Carol left TV news to focus on raising their daughter, Maya.

Over the years, Carol discovered another passion: bringing people together in a divided world. She has helped organize interfaith and race unity activities and taught online courses about overcoming racism. Her goal is to be "an instrument for the elimination of prejudice [and] for peace"—to create a world where all are treated with dignity and love.

Q: What's one of your favorite childhood memories?

A: Going to visit the symphony for the first time . . . I was mesmerized by all of the instruments. It was a different experience for me, because music was very much a part of our family's life, but it was mostly church music or what was popular on the radio.

Q: What was the most challenging experience for you as a kid?

A: Before the term "nerd" was a thing, that's what I was . . . I was teased . . . And I think that contributed greatly to me being an introvert. It also taught me to be observant of who's being left out and why.



As a high school senior, Carol got her first experience in a TV newsroom through an internship. She helped reporters with stories at a TV station in Indianapolis.

Q: What experience set you on the path to a career in TV news?

A: I was watching the news, and I saw someone who looked like me doing stories. And I thought, well, I could do that . . . It looked like it was an easy job. It wasn't until I actually started working in a newsroom that I realized, oh, this isn't easy at all . . . [But] I loved it.

Q: What's one of your favorite memories from that part of your career?

A: I mostly did reporting. And then toward the end, I did anchoring on the weekend and . . . was the medical reporter. Oh, man, the people I got to meet. Some of the people were just really fun and interesting and amazing.

Portrait by Matt Wronski

Questions and Answers with an Inspirational Bahá'í



Left: Carol met her husband, Soheil, at a Bahá'í gathering just a few months after she enrolled as a Bahá'í. **Below:** In April 2026, Carol participated as a delegate to the U.S. Bahá'í National Convention, where the National Spiritual Assembly is elected.

Q: How does the Bahá'í Faith influence your service?

A: I'm involved in a lot of interfaith stuff in the area now. [I've had] amazing opportunities to elevate discourse, share the principles of the Faith, and see the thirst for another way of perceiving social issues, because it's clear to just about everybody that what we've been doing so far has not worked. So how do we get as many people [as possible] doing as many things as we can?

Q: What do you think of America's anti-racism work since 2020?

A: People showed up [in 2020]. And then they retreated again . . . We're bringing people along who might have been sitting on the sidelines . . . People have a direction to move in now. And it's slow going . . . If we're going to transform the landscape of eliminating racial prejudice, we have to do it with joy . . . in family-friendly contexts.

Q: What can kids do if they see someone being treated unfairly because of their race or religion?

A: Sometimes just speaking up and challenging the injustice will cause the people perpetuating the injustice to think. If you have an adult who [is] trustworthy and understands the gravity of the situation, that is always helpful. But *never* let anybody tell you injustice is "just the way it is."

Q: What can kids do to help stop prejudice and racism?

A: Find out [about] the history of race in America . . . and where you live. Adults [may] be uncomfortable talking about race. But that shouldn't stop you from asking questions . . . Believe your eyes . . . Is your community reflective of America as a whole, or does everyone look like you? . . . Don't be discouraged if your initial efforts to make friends [with diverse people] fail . . . Pray for guidance . . . Have an open heart. If a friend tells you "that was hurtful," listen and accept that.

Q: Do you get discouraged about race relations today? What helps you stay positive?

A: I do sometimes get discouraged, but . . . I am hopeful because I know this situation of racial oppression is not sustainable . . . Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá assured us that unity between Whites and Blacks in America will be an assurance of the world's peace . . . So it's going to happen. The question is, how do we get there?

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

A: To always remember that you were created in the image of God, which means that you are noble and you are capable of creativity—and *so much love*.

Family photo by Maryam Rouhani-Fard, Convention photo by Nancy Wong



RILEY'S RAINFOREST

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

BE FAIR AND AWARE

I was so embarrassed today! We had auditions to sing a solo in music class, and my friends and I were guessing who would get the part.

"What if it's a *crow*? That would be a shocker!" I joked.

