

Unit 3.6 Harvest – How do people of faith say thank you to God for the harvest?

Overview of unit

- build on knowledge gained in Key Stage 1, develop further understanding that Harvest festivals are a traditional celebration to give thanks to God for the Gift of Harvest
- increase knowledge and understanding of the ways in which communities celebrate harvest around the world
- deepen understanding of why harvest is celebrated by people of all faiths and world views
- enable pupils to reflect on their own experiences of harvest festivals

Key Questions

- Why do communities celebrate the harvest?
- Why do Christians celebrate Harvest Festival?
- What exactly is being celebrated at harvest?
- Who celebrates the harvest?
- How do communities around the world celebrate harvest?
- Why is the harvest celebrated by people with faith and those of no faith?
- What does the Harvest Festival, and being thankful mean to you?

Key Knowledge and Understanding: What will we be learning about in this unit?

By the end of this unit pupils will know that:

- harvest is celebrated by people of all faiths and none.
- harvest is mentioned throughout the Old Testament.
- there is a connection between Christian belief and behaviour in relation to celebrating the harvest.

By the end of this unit pupils are expected to be able to:

- describe the ways in which Christian harvest festival celebrations show Christian values in action.
- describe and recognise similarities between different religious harvest festivals.
- express their own opinion as to why communities celebrate Harvest.

Christian concepts

GOD – CREATION – Fall – People of God – Incarnation – Gospel – Salvation
– Kingdom of God

Christian values

Thankfulness
Generosity

Key Vocabulary

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| Harvest Festival | A harvest festival is an annual celebration that occurs around the time of the main harvest of a given region. |
| Thankfulness | the feeling of being happy or grateful because of something. It involves feeling and expressing appreciation for people and things in your life. |
| Sukkot | Sukkot is a Jewish seven-day festival. Inside the Land of Israel, the first day is celebrated as a full festival with special prayer services and holiday meals. |
| Sukkah | A temporary hut constructed for use during the week-long Jewish festival of Sukkot. It is topped with branches and often well decorated with autumnal, harvest or Judaic themes. |
| Pongal | a Hindu harvest and thanksgiving festival primarily celebrated in Southern India among Tamil communities. It marks the transition to springtime after the winter solstice. |

