

Assembly Plan: Festival

SUBJECT

Harvest/Creation

KEY STAGE

Nursery-KS2

TERM

1

OVERVIEW

Diocesan Vision: Caring for our surroundings, Caring for our world.

SRE Curriculum: Developing a sense of self in the context of family, friends, and communities.

Summary: Explores the theme of Harvest and gratitude and then explores the gifts that we receive from God and how like God has given us nourishment in the form of food, God has also given us gifts with which we can nourish the people and communities around us.

PHASES

NOTES

DIRECTIONS

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<p>PREPARATION AND MATERIALS</p>	<p>Owing to the start of term, this maybe our first assembly for a school of the new school year. The assembly does not only concentrate on the harvest of food and nourishment but also on the gifts we as individuals bring to our communities.</p> <p>The school may also have had their harvest festival. This assembly is hopefully easily adaptable as a harvest assembly or a harvest festival.</p>	<p>Schools are multi faith/belief communities. Please remember to use inclusive, non-gendered language for God (e.g., using God not he or she), give reflective option to children who do not want to pray and start prayers with Our God to enable those of other faiths to feel free to pray.</p>
<p>WELCOME</p>	<p>Hello everybody! How are you today? In a moment I'm going to ask you to show me your thumbs. Give me a thumbs up if you're feeling great, a thumbs down if you're not feeling so great and a middling/flat thumb if you're in-between. Show me your thumbs!</p> <p>So today we're thinking about Harvest and our beautiful world!</p>	<p>Don't forget to introduce yourself if this is your first assembly with the school/new intake.</p> <p>(The thumbs exercise is useful. If you see lots of middling thumbs etc. this gives you a clue that you may have to do a bit more work in terms of getting them to answer questions etc.)</p>
<p>TELL</p>	<p>Harvest is a festival in the church in which we give thanks for all that God has given us to eat and drink and say thank you to all who help provide our food.</p>	

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	<p>Christians are not the only ones to celebrate harvest festivals. Many faiths have festivals in which they give thanks for food and the crops that have grown during the year. These festivals don't always happen in the autumn as harvest times vary from country to country and climate to climate.</p>	
<p>ASK</p>	<p>During harvest festival we say thank you to God for the lovely food that we eat and give thanks for those who provide our food.</p> <p>Can you think of who helps provide our food and the foods they might provide for us?</p>	<p>Wheat fields – birthday cake etc Fisher people – fish fingers! Fruit pickers- strawberries etc.</p> <p>If Harvest festival, some of the children could bring up examples to add to the display at the front of the hall.</p> <p>Supplement:</p> <p>A4 Prompt Cards (You could also do a matching game getting volunteers to stand holding the cards and the children to tell them where to stand to match the cards.)</p>
<p>EXPLAIN</p>	<p>So, in Harvest we give thanks for all that God created that brings us nourishment and joy.</p> <p><i>[In harvest festival- You have all been so generous with your gifts!... Bless gifts to be sent off.]</i></p> <p>Christians believe that God created the world, and the story of creation can be found in a book in the Bible called Genesis. Here is a poem that retells the story of creation in Genesis.</p>	<p>Supplements:</p> <p>KS1 – Print the A4 prompt cards from Ask as A5 Card match of foods and food providers.</p> <p>KS2- research creation stories from different countries/faiths. Are there any similarities or differences?</p>

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	<p>Play: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q9g1sg_xHaM</p> <p>Show the picture – To think God made the earth, stars etc. and then thought the world needed you too.</p> <p>Look at this picture. Just think that when God created all those wonderful things God thought, “I needed me too!” How awesome is that. You have gifts that God has given you that will make the world a better place.</p>	
<p>REMIND/ CONSOLIDATE</p>	<p>Think about all the gifts God gives us. Can you think of something that you particularly feel grateful for? Maybe it’s your favourite food, farmers who grow the wheat that makes the flour for your toast in the morning or the people who catch the fish for your fish fingers the list is endless.</p>	<p>(Think, pair, share here in assembly hall to allow quieter children to feel like they can contribute)</p>
<p>PRAY/REFLECT</p>	<p>Look at the picture again. Take a moment to think about the gifts that you bring into the world that can nourish others. Maybe you make a wonderful cup of tea or you’re a good listener.</p> <p>(Take 30 seconds)</p> <p>Now I’d like you to think of someone or something you are grateful for in your life and why you are thankful for them.</p>	

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	<p>In a moment, we're going to pray.</p> <p>If you don't want to pray that's fine. Maybe you could imagine in your head the someone or something in your head who you are grateful for and imagine thanking them.</p> <p>Our God,</p> <p>You created so many amazing and wonderful things.</p> <p>Thank you for the gift of food and nourishment. We pray for those places and people that don't have enough and ask that those people who have plenty to share with those who have not.</p> <p>Our God, we thank you for the gifts that you have given each of us to use to make our school and communities a better place.</p> <p>Thank you for those who encourage and nurture our gifts.</p> <p>Amen</p>	
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Video Script (Clergy/Leader Copy and Paste this into Teleprompter to create subtitles etc.)

Hello! I'm Mother Rosemary.

So today we're thinking about Harvest and our beautiful world!

Harvest is a festival in the church in which we give thanks for all that God has given us to eat and drink and say thank you to all who help provide our food.

Christians are not the only ones to celebrate harvest festivals. Many faiths have festivals in which they give thanks for food and the crops that have grown during the year. These festivals don't always

happen in the autumn as harvest times vary from country to country and climate to climate. So, in Harvest we give thanks for all that God created that brings us nourishment and joy.

Christians believe that God created the world, and the story of creation can be found in a book in the Bible called Genesis. Here is a poem that retells the story of creation in Genesis.

Look at this picture. Just think that when God created all those wonderful things God thought, "God needed me too!" How awesome is that. You have gifts that God has given you that will make the world a better place. When God created all this awesome stuff, God created you too! That makes you awesome too!

Think about all the gifts God gives us. Your teacher might like to press pause here to give you some time to think and discuss your ideas. Can you think of something that you particularly feel grateful for? Maybe it's your favourite food, farmers who grow the wheat that makes the flour for your toast in the morning or the people who catch the fish for your fish fingers the list is endless.

Look at the picture again. Take a moment to think about the gifts that you bring into the world that can nourish others. Maybe you make a wonderful cup of tea or you're a good listener. Your teacher might like to press pause again here for you to think about and discuss your ideas.

Now I'd like you to think of someone or something you are grateful for in your life and why you are thankful for them.

In a moment, we're going to pray.

If you don't want to pray that's fine. Maybe you could imagine in your head the someone or something in your head who you are grateful for and imagine thanking them.

Our God,

You created so many amazing and wonderful things.

Thank you for the gift of food and nourishment. We pray for those places and people that don't have enough and ask that those people who have plenty to share with those who have not.

Our God, we thank you for the gifts that you have given each of us to use to make our school and communities a better place. Thank you for those who encourage and nurture our gifts.

Amen