But my friend Piper didn't laugh. "Why? Some crows are amazing singers."

My eyes popped. "Oh, come *on*! Name *one* crow who can sing."

And she did—lots of them!

"It's a stereotype that crows can't sing. It's not cool," Piper said.

I got a lump in my throat. She was right—what I said was *not* cool. A **stereotype** is an unfair idea about everyone in a certain group, like all parrots can mimic sounds or only hummingbirds can fly fast. When you believe a stereotype without realizing it, that's **unconscious bias**.



These biases are sneaky! You may not even *think* to question them. They can hurt everyone's health and happiness. For example, when I wanted to try ballet, some birds told me ballet wasn't for boys. It hurt my feelings, and it was totally untrue! Just like it's not true that crows can't sing. Imagine if a crow had heard my joke. *Their* feelings would be hurt, too.

I'm watching out for stereotypes that can cloud my brain and slip out of my beak! Being aware of the problem is the first step. Getting to know diverse birds helps, too.

And guess what? A crow *did* audition for the solo! His voice was so cool, and he was friendly and funny. I hope he gets the part!

CURIOSITY CANOPY



Did you know even *positive* stereotypes can be harmful? They might seem okay, but they can make someone feel like they're not being seen. Treat each individual with respect and find out who they *really* are!

EXPLORE & SOAR: BEAT BIASES

Check out these strategies to stop stereotypes and avoid quick judgments!

- Try to make new friends. Get to know people from different backgrounds and cultures.
- Pay attention to how you think. When you meet someone new, ask yourself, "Am I being open-minded?"
- Imagine how someone else feels. How would *you* want to be treated?



- Look beyond the surface. Try not to judge others based on their appearance. Who are they *inside*?
- Be a detective. Spot stereotypes in TV shows, games, or books. How do these stereotypes make you and others feel?
- Speak up with kindness. If you hear a joke that puts others down, say, "That's not kind." Or talk to a parent or other trusted adult.

