

My Heart
Is Small

My Love Is Grand

Hekimođlu İsmail

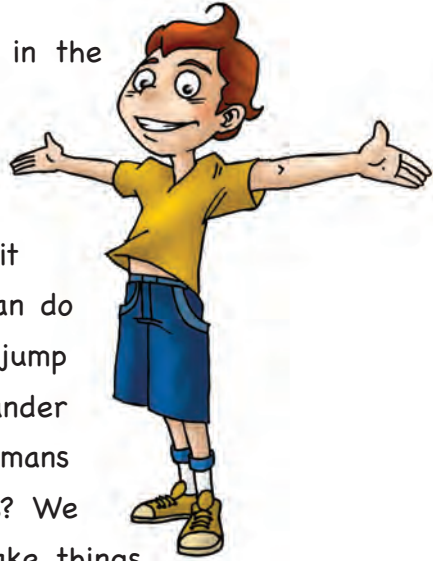
This Book Belongs To:

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As You Start

Hi there!

Isn't it so wonderful to get up in the morning to see the beaming rays of the sun and the blue sky? How grand it is to go outside and run and jump and play! Yes, it is grand but other living things can do these, too. They walk, run, skip, jump and have fun. They drink, eat, wander and sleep like we do. But are we humans different from other living things? We can talk, we can think, we can make things.



These are all important differences that we can do and other living things can't do, but there is one difference that is more important than all of these, and it is what makes us humans extra special. Humans are different from the rest of creation because they can have faith. Faith is what makes people human. It gives them beautiful morals and wisdom.



We express our faith by saying: "Amantu billâhi wa malâ'ikatihî wa kutubihî wa rusulihî wal yawmul akhiri wa bil qadari khayrihî wa sharrihî min allahi ta'alâ wal ba'thu bádâl mawt haqqun ash-hadu an lâ ilâha illâllah wa ash-hadu anna muhammadan abduhû wa rasûluhû"

When we say this it means: "I believe in Allah, His angels, His holy books, His messengers, the Day of Judgment, that all good and bad are from Allah and that there is life after we pass away. I am a witness that there is no god but Allah and that Muhammad is His servant and messenger. "



Islamic scholars call these the "Basic Principles of Faith." As you make your journey through these pages, you will learn the principles of faith, and understand the meaning of faith, insha'Allah.





Faith in Allah



Faith in Allah

We learn a lot of things at school. For example, our teachers will explain to us the landscape of our country. They'll teach us about the mountains, the plains, the rivers, and even the moon, the sun and the stars. In science class we learn about plants, animals, our bodies and all of the amazing things about them.



Now, in these classes do we learn where the earth, the sky, and this enormous universe came from? How did it happen that apples grow on trees? Why do they not come from the ground like potatoes?

Who makes snowflakes, each one different from the other? They don't do it themselves. Mountains are



the biggest structures in the world. They are bigger than buildings! But who made them? Who built this awesome universe to work in perfect order?

When we think about this, many questions come to mind. We'll answer all of these in time. Since nothing can create itself, everything in the universe must have a Creator. Because everything works in perfect order, that Creator must be creating alone, without anyone's help.

That Creator is Allah. **When we say "la ilaha illallah" (There is no god but Allah), we show our belief that Allah is real and that He is One.**

