

Students' Corner

Excerpts from Iqra students essays

Making Friends

"Friendship is very important. If we don't have friends, we get lonely. We should pick trustworthy, honest, and polite friends. What I want in a friend is someone who obeys Allah (s.w.t.) and doesn't do bad thing."

Kiana Vargas, 3rd grade

"If you have a bad friend, you can make good by asking him, "Can you be good and not follow Shaitan?" If he refuses, don't let him be your friend anymore. If you can't find good friends, still don't join the bad ones, because being good is better than having bad friends. I have a good friend who helps me stay on the right path. When she comes to my home after school, she does her homework before anything else. Now I do that too."

Adam Ebling, 2nd grade

"If you want to make good friends, you need to listen to them. Try to respect their feelings and their needs. If they need help in anything, offer what you can do for them. You need to find good friends so you can do prayers on time, talk about the prophets and read Qur'an together."

Saed Aabed, 2nd grade

Kindness to All People

"If you help the elders, you have a big heart. Other people think that you have good manners, and you give your parents a good name. Your parents are proud of you when you are nice to everyone, young or old."

Sarah Qazi, 2nd grade

"If you see old people, you should help them in what they are trying to do. You have to be nice to them as they are like your grandparents. You respect them."

Saed Aabed, 2nd grade

Cheating

"Cheating is like being a thief because it is taking something from others. Good Muslims do not cheat. Allah (s.w.t.) will punish us if we cheat."

Halah Khan, 1st grade

"You should always be picky about choosing your friends. If you pick the wrong ones, you could get led down the wrong path. A good kind will help you be on the right path. One should choose friend wisely."

Talitha Two Moons, 3rd grade

"We make friends by being nice, kind, and being able to talk to one another. How you know a good one is by looking at what they are doing. A good friend will do anything for you."

Jimmy Christensen, 2nd grade

"There are many different kinds of friends: bad ones and good ones. The good ones help you to be good. They make you follow Allah (s.w.t.)."

Sarah Qazi, 2nd grade

"Kindness to all people is important because the Prophet said, "He is not one of us who dies without having shown kindness to our young ones and respect to our older ones." A Muslim should be nice to everyone, even if they are not Muslims."

Adam Ebling, 2nd grade

"You must choose and make friends carefully because if they behave well, you will be good too. If they do bad things and encourage you to do bad, then soon you can be bad without realizing it. You need to find out a person's behavior before you make friends with him or her."

Danial Ebling, 3rd grade

"I make friends by first looking at people. If they have a nice attitude, I ask them if they could be my friend. I don't pick a bad friend because I'll be bad too. If I pick a good friend, I'll be good, too. I have a friend who likes books, and now I like books too. I got into trouble once because I followed one of my friends' bad words."

Aishah Zakri, 2nd grade

"If your friend said a bad word, you must tell him not to say it or leave him and go to another friend."

Alaa Al-Enazi, 2nd grade

"If I see an old woman standing, I will always give her my chair. A Muslim has to do this. Strong Muslims need to help handicapped people."

Alaa Al-Enazi, 2nd grade

"It is not hard to be nice to people. It does not cost any money. If I go to the store, I would hold the door for the old people. I try to say "Please" and "Thank you" to everybody whenever I remember."

Aishah Zakri, 2nd grade

"Cheating in test is bad. You must not cheat."

Halimah Barkatie, 1st grade

"Cheating is bad. Allah (s.w.t.) does not like it and will punish Muslims who cheat"

Amnah al-Enazi, 1st grade

Students' Corner

Excerpts from Iqra students essays (continued)

Stealing

“Stealing is a bad habit. In Saudi Arabia by the Islamic law, if you steal they will cut your right hand, then if you do it again they will cut your left hand.”

Saed Aabed, 2nd grade

“No one has the right to steal. The owner has the right to his property because he either had worked for it or was given it, and therefore it was his”

Aishah Zakri, 2nd grade

“The Islamic law’s punishment for stealing is effective, because when you have no more hands, you can’t steal.”

Adam Ebling, 2nd grade

Smoking and Drinking Alcohol

“The reason you shouldn’t do drugs or smoke or drink alcohol is because when you smoke too much, your lungs get black and cause death. Drugs are bad when one can get so high on drugs that he can see things that are not really there. The Qur’an says that drinking alcohol is forbidden in Islam. Allah (s.w.t.) does not want us to put anything bad in our mouth. It is important to keep our body clean and healthy.”

Talitha Two Moons, 3rd grade

“If you smoke, you can get addicted to it. If you smoke for about 6 months, your lungs can turn black. Smoking is not haram but the Qur’an says not to put bad things in your mouth.”

Kiana Vargas, 3rd grade

“Alcohol is a liquid substance that takes over the mind. When it enters the stomach, it starts taking over the body in which most of it goes to the brain. Smoking is bad for your health. It fills your lungs with tar and it is also a waste of money. Taking drugs can change your behavior, causing crimes and makes you forget Allah (s.w.t.)”

Danial Ebling, 3rd grade



Gambling

“Gambling is a very bad thing that you should never try. It could cause addiction and you get cheated out of your money. A person could lose completely everything by gambling. The reason Allah (s.w.t.) forbids gambling is because it is based on chance.”

Omar Kergaye, 3rd grade

“Gambling is a waste of time and money. It causes greed and hatred. It makes people forget Allah (s.w.t.) and please Shaitan, instead.”

Danial Ebling, 3rd grade

“Once you start to gamble, you get addicted to it just like smoking. Some people who gamble even gamble their life.”

Kiana Vargas, 3rd grade



Envy

“We should not be greedy. Instead, we should want other people to have whatever good things we have.”

Kiana Vargas, 3rd grade

“If you work hard to get what you want and pray to Allah (s.w.t.), He will reward you with the same thing or better thing that you’ve been wanting. That’s why you do not have to envy with what other people have.”

Talitha Two Moons, 3rd grade

“Envy is a very bad thing. If someone gets envious, he may feel jealous of what the other person has. If you believe in Allah (s.w.t.) and have strong faith, Allah (s.w.t.) will give you what you want and you can’t feel envious of others.”

Omar Kergaye, 3rd grade

“Envy is a feeling or emotion that we get when we see someone has a thing or talent that we don’t have. Many people call this jealousy. It can make a person hate the other person that has whatever that is causing the envy. It can also make people forget the things that Allah (s.w.t.) has given them, when they only think of the things that they don’t have. Allah (s.w.t.) says in the Qur’an: “If you are grateful (to me), I shall give you more, but if you’re ungrateful, your punishment will be bad, indeed.” As Muslims, we should always say “Alhamdulillah” with what we have.”

Danial Ebling, 3rd grade