

Family Faith Formation

Family Story

This bedtime story was adapted by Hannah McConnaughay and Renee Ruchotzke, as part of their interfaith youth curriculum, "A Chorus of Faiths." One of the story's themes is compassion, specifically, acting from a place of compassion for another, as a way to embody divine love.

The Fox and the Lion

Read the story above, and consider the following prompts to add to whatever questions or observations arise naturally:

Have you ever prayed to ask for something? What happened?

What do you have a lot of that is easy to share with others? What is precious to you, that might be harder to share?

Sometimes we can be like the fox in one situation, needing help and support, but be like the lion in another situation. How could we help and support others in need, even if we...

aren't able to leave our homes?

don't know what the other person needs?

don't have the thing the other person needs?

feel as if no one listens to us, or cares what we say?

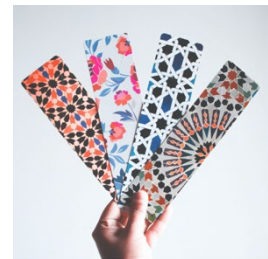
Family Activity

Finding Compassion in Stories--and Marking it!

Many families, during the pandemic, have rediscovered read-alouds, or done a lot more solo reading than they'd done in the past. Stories can offer a way for us to grow our compassion; narratives invite us to immerse ourselves in another's experience, thinking their thoughts and feeling their feelings.

A colorful drawing on a thin length of paper works just fine as a bookmark. A small piece of beloved fabric does, too. Here are some other creative ideas:

<https://www.architectureartdesigns.com/25-creative-diy-bookmarks-ideas/>



Note that the paperclip bookmarks (a few of which are among the choices in the above link) don't work as well with the smallest and youngest of hands, as they can easily tear a page.

This bookmark tutorial, a heart that wraps around a page's corner, might intrigue an avid airplane-folder or other origami lover, and ties in well with our theme of compassion, wrapping the world in love:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UqE4WbR-9t4>

Family Movie

Beauty and the Beast - Belle sees the goodness in Beast, when others are unable to.