

KS2 Harvest Assembly Script

THEMES: Harvest, farmers, autumn, we reap what we sow, green issues, world poverty.

CHILD 1 Welcome to our Harvest assembly.

SONG 1 **Sing, Sing, Sing A Song Of Harvest**

CHORUS Sing, sing, sing a song of harvest,
Sing, sing, sing it loud and clear,
Sing, sing, sing a song of harvest,
Tell everyone harvest time is here.

VERSE H-A-R-V-E-S-T,
The farmer gathers food for you and me,
H-A-R-V-E-S-T,
At this time of year it could only be... HARVEST!

MID SECTION Farmers far and near, we want you all to hear,
Hear us as we pray, hear us as we say, thank you.

ENDING Farmers far and near, we want you all to hear, thank you.

CHILD 2 (HS) At harvest time we say thank you to God for the safe gathering in of the harvest. But at harvest time it's also important to say thank you to the farmers who grow the food for everyone. Farmers do an incredibly important job and without them our world would be in a terrible mess.

CHILD 3 (LB) There are about 300,000 farms in the UK, which together take up roughly three quarters of all the land. Farmers grow cereals like wheat, barley and corn, vegetables like potatoes, carrots and peas and some farmers look after animals like pigs, sheep and cows.

CHILD 3 (JSR) Did you know that a farmer's job can be very, very demanding? Most farmers work extremely long hours from five or six o'clock in the morning till nine or ten o'clock at night! And they often work like this almost every day of the year.

CHILD 4 (ST) Did you also know that some farmers often don't earn much money? A farmer's charity recently said that about a quarter of all UK farming families live below the poverty line. Let's say a prayer now for all the farmers in our country.

CHILD 5 (GH) Dear God, thank you for farmers. Thank you for the wonderful job they do in producing food for us. Please look after them and give them good health so

they can continue to do the best job they can. Please look after the farmer's families as well. May they always have enough money to live on. Please look after their seeds, crops and animals, helping them all to grow big and strong. Thank you, God. Amen.

- CHILD 6 (BW) Harvest time always comes in the autumn. All around us we can see the signs that autumn is here. The hot summer days are over as the weather has become colder and windier. The days are getting shorter and the nights are getting longer.
- CHILD 7 (WG) The leaves on the trees are turning brown and are falling to the ground, making crunching noises beneath our feet as we trample on them. But some bushes and trees are starting to bear fruit now. Blackberries for example are lovely and juicy to eat.
- CHILD 8 (GS) Why not go on a hunt for a horse chestnut tree and have a game of conkers? Look in the sky and you might see swallows and martins flying away south to warmer countries.
- CHILD 9 (CL) Mushrooms are growing on the forest floor but don't pick them unless you have a grown up with you who knows if they're poisonous or edible! And look out for the bright red berries on the holly bush, a sure sign that Christmas will soon be here!
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- CHILD 10 (RS) A farmer sows the seeds early in the year and then many months later, when those seeds have grown into plants, the farmer reaps in his harvest.
- CHILD 11 (EF) The bible says that in life, we all reap what we sow. For example, when we meet new people, if we sow seeds of friendship by being friendly, kind and caring, then we'll have lots of friends.
- CHILD 12 (TJ) But if we sow seeds of hurt, cruelty and unpleasantness, we won't end up with many friends at all!

Here's a story to show that we all reap what we sow.

- NARRATOR 1 This is the story of 'The King And The Seed'.
- NARRATOR 2 Once upon a time, in the days when knights in shining armour valiantly rode the land slaying dragons, a great King was growing old and he knew it was time to choose his successor. He had lived a long, good life, but he had never married nor had children. So, in order to choose an heir to his kingdom

he called together all his knights, soldiers and servants. He then spoke to the assembled crowd, saying...