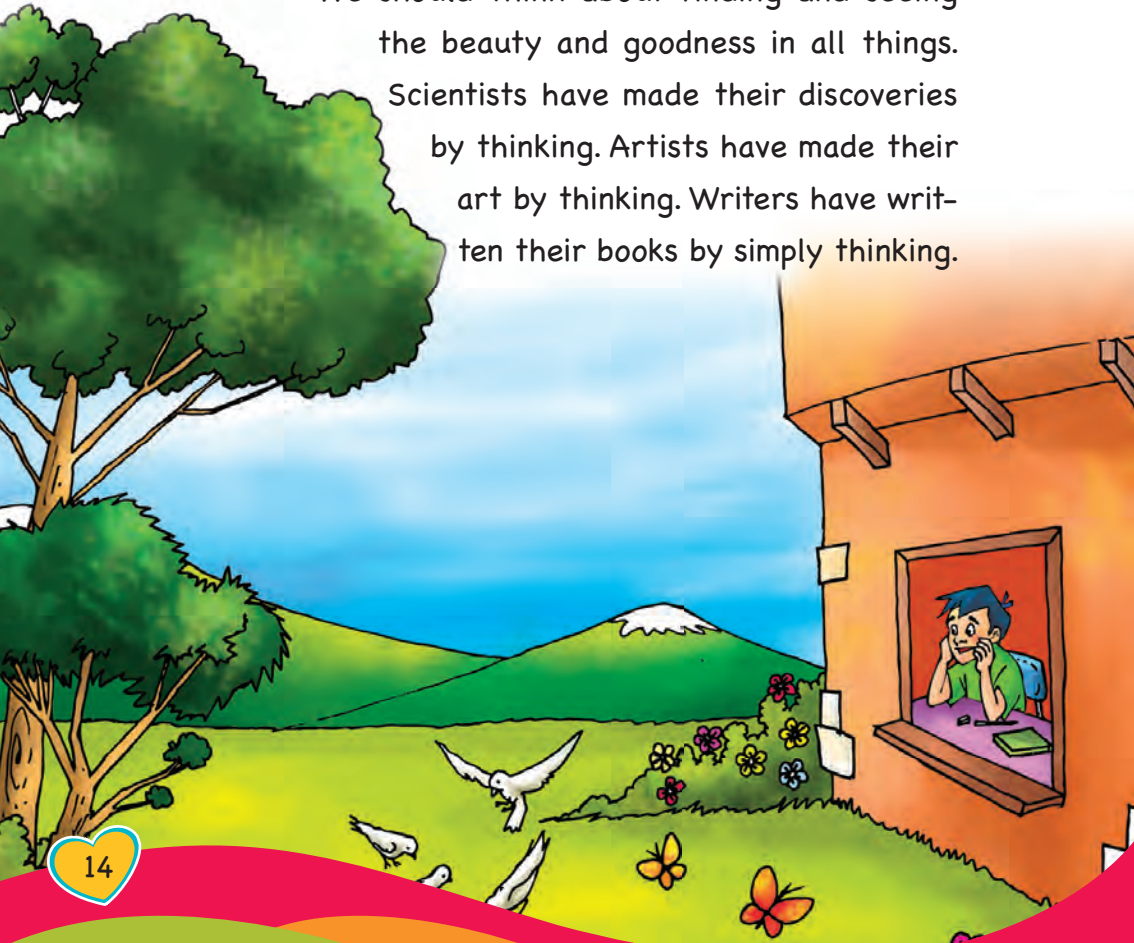


Thinking

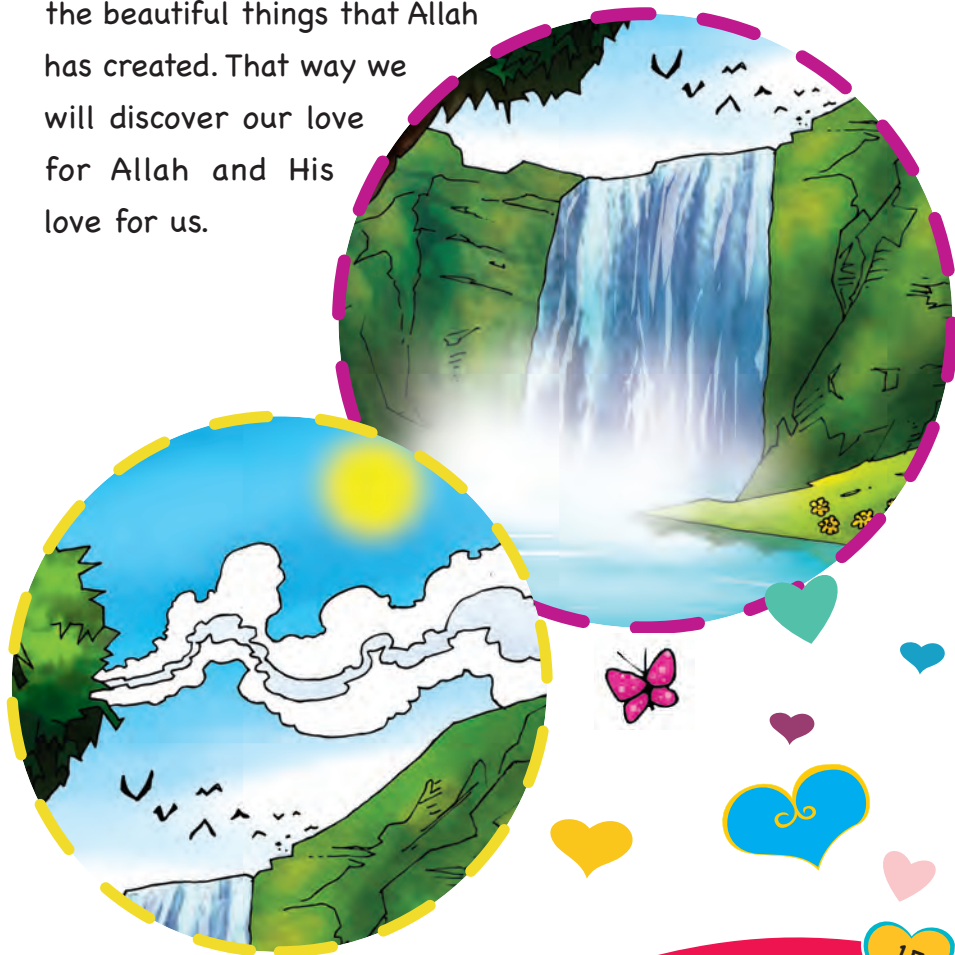
It is amazing that we can think! When people are thinking, they can find and make amazing things.

We should think about finding and seeing the beauty and goodness in all things.

Scientists have made their discoveries by thinking. Artists have made their art by thinking. Writers have written their books by simply thinking.



Perhaps you know that in many places in the Qur'an it says, "Do they not think?" This means that thinking is very important. Come, let's think together about the beautiful things that Allah has created. That way we will discover our love for Allah and His love for us.



The Bees' Hive

Have you ever watched a bee after it leaves its hive? It's very interesting how a bee makes its journey. A bee can fly for miles after leaving its hive. It will travel to flowers that are near, take pollen from them and then return home. Later, with that pollen, it will make delicious honey.

Even if we gathered together all the flowers and mixed them all together, we could not make honey the way bees do. Let's look at how bees make their hives. Hives are all made up of a shape called a hexagon. Many hexagons are made to form a hive. You can get a piece of paper and try to draw a perfect hexagon. Even if you use a ruler it will be very difficult.

However, bees don't have





pens, paper or rulers. How can they make such perfect hexagons? Do bees know geometry? Of course they don't! Our Lord, Who created all things, created within them the knowledge of hive-making and honey-making. **When a person eats honey by the spoonful, they should say, "Thank Allah, who has created bees with the knowledge of how to make honey using pollen."**



The Birds' Nests

Mountains are the biggest structures in the world. They are bigger than buildings! But who made them? Mountains do not know how to build themselves. Who built this awesome universe to work in perfect order? When we think about this, many questions come to mind. We'll answer all of these in time.

Since nothing can create itself, everything in the universe must have a Creator. Because everything works in perfect order, that Creator must be creating alone, without anyone's help. That Creator is Allah.

When we say "la ilaha illallah" (There is no god but Allah), we show our belief that Allah is real and that He is One.



A Horse's Meal

If we brought a horse to a field, do you think he would eat poisonous grass? No, he will never eat poisonous grass. A horse knows which grass he should and shouldn't eat. Isn't that strange? People don't know which grass to eat and which grass not to eat, but horses know. Allah, Who created all the grass-eating animals gave horses the ability to not eat poisonous grass. If they didn't know the difference between different types of grass, then horses would eat poisonous grass and get sick. Allah put in their mouths a natural laboratory in order to protect them.

