

Harvest Resources for Families and Schools



At this time of year, many churches and schools would normally be holding a Harvest Festival service or celebration. A Harvest Festival is often a service which brings together all ages to celebrate God's goodness in creation and to remember our responsibility to care for those who do not have as much as us. We might still be doing things a little differently this year, but there are lots of great ideas and resources out there for holding a Harvest Festival celebration at home, school or church.

Resources

For primary age

A Harvest Story: What is so special about Harvest?

<http://request.org.uk/restart/2014/10/06/a-harvest-story/>

Learn about Harvest in an interactive presentation

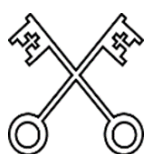
<http://request.org.uk/restart/2014/09/08/harvest/>

What is so special about a Harvest loaf?

<http://request.org.uk/restart/2014/09/08/harvest-2/>

Festivals, Food and Faith: How do Christians respond to poverty?

<http://request.org.uk/restart/2014/06/10/send-a-cow-2/>



What is celebrated at Harvest?

<http://request.org.uk/restart/2014/09/18/harvest-3/>





How do we say thank you: A Harvest thanksgiving sheet for children

<http://request.org.uk/teachers/teaching-resources/festivals-resources/harvest-festival/harvest-festival/>

Match it! Harvest Fun: A Pairs Matching Game for Harvest

Play this fun Harvest matching game and learn more about the Christian festival as you play

<http://request.org.uk/restart/2015/09/14/match-it-harvest-fun/>

Barnabas in Schools

A range of support material linked to Harvest

<http://www.barnabasinschools.org.uk/harvest-support-material>

Traidcraft Harvest lesson resources

<http://request.org.uk/teachers/request-recommends/resources-recommends/traidcraft-harvest/>

Bible stories for Harvest

Barnabas in Schools has a reflective story presentation of a version of the parable about the planting of a vineyard recorded in Isaiah 5.

<http://www.barnabasinschools.org.uk/idea/reflective-story-presentation-harvest>

For secondary age

How do Christians celebrate Harvest?

<http://request.org.uk/festivals/other-festivals/harvest/>

There are also some great ideas for Harvest worship, reflection and crafts for children and families to be found at:

- **Reading Fellowship Ideas Hub**

An idea for a short act of worship for all ages at Harvest Thanksgiving and some Harvest craft and games ideas

<https://ideas.brf.org.uk/topics/harvest>

- **Going 4 Growth: a Church of England resource hub to support ministry with and among children and young people.**

All age ideas for a Harvest service, plus information and resources

http://www.going4growth.com/growth_through_the_year/harvest

- **The Farming Community Network**

A detailed resource pack for the celebration of Harvest Festival

<https://fcn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Resources-for-the-Celebration-of-Harvest-Festival-1.pdf>





Harvest and Creation Activities and Crafts for children

- **Flame: Creative Children's Ministry** has a number of great ideas for Harvest and Creation-related story and craft activities, particularly for younger children:
<http://flamecreativekids.blogspot.com/2012/09/harvest-messy-church-creation-story.html>
- **Messy Church Harvest** has collated a range of activities:
<https://www.messychurch.org.uk/messy-blog/messy-harvest-ideas>

Bradford Cathedral Messy Harvest 2019

Here are pictures of some of the things we tried out for our Messy Harvest at Bradford Cathedral in 2019.



There was bread-making with Canon Mandy. The children had great fun kneading the dough





We listened to the Creation story and there was singing, colouring and crafts.



We wrote prayers of thanks and hung them on our Prayer Tree



Whilst our bread was baking we went outside and planted bulbs, even though it was raining heavily!





Eventually we came back inside, dried off, gave thanks for what God has given us, then sat down and ate together- including the bread we had made!



Happy Harvest Festival!

