Ridvan Resources

General Resources for Ridvan:

<https://www.brilliantstarmagazine.org/parents-teachers/family-community-life/community-celebrations-and-events/celebrating-the-festival-of-ridvan>

Songs:

Songs: 1. Ridvan is Paradise by Marie & Roger Gervais (casette tape:   
Feast at My House) 2. Garden of Ridvan, Voices of Baha in Concert 2000; 3. Sing a New Song from Building Bridges demonstration tape; 4. Ridvan by Smith and Dragoman (CD: The Mystery); 5. A New Day has Dawned by Seaforth and Jenkins; 6. Ridvan by Caroline Mackay; 7. Gathering the Wild Roses by Caroline Mackay; 8. Rejoice with Exceeding Gladness by Elika Mahony, 9. In this Day, Baha'u'llah by Baha'i Gospel Singers, CD=We Have Come to Sing Praises; 10. Baha'u'llah has Come by Douglas Marshall and Susan Engle on CD Arm in Arm; there is also a version of this song on the casette tape Feast at My House; 11. King of Days by Barb Qualls

Elika Mahony composed a piece for Ridvan titled, 'Rejoice with exceeding gladness' in 6 languages. Here is a video for the song just in English with photographs of the Ridvan garden (I'm in the process of making a video for all 6 languages): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2g-WiSeYB0>

Elika Mahony also translated the song into 11 languages total including Swahili, German, Arabic, French, Italian, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Swedish, Portuguese (and there's English). Here is a link for free downloads for the full song and each language separately and there is also an instrumental version if communities want to sing it on without the recorded vocals:

<http://music.elikamahony.com/album/rejoice-with-exceeding-gladness-a-song-for-ridvan>

Recorded Stories: Stories on Tape: Sarah Perseval has a CD titled "Stories of 'Abdu'l-Baha" on which there is a magical story about the time in the Garden of Ridvan, suitable for very young children. She also has a slightly different story on the CD titled "The Ancient Beauty" which might be more appropriate for older children. I burned a CD with the songs to play in the car, but started it off with the story from the 'Abdu'l-Baha stories CD, and ended it with bird songs of nightingales you can find on YouTube

To set the tone for story time, you can play this youtube video with nightingales singing in the background and burn a rose smelling candle. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NK2\_bcQcoD4&feature=youtu.be

Storybooks:

When reading stories about Ridvan, we may want to share with our children the process of Baha’u’llah’s Declaration. As the Guardian explains, it had three phases. 1) the Black Pit where Baha’u’llah was made aware of His station by God. 2)the Garden of Ridvan, where Baha’u’llah declared his mission to a handful of trusted believers. And 3) the Tablets to the Kings in Adrianople where Baha’u’llah proclaimed his mission to the World. This book includes those 3 stories. The Life of Baha’u’llah by Melissa Charepoo: https://www.amazon.com/Life-Bahaullah-Melissa-Lopez-Charepoo/dp/1975800060/ref=asap\_bc?ie=UTF8

Decoration:

You can find banners that say “Happy Ridvan” on Etsy

Rose garlands

Some families put up an actual tent in their home with pillows and rugs and such. Most children love going inside a tent!

You can also use a simple mosquito net such as the one sold at Ikea: <https://m.ikea.com/us/en/catalog/products/art/44361010/>

You can hang it in your living room and read stories under it every night! <3

Here is a beach towel that some have used under the mosquito net to look like a Persian rug: https://www.amazon.com/Mandala-Tapestry-Roundie-Tablecloth-Meditation/dp/B06XY4M2LZ/ref=redir\_mobile\_desktop?\_encoding=UTF8&keywords=round%20beach%20towel&pi=AC\_SX236\_SY340\_QL65&qid=1522604906&ref\_=mp\_s\_a\_1\_25&sr=8-25

Making a Mini Ridvan Garden:

If you don’t want to have a big tent, you can also make a little “Garden of Ridvan” on a table. Michaels sells a lovely tent in their miinatures section: <http://www.michaels.com/boho-mini-cabana-by-celebrate-it/10536864.html>

To go under the mini Cabana, we put a "Persian Rug" that is actually a mouse pad, purchased on [Amazon.com](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2FAmazon.com%2F&h=ATMvSdsf0f8EBQCFTU_aLNKZRLRCEzpL0XTGaCA737g3gu_tkuNfbTMmUV_SaZ2ApTxEUB64OFiAN_HDTkqQ-QuE4WsWyB2LyT-cYnhklkXXjc9udcHMkV_FcP3rq2-F8YgjnEs" \t "_blank), search terms: Rug Mouse Pad,Lexiart Oriental Persian Woven Mouse Mat. https://smile.amazon.com/Mouse-Lexiart-Oriental-Persian-Woven/dp/B01FH9DQDQ/ref=sr\_1\_2?s=office-products&ie=UTF8&qid=1522602987&sr=1-2&keywords=rug%20mouse%20pad%2C%20lexiart

And under it all, a mat of fake grass from Michaels. [http://www.michaels.com/10260223.html](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.michaels.com%2F10260223.html&h=ATP1MkJrViDH39imu3fkaWYjDXZn8cgnffOF9Ez__6BTXiEsTG_shyAg5WM34foVOAKzkJSvXcX_V0whDlwM2s0l8zKCXAUaT54nb02VfWppzRUr_XYhNTG_MaxAhXzfIG0_lNk" \t "_blank)

Photos:

Picture of Ridvan Garden (taken in later years), The garden had many trees, some of them palm trees. We also know there were path lined with roses.

Picture of tent that was used by Baha’u’llah when He visited Mount Carmel in 1883- perhaps the one He used in the Ridvan garden was similar

Picture of Baghdad with the Tigris River, and the Garden of Ridvan in the top left across from the river

Picture of Ridvan Garden showing the palm trees

Arts and Crafts for Ridvan:

Here are some links for ideas:

<https://delighted-hearts.com/category/ridvan/>

Coloring Sheets

https://delightedhearts.files.wordpress.com/2017/04/2017\_dhllc\_melissa-charepoo\_-ridvan-coloring-sheet.pdf