# **Disposition: Caring for Others, Animals, and the Environment**

## **Lesson:** Two

### Question/LO: Why do Sikh’s care about the planet?

| **Dimension of learning** | **Activities** | **Resources** |
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| Learning about religious traditions and non-religious world-views | Discuss with the children the relationship that children have with their teachers, mothers, and fathers.Read the penultimate verse of the Japji Sahib (the Sikh morning prayer).Pairing activity based on Japji Sahib. *Make picture cards using ‘widget symbols’ and the words ‘teacher’, ‘father’, ‘mother’, ‘wind’, ‘water’ and ‘earth’.*Discuss the following questions with the children. *In the discussion interweave the terms ‘father-like’ and ‘mother-like’.*1. How can the earth be like a mother? Giving safety, food, shelter, ‘building’ materials.2. If earth is the great mother, how should we care for the earth? With gratitude. We make sure that we do no harm to it. We protect it and value its resources.3. If water is the father, how should we treat water? With love and respect. We treat it with care and respect, eg not wasting it. *In many ways the list is the same as for the mother. Water is crucial to life.*4. If the wind is the teacher, how should we treat the wind? With respect. *When unpacking this idea perhaps consider Aesop’s fable ‘The Wind and The Sun’ or the lyrics to the Bob Dylan song ‘Blowing in The Wind’. Wind is like the breath; it’s subtle and creates sound. Its power teaches us the fragility of people.*Explain to the children that day and night indicate that life has natural patterns and rhythms. Sikhs believe that, as part of God’s creation, we should co-exist with creation and not try to make creation adapt to us.*The inclusion of this verse in the Japji Sahib (the Sikh morning prayer) makes clear that these relationships with the environment are integral to Sikh belief and practise.*Using a flip chart, create two lists of targets. The first is a list of things the children will not do, in order to care for the environment, e.g. I will not leave the tap running. The second is a list of things the children will do to care for the environment, e.g. I will recycle paper.  | A resource “Japji Sahib” will have downloaded into the same folder as this lesson plan. KS1\_Y2\_Unit\_07\_Sp\_Wk\_03\_of\_03\_R123\_Resource\_Japji\_Sahib\_v1 |