Photos: Running kids by monkeybusinessimages/Getty, two girls by Stockbyte/Getty

Creature Cooperation

By Nasim Mansuri • Art by C. Aaron Kreader

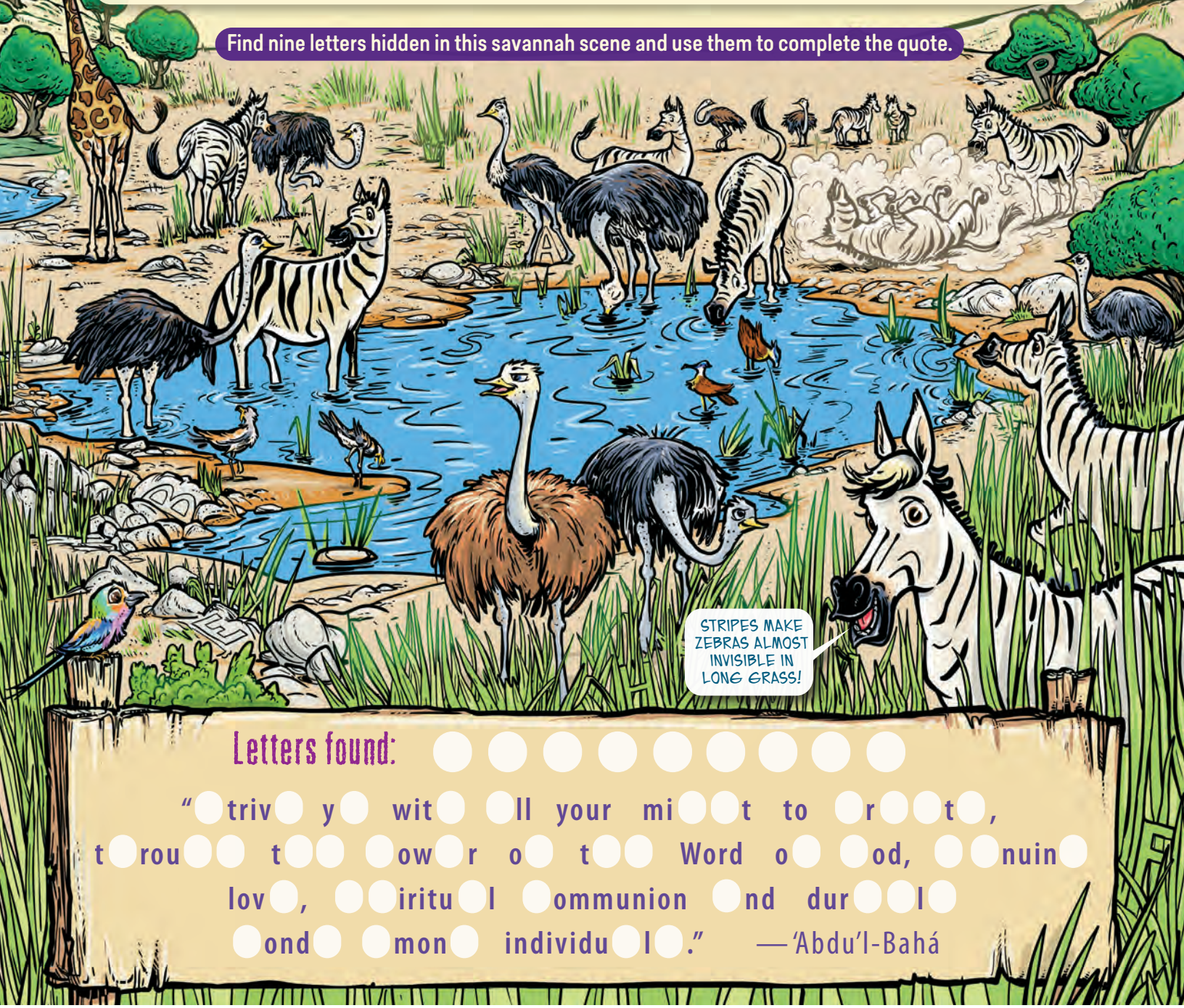
In the African savanna, you might be surprised to discover zebras and ostriches hanging out together.

These neighbors combine their skills to stay safe. Zebras use keen hearing to listen for predators. Ostriches' long necks and large eyes help them see into the distance. Together, zebras and ostriches keep an eye (and ear) out for trouble!

Human communities depend on cooperation, too. From planting community gardens to keeping neighborhoods clean, we work together to create a better world. When we see the best in each other instead of focusing on our faults, we grow. We can also learn to consult together in a spirit of joy and unity. With teamwork, we can accomplish much more than we ever could alone!

How do *you* like to help your community? If you're a zesty zebra, find an observant ostrich friend whose strengths complement yours!

Find nine letters hidden in this savannah scene and use them to complete the quote.



