**Ghazali Chapter 19**

**Core Lesson**: The story about the boy losing the family horse expresses the importance of trusting Allah’s plan in all circumstances (tawakul)

**Essential Question**: Given that Allah (swt) has always cared for me in the past, can I trust Allah (swt)’s plan for me now and in the future?

Both the core lesson and essential question can be written on the board and students can also be directed to them on page 164 of their workbooks. It is worth pointing these lesson ideas/ resources out to the children in case they want to share them at home or in case parents want to know what they have done in the lesson.

**Read the chapter**. Discuss. Teacher to add own examples if possible. Children can also go home and ask their parents if anything in their life didn’t turn out as expected? Some of these things become more evident with age and it may be more difficult for younger children to comprehend. The chapter is great though and most stories in the world rely on a ‘twist’ that they may be able to recall.

**Watch the video** (about 4.43 minutes long) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjHlxBBgDfg&feature=youtu.be>

**Connecting to the Hadith**: Ibn Umar reported that the Prophet Muhammad (saws) said: ‘When you pass by the gardens of paradise, avail yourselves of them.’ The companions asked: ‘What are the gardens of Paradise, O Messenger of Allah?’ He replied: ‘The circles of dhikr. There are roaming angels of Allah who go about looking for the circles of dhikr, and when they find them they surround them closely.’ (Tirmidh)

The children should by now know the importance of such circles in showing unity and equality and for inviting the pleasure and protection of Allah. See if they can remind each other. If appropriate, spend a few minutes in a dhikr circle.

**Reception**: in pairs, hold stretched out hands whilst sitting on the floor and pull each other back and forwards like a see saw. When each person is forward, they are to say ‘I’m first’. Discuss how the person who is first constantly changes but that each person’s turn comes and we appreciate being first more if we are also sometimes second. How might this be like our lives?

**Story Writing**. This can be done individually or in groups, as a written activity or as a role play. The children are creating a story where things don’t go to plan but the outcome is still good or better than expected. To help the children get started they can use pick characters, events and outcomes from the following list:

Characters: old man, boy, girl, cat, injured soldier, teacher, baby, mum, dad...

Problem: lost your wallet, broke your leg, missed a party, didn’t get into the school you wanted, failed an exam, were made fun of by bullies, got told off by the teacher...

Outcomes/ Resolution: a prize has been won, you found a bargain in the sale, you missed a flight where the plane crashed, all the people at the party got sick, you made a new friend, you found a new skill/ talent, you realised who your true friends were, you were motivated to try harder...