



## R.E. LESSON PLAN - WATFORD SCHOOLS TRUST

<b>LESSON TITLE</b> Being thankful and Harvest traditions	<b>LEARNING STAGE</b> KS1	<b>WST TEACHER/DATE</b> Mrs Tricia Bastable/ Mrs Johanna Jordan
<b>AIM:</b> To understand that Christians thank God for their food. They celebrate with a special Harvest festival. <b>LEARNING OBJECTIVE:</b> To explore how Christians celebrate the Harvest festival and thank God for their food (and all the things they have).	<b>MAIN AREAS/ OF LEARNING</b> (Herts R.E. Agreed Syllabus 2017-22)  Beliefs and practices Justice and fairness  <b>Other AOL covered:</b> Human responsibility and values Identity and belonging Prayer, worship and reflection	<b>LESSON RESOURCES</b> <b>WST will bring:</b> Harvest basket (selection of fruit and vegetables) or pictures PowerPoint (USB) Worksheets to photocopy Paper plates and tissue paper  <b>School to provide:</b> Photocopies of worksheet Colouring pencils or felt tips

### Introduction

Show (pictures of) a selection of fruit and vegetables (i.e. apple, carrots, potato, wheat, corn) and discuss where they come from. All our food comes from nature. Christians believe that God made the world and made everything in it. Christians find it therefore important to thank God for their food. They do this at a special festival called the 'Harvest festival'.

### Main content

Ask the children what they think the word 'Harvest' means?

Show PowerPoint to explain that Harvest is the time of the year when farmers bring in their crops from the fields.

In the past people depended on a good harvest to have enough food to eat throughout the year. In some countries people still grow their own food and experience this same dependency. Harvest celebrations are a way for people to say thank you to God after the crops are harvested from the field. Christians are thankful to God, who gives the rain and the sun for crops to grow. To express their thankfulness to God many Christians around the world have a special time of thanksgiving during the autumn months (September/October). This is called the Harvest Festival. People decorate their churches with flowers, fruit and vegetables and they have a special Harvest service (show pictures). Christians also do something special during Harvest to help other people.

Show BBC learning zone clip (4466) Harvest

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0114rn0>

During the Harvest Festival Christians say thank you to God by giving things to people who are in need. They share what they have with others.

The Bible tells Christians to be generous and share from what they have. Jesus taught about generosity when he lived on earth. Watch the video clip of the 'Miracle lunch' on Max 7 and discuss how Christians might be inspired by what Jesus did in the story.

<https://www.max7.org/en/resource/amiracleforlunch>

Discuss some examples of giving to or supporting other people and (local) charities that help people, such as homeless/poor people (New Hope/foodbank), elderly people, charities that help people in poor countries (e.g. Christian aid).

Many people, Christians and non-Christians get involved with Harvest celebrations. Discuss with the children whether they think they can help others in need.

### **Activity**

Children will be given individual worksheets and encouraged to think about what we have to be thankful for. On the worksheet, they can draw 4 things they can be thankful for in the 4 boxes of the circle (nature, food, animals and people). Label the pictures. Colour in the pictures.

Optional: Cut out the circle and stick it on a paper plate. Decorate the plate with tissue paper in autumn colours.

### **Extension/enrichment activities**

Harvest craft/art activities such as vegetable stamping.

Explore opportunities to help others in the local community.

Listen to 'It's another Harvest Festival' song from New Hope

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTdlrITIXks&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTdlrITIXks&feature=emb_logo)

Or download from: <https://www.newhope.org.uk/harvest>

### **Deeper Questions - Possible follow up/class discussion suggestions**

Explore a charity that supports people in need (e.g. foodbank, homeless charity).

Have a (food) collection in the school to support a local charity.

### **Class teacher's notes**

For further lesson plans, resources and support material visit  
[www.watfordschoolstrust.org](http://www.watfordschoolstrust.org) or email [info@watfordschoolstrust.org](mailto:info@watfordschoolstrust.org)