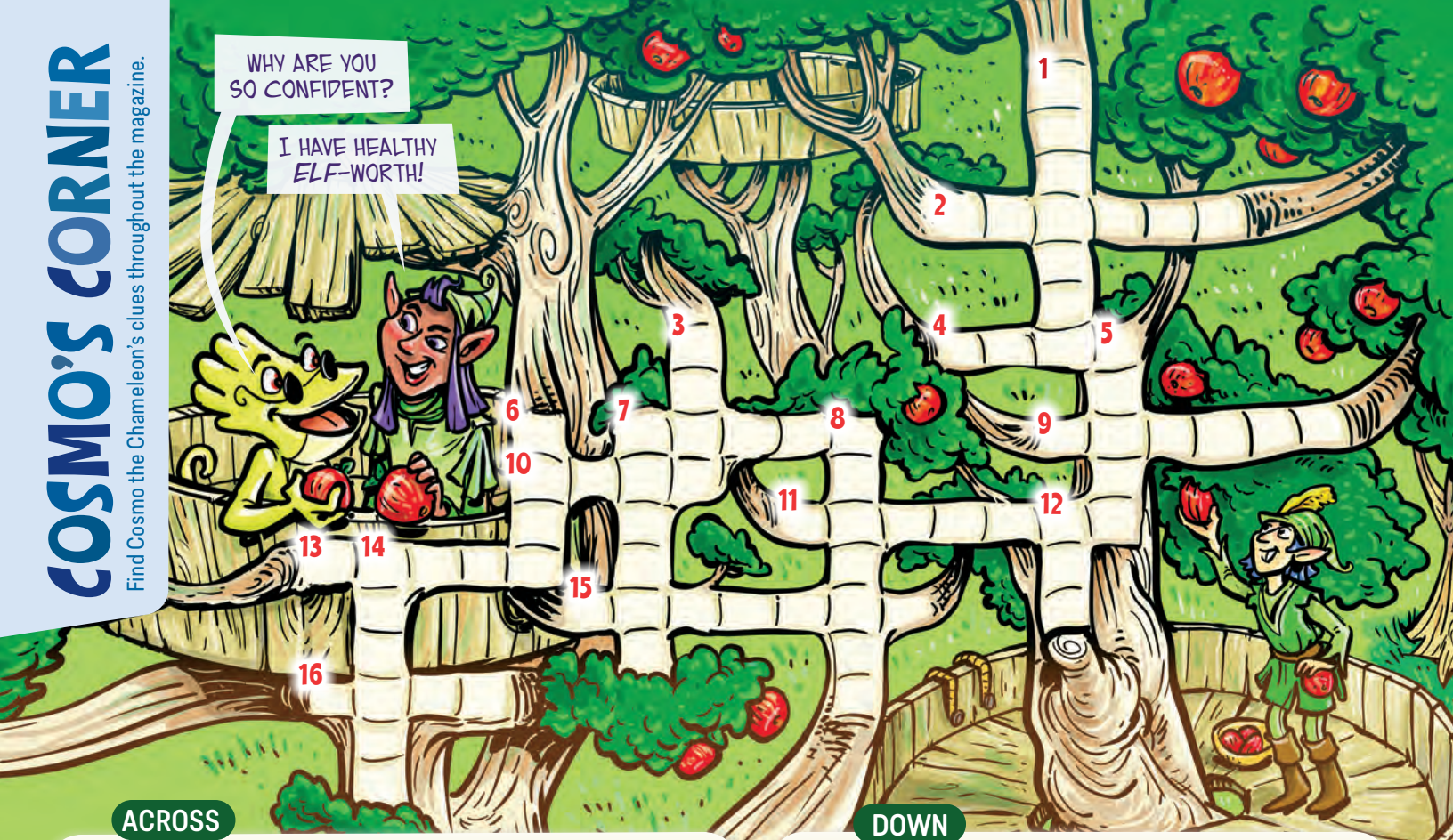
Letters found: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

"○triv○ y○ wit○ ○ll your mi○○t to ○r○○t○, t○rou○○ t○○ ○ow○r o○ t○○ Word o○ ○od, ○ ○nuin○ lov○, ○○iritu○l ○ommunion ○nd dur○○l○ ○ond○ ○mon○ individu○l○." —'Abdu'l-Bahá

Answers on page 28

COSMO'S CORNER

Find Cosmo the Chameleon's clues throughout the magazine.



ACROSS

2) Zebras and ostriches combine their ___ to stay safe. (p. 27)

4) When we see the ___ in each other instead of focusing on our faults, we grow. (p. 27)

7) As a kid, Glenford Mitchell recited ___ at Bahá'í events. (p. 8)

9) ___ is the most popular sport in the world. (p. 23)

10) Keeping an ___ mind makes life rich and flavorful. (p. 7)

11) There are 574 Indigenous ___ in the U.S. (p. 22)

13) Starr and Leva both like to ___. (pp. 16, 18)

15) In the ___ Games, athletes from over 200 countries compete in a spirit of unity and respect. (p. 23)

16) Hazel and Avina both enjoy their pet ___. (pp. 17, 18)

