



HARVEST

A PRIMARY ASSEMBLY

Additional Resources

PowerPoint - optional

Harvest offerings on display - optional

Aims

To know that we give food as a sign of being thankful.

To understand that our actions influence others.

Introduction

Welcome children and teachers to the Harvest assembly and introduce yourself. If Harvest goods are on display, thank the children for their donations.

Starter

We are going to start this morning with a little game. I'd like some volunteers. You need to be ok with being a little silly in front of everyone.

Select a small group, (4-6). You may wish to have prepared a small group beforehand. You may even want to have a willing adult at the end of the line!

We're going to play "Pass it on". You may know this game; it's a bit like Chinese whispers but with actions...

One child faces you; the rest faces the opposite way and tries not to look. Show a silly action e.g. a chicken dance move or a series of silly hand gestures. Then this child taps the shoulder of the next child so they know to turn around, demonstrates the move... and so on.... The last person shows the audience.

Points to note, some children may be self-conscious so don't make the actions too ridiculous or too long a sequence. You may also need to stand beside someone who is reluctant or really young, to help pass it on. Don't include any touching of another person or hair messing.

Well done! We got to the end! How did they do? It wasn't easy, was it; you have to pay close attention to the actions!

Check that the volunteers were ok and repeat with different actions, encouraging more speed.

Thank the volunteers and encourage a small round of applause as they return to their places.

Main Lesson

I hope you enjoyed that game. It was called "Pass it on". You are given an action and you pass it on to someone else, who passes it on and on and on.... You may not know this... but we actually play this game every day!

Modify the gist of the following story to reflect your own personal life.



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This morning I was getting ready to come here. I was so excited getting ready, but I could not find my bag, anywhere. I was getting so worried I would be late. But my wife noticed and kindly found it for me. Her action made me feel so happy and cared for. So when I left to come here, I was in such a good mood. I was in such a good mood, that when I bumped into my friend ...*insert name.....* in the street, I made time to say hello and I noticed she was wearing a lovely dress. Well, I said how lovely it looked, and her smile! She looked so happy! That happy feeling my wife gave to me when she found my bag, I had just passed that on to my friend! And do you know? I have a feeling she'll pass that happiness on to someone else, too. She might say or do something that is going to make them very happy too!

So we play “Pass it on” every day.

Of course, it’s not always happy feelings we pass on. I don’t even want to tell you about the morning I stubbed my toe and spilt coffee on my shirt! The bad mood I tried to pass on that morning was not good!

At this time of year, harvest time, we take time to think about the food that we have. We take the time to realise that we have plenty of food, that we are not hungry. That we are very fortunate to be able to eat.

The feeling we have is that we are thankful. We are thankful that we have plenty of food. We are thankful that we are not hungry. We are thankful that we are able to eat.

And we play “Pass it on” again.

Has anyone figured out how we do that?

Take some responses. Indicate harvest table.

Yes, that’s right. We pass the thankfulness of having food, by giving food to others. We pass that wonderful feeling of having enough to eat, to others. And who knows, that lovely happy feeling that your gift will mean, will be passed on to others. So when you kindly gave your gift of food this morning, you were already playing “Pass it on”! *If time allows, you may wish any further donations to be given at this point.*

Christian Perspective

Christians are taught in the bible to “Pass it on”.

2 Corinthians 9:11 (Int. Children's) God will make you richer in every way so that you can always give freely. And your giving through us will cause many to give thanks to God.

11 You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

2 Corinthians 9:11.

Display quote if possible. You can display simpler quote to KS1 and both to KS2.



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That all the gifts we have been given, have come from God. That God has shared these gifts with us and we are to pass on these gifts. When we pass it on, we are saying thanks to God. That we are thankful for all the gifts we have received from God. At this time of year Christians focus on our thankfulness of food and in many churches there will be Harvest services.

Salvation Army

The Salvation Army takes this message very seriously and we organise these donations to be able to pass on our thankfulness to people and families who are in need.

You may wish to use this opportunity to show examples of your own corps' work or any food banks you organise.

Challenge & Reflection

I would like you to take a moment now to think how you could play “Pass it on” in your own lives. What are you thankful for and how you could pass that on to others. *Pause for short reflection time.*

Thank the school for their donations again and for inviting you to be a part of their harvest assembly.

For help or advice with these resources contact the Schools and Colleges Unit:

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