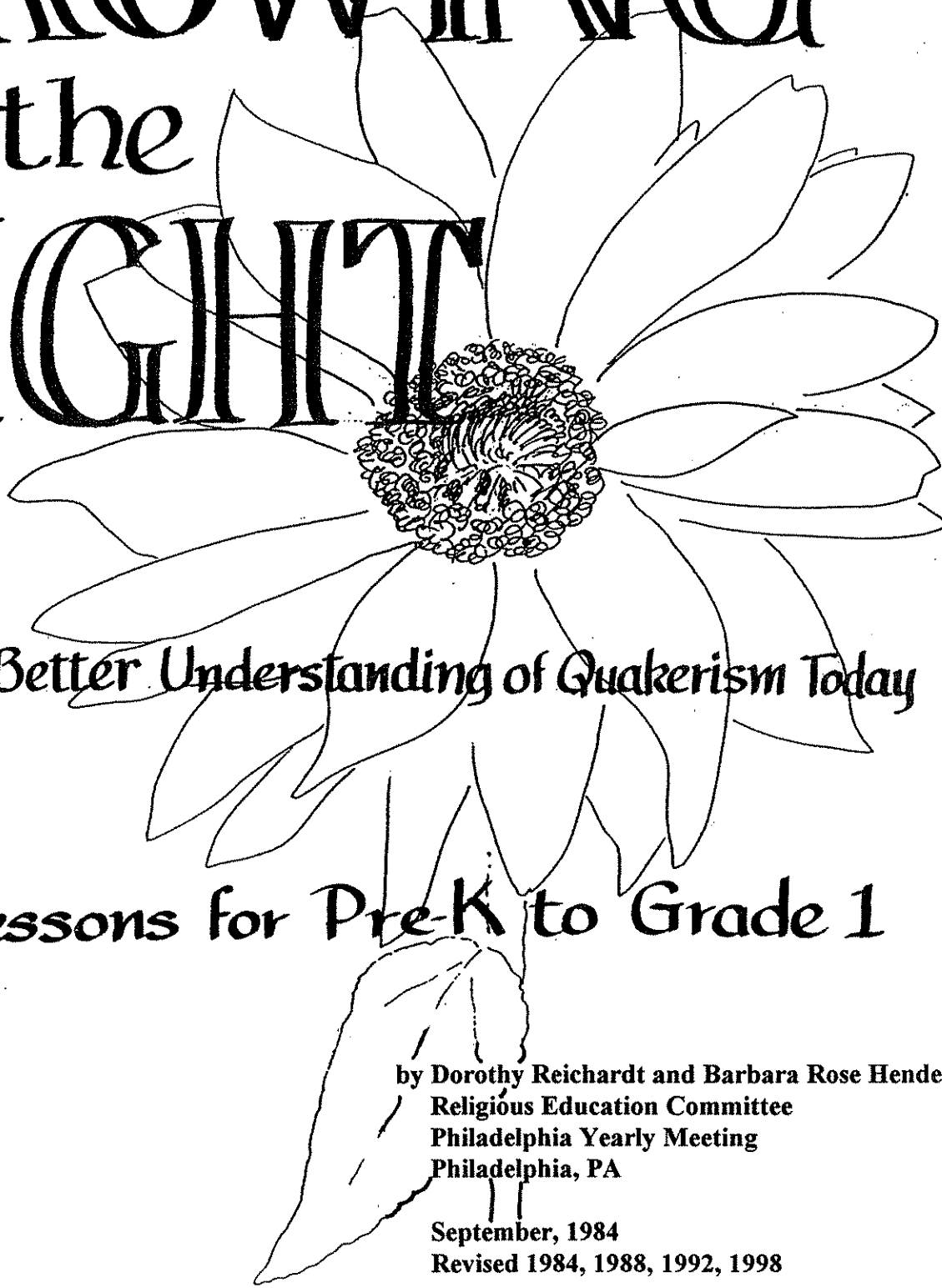


# GROWING in the LIGHT

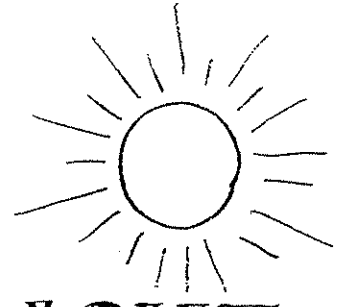


*Toward a Better Understanding of Quakerism Today*

*Nine Lessons for Pre-K to Grade 1*

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Philadelphia Yearly Meeting  
Philadelphia, PA