DOWN

1) ___ people are happier and have more empathy for others. (p. 6)

3) On the Artemis II mission, astronauts flew to the ___. (p. 20)

5) Our spiritual qualities are like inner ___. (p. 29)

6) "Ultimately, the power to transform the world is effected by ___ . . ." (p. 9)

7) There are more than 8 billion ___ on Earth! (p. 22)

8) ___ is a great way to build friendships with neighbors. (p. 3)

12) Your brain is wired to seek out ___ experiences. (p. 6)

14) The djembe is a hand drum from West ___. (p. 12)

FROM OUR MAILBOX



Brilliant Star helps remind me where I am and how I can improve spiritually. It makes learning engaging.

[For an issue theme,] I would choose justice, because I think it's something we need in the world.

*– **Sasha E.**, age 13, Maryland, U.S.*

ANSWERS

KEY: T=Top, C=Center, B=Bottom, L=Left, R=Right

Page 3: 1) hello, 2) play, 3) Invite, 4) treats, 5) friendly, 6) messages, 7) magazine, 8) help, 9) devotional

Page 5 – "Blessed is the spot, and the house, and the place, and the city, and the heart, and the mountain, and the refuge, and the cave, and the valley, and the land, and the sea, and the island, and the meadow where mention of God hath been made, and His praise glorified."

Page 7: Brazil 9, Denmark 8, Egypt 4, France 2, Greece 6, India 5, Indonesia 7, S. Korea 3, U.S. 1

Page 9: Radishes: 1 at TC, 3 at CL, 3 at CR, 2 at BC. Strawberries: 7 at TC, 1 at TR, 3 at CL, 5 at CR, 3 at BL. Pea Pods: 6 at TL, 2 at CL, 5 at CR, 2 at BC.

Page 10: A) 22, 3; B) 3, 10; C) 18, 5; D) 1, 2; E) 6, 5; F) 3, 8; G) 9, 90; H) 3, 5; I) 29, 10.

Page 11: Colombia, Adélie Penguins

Page 21: 1) courage, 2) curiosity, 3) encourage, 4) explore, 5) harmony, 6) respect, 7) reliable, 8) teamwork, 9) trust, 10) wisdom

Page 22: 1) languages, 2) Alaska, 3) youth, 4) English, 5) population, 6) second, 7) Thailand, 8) dollar, 9) energy, 10) people, 11) extreme, 12) bees

Page 23: A) 4, B) 7, C) 3, D) 2, E) 5, F) 1, G) 6

Page 27: C at TL, A & S at TC, G & P at TR, B & E at CL, H at C, F at BR. "Strive ye with all your might to create, through the power of the Word of God, genuine love, spiritual communion and durable bonds among individuals."

ZEKE & RHOMBUS: TOOLS FOR PEACE

A-MAZE-ING ADVENTURE

Hi! It's Zeke, from the planet Zilizag, with my pet, Rhombus. We zip around the universe to study peaceful planets. But yesterday, *blammo*! Our *zadulator* broke! Now our ship is stuck between Fubzio and Nezvid.

