

Unit of work: 1/12	Topic title: Seasons and Harvest	Half term: Autumn A
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Outline	Details
<p>Learning Objectives ~</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To find out about and identify some features of living things (ELG from Knowledge and Understanding of the World ~ Science)</li> <li>• To talk about how and why plants grow.</li> <li>• To begin to appreciate the seasons and to find out about harvest celebrations.</li> <li>• To be aware that Christians see harvest as a gift from God, and to think about their own ability to give to others.</li> <li>• To experience a harvest festival appropriate to their own school community</li> </ul>	
<p>Week 1: What is a "harvest"?</p>	<p>Read "Misty" by Shirley Hughes and talk about the changing seasons. Who has seen evidence of this in the fields, on the market, in the park? Bring in a shopping bag full of fruit and vegetables, some fresh, some dried and some in tins. Talk about the origins of the food and let the children discuss likes and dislikes. Show some pictures of farming and introduce some key words ~ sowing, weeding, gathering, ripe, cutting, harvesting. Learn a traditional harvest song with actions.</p>
<p>Week 2: The cycle of growth</p>	<p>Use big book to show pictures of the fruits produced in autumn and talk about the process of seed production. Use the variety of fruits and vegetables to find the different seeds. Could the children predict the fruit by observing the seed only? Cut fruit and vegetables and use them to make prints in RE books, and large observational drawings and paintings to be mounted and used later in the display.</p>
<p>Week 3: The farm Saying thank you</p>	<p>Either arrange a visit to a farm, orchard, vegetable plot etc., or show a video of food production of some sort, relevant to the community in which the children live. Talk about harvest festivals, and explain that Christians say thank you to God for the harvest. Ask the children to whom they say thank you, and why. Record something of the visit or video in RE books with a dictated caption and make a big thank you card for the Farmer!</p>
<p>Week 4: A harvest display</p>	<p>Use the paintings and drawings made earlier to make a display in the classroom. Leave some shapes blank for now so you can record the children's responses later. Make a sun and raindrops to complete the display, hanging them on thread or fishing line from the ceiling. Invite guests to share a very simple meal, perhaps of bread, fruit and juice. Do the children know where our food has come from? Talk about why we invite guests to share meals in our homes.</p>

<p>Week 5: Harvest festival (Adjust the timing to suit your school)</p>	<p>The children prepare to take part in a harvest festival of some kind, in the classroom, collective worship or the church. This could involve sharing their display, a dance or song, reciting a poem or joining in with drama. E.g. Use Handa's Surprise to produce a very simple dramatic story that illustrates both harvest and giving.</p>
<p>Week 6: I remember ~ saying thank you by giving</p>	<p>Talk about planting a present for Mummy, or a special carer, to be given at Christmas, to say thank you. Demonstrate the decoration of a fairly large, round margarine tub with pasta, to be spray-painted later, and the planting of a bulb in a large fibre pot, which will fit inside the tub. Explain that the bulbs will need to be kept in the dark at first. Record the design in RE books if possible ~ the flowers can be made from paper scraps.</p>
<p><b>Assessment:</b></p>	<p>Take the children to their harvest display in small groups and ask them about the significance of their own contribution. Tape or scribe the responses.</p>

## Misty by Shirley Hughes

Shop windows,  
lighted early,  
soaking grass,  
dewy, pearly.  
Red, lemon,  
orange and brown,  
silently, softly,  
the leaves float down.

From 'Out and About' by Shirley Hughes



Book focus ~ Handa's Surprise by Eileen Brown, Walker 07445-5706-2  
Out and about by Shirley Hughes, Walker 0-7745-0605-0