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# GROWING IN THE LIGHT

## Nine Lessons for Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 1

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*This curriculum helps participants better understand Quaker beliefs, process, and practice. There are three other "Growing in the Light" curricula, covering the same basic Quaker topics at a level for 2nd -5th grade, 6th - 8th grade and 9th - 12th. The lesson openings, included for every lesson except Lesson IX, can be used intergenerationally.*

## INTRODUCTION

These lessons are designed for students three to seven years old. If you have children younger than three in your class, allow them to participate as they can and have an extra adult helper available for these little ones.

The lessons contain a variety of games, songs, stories, and craft activities. Times for sharing and for quiet worship are included each week. Most weeks you will find more to do than you have time for. The lessons are designed to last 45 minutes to one hour. Because attention spans vary so much with this age group, you can prepare one or two of these extra activities as backups in case your class finishes the planned lesson too quickly.

### Supplies That Will Be Needed

Needs are listed with each lesson. Have an adequate stock of basic craft supplies - crayons, scissors, paper, markers, glue, etc. - available every week. A good way to organize these supplies is to provide each child with a shoe box in which he/she keeps these basics.

Books you will need:

*A Hymnal for Friends*+  
*Songs of the Spirit*\*+  
*Worship in Song: A Quaker Hymnal*\*+  
*Where's God?*+ by Katherine Karsner  
*We're Going to Meeting for Worship*\*+ by Abby Hadley

Various children's books are listed in each lesson, including:

*The Berenstain Bears and the Truth, The New Baby, The Berenstain Bears and the Messy Room, and The Berenstain Bears Get In a Fight*+ by Stan and Jan Berenstain.  
*Goodnight, Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown  
*The Runaway Bunny*+ by Margaret Wise Brown  
*Play With Me*+ by Marie Hall Ets  
*A Baby Sister for Frances, Best Friends for Frances, A Birthday for Frances, and The Little Brute Family*+ by Russell Hoban  
*A House is a House for Me*+ by Mary Ann Hoberman.  
*The Snowy Day and Peter's Chair*+ by Ezra Jack Keats  
*The Carrot Seed*+ by Ruth Kraus  
*Owl at Home* by Arnold Lobel.  
*A Little House of Your Own*+ by Beatrice Schenk de Regnier.  
*The Sneetches and Other Stories*+ by Dr. Seuss  
*The Adventures of Obadiah and Rachel and Obadiah*+ by Brinton Turkle  
*Noisy Nora*+ by Rosemary Wells

\*Available from Friends General Conference

+Available from the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Library

Optional items:

Mats or a rug for quiet times; a tape player and tapes for background music during craft periods.

## **Preparing Each Lesson**

Read the general introduction to the curriculum. All the adults who will work with this age group should at least skim all the lessons. Be sure to carefully read the lessons you will teach. Assemble supplies, work out a flexible time schedule, arrange your space. Feel free to revise and adapt the lessons to your group. Establish some regular routines; this age group likes the stability provided by a predictable schedule.

## **Places to Order or Borrow Resources**

Friends General Conference, 1216 Arch Street, 2B, Philadelphia, PA 19107; 215-561-1700.  
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Library, 1515 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102; 215-214-7220.

## **Questions or Problems?**

Call Martha Smith, Religious Education Office, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting; 215-214-7008.

## **Credits**

- Several of the finger plays are adapted from *Be and Say Finger Play* by Elaine M. Ward. This book is available from your local book store or Educational Ministries, 765 Penarth Ave., Walnut, CA 91789. (ISBN 0-940754-12-6, 71 pg., 1982, \$7.95) It contains almost 300 finger plays and we highly recommend that you order this book for your First-Day School.
- Many Friends active in First-Day Schools have contributed ideas for these lessons. Special thanks are due to Cindy Robinson and Merrill Dutton of Providence Meeting, and Marty Smith of Moorestown Meeting.