Festival: Harvest ~ Thanksgiving	**Year Group: Year 1**	**No. of lessons: 2**

Links: Cambs. CFF1; CSC1; CNW1; CNW2 Pborough: CRC1,CSC1, CNW1, CNW2, Nfolk: CP, CBB,

Learning objectives:

- To be able to explore their own feelings about giving thanks and sharing
- To recognise that most Christians celebrate the harvest festival
- To know that Christians believe that God created the world and cares for it
- To recognise that Christianity teaches good stewardship of the natural world

Questions for reflection:

Who provides my food?
When and how do I say 'thank you'?
I wonder if I should share things that I like?
Why should I care for the world?

Activities and experiences:

- Start by discussing the children's last meal, and extend this to a discussion of the universal need for food and water
- Find out about all the people whose work contributes to the making of a loaf of bread. Make it clear that there are parts of the process that cannot be made by people; Christians believe that God gives the gifts of rain, sun and plant growth.
- Make bread together, making sure that everyone can have two small bread rolls ~ one to eat at school, and one to take home to share with the family. Why have we made enough for everyone to have two each? Does everyone have the same amount to eat? Does it matter?
- Ask a member of the local church to come and talk to the children about the reasons why the church celebrates harvest. Find out how the members of the church give thanks, by giving to others. There are organisations, like Christian Aid, that provide excellent videos of work done in different parts of the world, and a clip is a good way of showing information in a child-friendly format.
- Sit in a circle and light the thinking candle. Put a bread roll and other harvest gifts in the centre, to remind the children of the focus. In what different ways do I show that I am thankful for all that I have, including health and opportunities?