

<b>Festival: Harvest ~ the Church</b>	<b>Year Group: Year 2</b>	<b>No. of lessons: 2</b>
<b>Links:</b> Cambs. CFF1; CSC2; CNW2; RNW2 Pborough: CRC1, CSC1, CNW1, CNW2, Norfolk: CBB, CP, CLS, CW,		
<p><b>Learning objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ To recognise that most Christians celebrate harvest festivals and that this is done in a variety of ways.</li> <li>◆ To learn that Jesus gave thanks for his food before eating and that this is called 'grace'.</li> <li>◆ To find out about songs and writings associated with harvest in the church.</li> <li>◆ To discover that everyone has a part to play in stewardship</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Questions for reflection:</b></p> <p>Why do some people give thanks to God for their food? Which harvest song do I like best and why? What would I like to include in a harvest festival? What spoils our world? What makes it beautiful?</p>		
<p><b>Activities and experiences:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Go outside on a nature walk and observe a variety of trees and plants, together with their fruit. Take secateurs, and use the opportunity to explain that you are going to select cuttings for the classroom. Discuss what would happen if we all did this. Put cut stems in water, give the children a drink too, and discuss universal needs for water, food, shelter and care.</li> <li>◆ Use the contents of a lunchbox to explain our interdependence as peoples, and between people and the natural world. Ask the children about different ways of saying thank you when our needs are met, and how we express thanks to parents, friends and teachers. I wonder why some people also give thanks to God?</li> <li>◆ Ask a member of the church to accompany you on a church visit, so that you can find out how and why the church gets ready for harvest. Arrange for the children to sing a harvest song while you are there, and to hear a short passage from the Bible</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." Genesis 8:22</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ On the art table, make handprints, with the children painting their palms and printing sunflowers, using fingertips for the seeds. Once these are dry, they can be cut out and made into sunflowers for a large display. Cut out the leaves in advance, and write down on them the children's ideas for thanking God for different aspects of the natural world.</li> <li>◆ Ask for contributions to the planning of your school harvest festival so that at least some of the ideas will be the children's own.</li> </ul>		