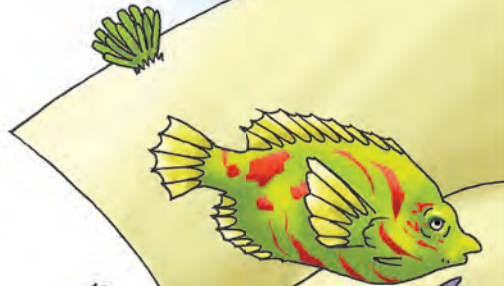
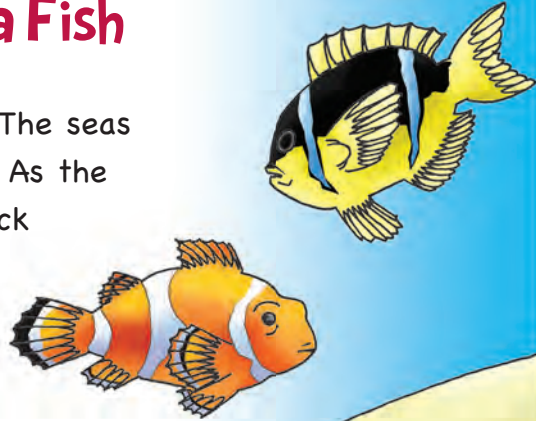


The Clothes of a Fish

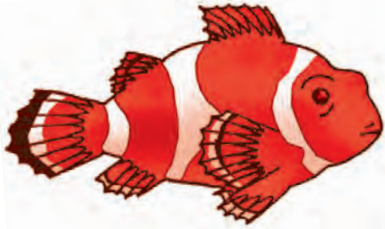
Take a look at the seas. The seas are like an enormous cradle. As the waves rock this cradle back and forth, all the living things in the ocean grow up listening to a lullaby...

All of their food and clothes are ready for them when they are born. Swordfish were given swords, dogfish were given sharp teeth. To oysters He gave shells, to fish their flippers...

The clothes of clams are black and hard. Coral fish are pink. The octopus has yellow clothes. What about the red gurnard whose fins look like fans?

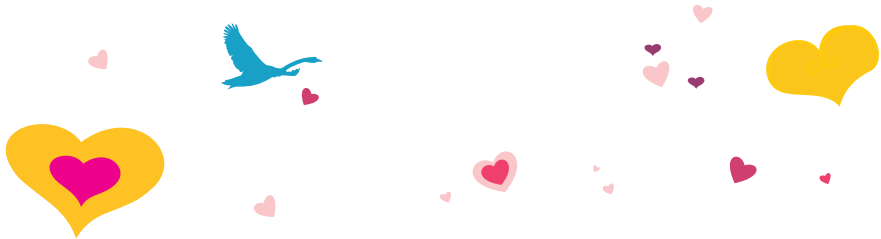


The seas have been decorated with coral and sea-sponges. The ocean floor is covered with a soft carpet of sand.



From the jellyfish to the whale, who is feeding the animals that live in the sea? Who is giving them all these types of clothes?

It is certainly Allah, Who has created many types of living things in the ocean, just as He has created many types of living things on land.



The Apricot Tree

There was a merchant who traveled far away to visit a man who managed an automobile factory. They ate and drank together, and traveled around together. Then the man who managed the factory asked the merchant a question.



“So you have come to visit me and I have hosted you in my town. What gifts have you brought from your country?”

The merchant said,

“I have brought you an apricot tree, and it will give you the most delicious fruits.”

The manager said,

“You brought me a whole apricot tree? It’s too big to carry around!”



Then the merchant took out of his pocket a single apricot seed.

“My friend, inside this seed there is an apricot factory. All you have to do to run this factory is bury this seed in the ground. If you bury this seed in