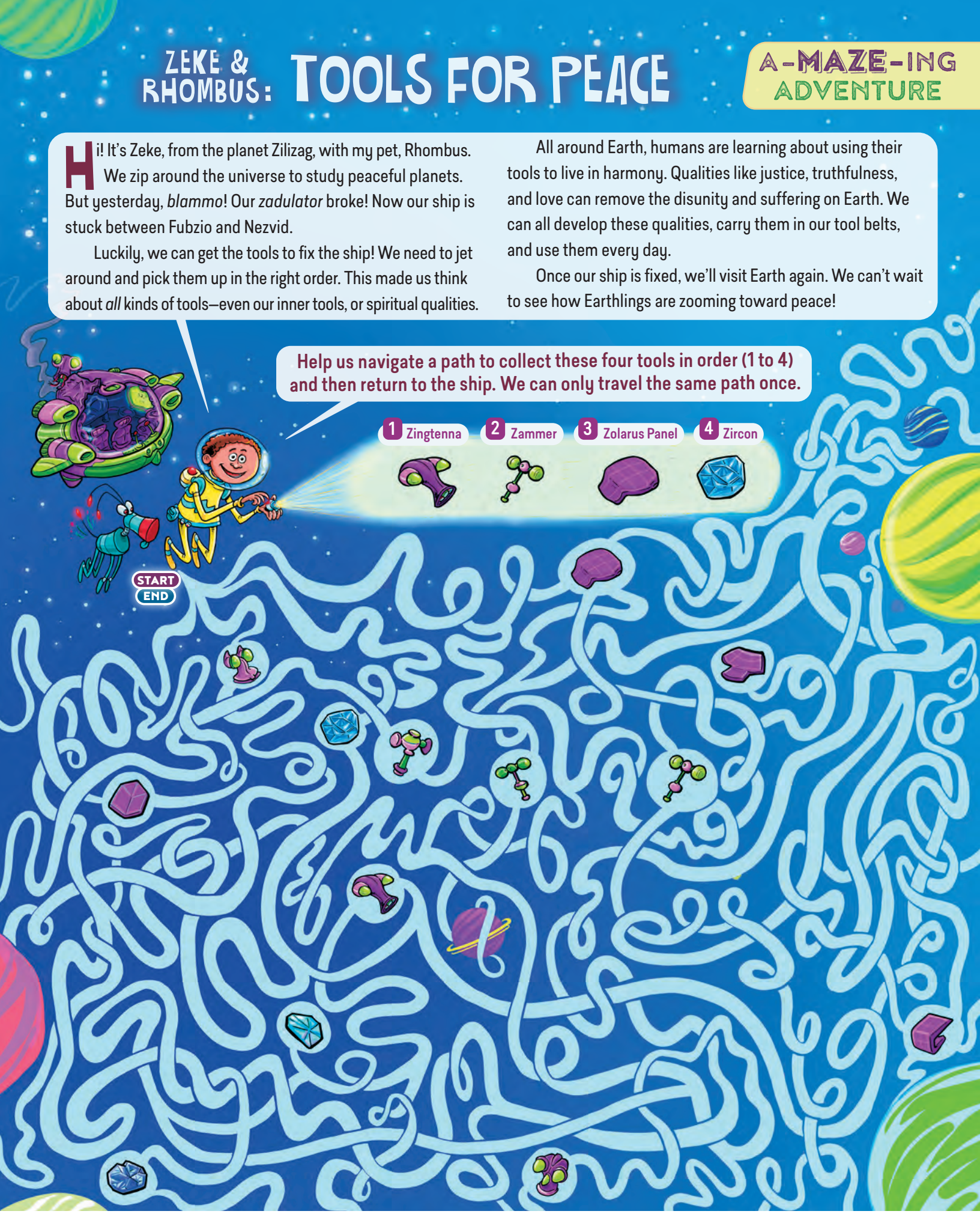
Luckily, we can get the tools to fix the ship! We need to jet around and pick them up in the right order. This made us think about *all* kinds of tools—even our inner tools, or spiritual qualities.

All around Earth, humans are learning about using their tools to live in harmony. Qualities like justice, truthfulness, and love can remove the disunity and suffering on Earth. We can all develop these qualities, carry them in our tool belts, and use them every day.

Once our ship is fixed, we'll visit Earth again. We can't wait to see how Earthlings are zooming toward peace!

Help us navigate a path to collect these four tools in order (1 to 4) and then return to the ship. We can only travel the same path once.

1 Zingtenna 2 Zammer 3 Zolarus Panel 4 Zircon



"O Lord! Unite and bind together the hearts, join in accord all the souls, and exhilarate the spirits through the signs of Thy sanctity and oneness. O Lord! Make these faces radiant through the light of Thy oneness." —'Abdu'l-Bahá



Brilliant Star

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THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY
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