- KING I am growing old and I know that my remaining days on this earth will not be many. But as you know, I have no family of my own. Therefore, I must now choose the next King or Queen... by choosing one of you!
- NARRATOR 3 A shocked murmur broke out among the people, but the King continued...
- KING Today I am going to give each of you one little seed. I want you all to take the seed home, plant it, water it, care for it and come back here, three months from today with the plant that you have grown. I will then judge what you bring, and one person will be chosen as my successor.
- NARRATOR 3 Among the gathered crowd was one young stable boy, named William. Out of all the knights, soldiers, butlers, cooks, cleaners, gardeners and other servants there that day, William was by far the youngest. Everyone sneered at him as he collected his seed. The biggest of all the knights was a man called Sir Prance-a-lot and Sir Prance-a-lot really made fun of William in a cruel way...
- SIR PRANCEALOT Imagine this one becoming King! All hail, King William – the stable boy! What a joke.
- NARRATOR 4 Everyone laughed, but William ignored them and politely collected his seed.
- WILLIAM Thank you very much, I will take good care of my seed.
- NARRATOR 4 William ran home and eagerly informed his mother about what had just happened. She helped him to get a pot and soil. William collected some manure from the stables and mixed it with the soil because he'd heard that seeds grew really well that way. Then he watered it and placed the plant pot in the sunlight.
- NARRATOR 5 From then on, everyday, William would water his plant pot carefully and watch it to see if there was any growth. After about a fortnight, some of the other servants started to boast about how their seeds and plants were starting to shoot up. William kept inspecting his plant pot, but nothing ever grew.
- WILLIAM I don't understand this. Why is my plant not growing? I'm trying so hard.
- NARRATOR 6 A month went by, and still nothing grew. Then another month of careful attention and watering went by, yet still nothing grew. By now, everyone in the castle was talking about their plants. It was as if the King had given out a hundred different seeds.
- NARRATOR 7 Some had grown sunflowers, some had grown tulips and some had grown carrots.
- SIR PRANCEALOT I've even grown an apple tree!

NARRATOR 7 But poor William still didn't have even a shoot of a plant and he felt absolutely miserable.

NARRATOR 8 Soon the three months had passed and all the soldiers, knights and servants brought their plants to the King. William had already made up his mind that he wasn't going and told his mother how he was feeling.

WILLIAM I'm not going. All the grown-ups will only laugh at me again and I don't want to be embarrassed any more.

WILLIAM'S MOTHER There, there William, I think you should just go anyway. Our King is kind, wise and good. He won't be angry. Just tell the King how you tried hard to grow your plant. He'll be pleased with you for being honest and cross with all those who'd make fun of a child.

NARRATOR 9 William listened to his mother, nodded in agreement and reluctantly headed for the great hall. He felt like he had a swarm of butterflies in his stomach as he walked in with nothing but his soil filled plant pot.

NARRATOR 10 He was astounded at the huge assortment of flowers, plants and trees that had been grown by everyone else. William put his plant pot on the floor and sat down quietly.

NARRATOR 11 As he did so, many of those nearest to him laughed out loud and soon whispered news of William's feeble attempt had made its way around the huge hall. Everyone was now gloating and making fun of poor William.

NARRATOR 12 Then the King entered the great hall and a quiet stillness filled the place. The King's eyes scanned the room. Seeing all the plants he gave a strange smile and then spoke loudly...

KING Well, well, well, what an amazing collection of flowers, plants, vegetables and even small trees! Quite... impressive! But can someone please tell me why I could hear so much laughing as I entered the hall?

NARRATOR 13 No one said anything for fear of the King's wrath.

KING Come on, someone must have an explanation for all the hilarity. I like a good joke as much as anyone. So come on, please tell me?

SIR PRANCEALOT Sire, please forgive our high spirits, we were all simply admiring the foolish attempt of the young stable boy. But if your majesty would care to look at my apple tree you'll see it is the biggest and best of any plant in this room. Therefore I should be King.

NARRATOR 13 The King ignored Sir Prance-a-lot and his apple tree and immediately started searching the room for William.

KING The stable boy? Where is he? Stable boy, come here with your plant pot immediately.

NARRATOR 14 William was shaking from head to toe as he slowly stood up and walked forwards towards the King, clutching his plant pot for dear life. He thought he was in deep trouble. He thought he would be locked up or even put to death when the King saw his pathetic attempt at plant growing!

NARRATOR 15 Sniggers filled the room as William handed his pot full of soil to the King with shaking hands. The King gently took it off him and stared at William with an astonished look on his face. A tearful William felt impelled to speak,

WILLIAM Please your highness, I tried my very, very best. Three months ago, as soon as I got the seed, I planted it straight away using some of the manure from the stables. I watered it carefully every day. I placed it in the best sunlight, but still nothing has grown. I don't know why, but please believe me; I really, really tried as hard as I could. I'm so sorry for letting you down.

NARRATOR 16 The King looked at the pot, then looked again at the cowering figure of the stable boy, then with a beaming smile on his face loudly proclaimed...

KING ALL HAIL, YOUR NEW KING, KING WILLIAM!

NARRATOR 17 Sir Prance-a-lot and the rest of the bewildered assembly of people obediently knelt down and chanted their reply...

EVERYONE ALL HAIL, KING WILLIAM!

NARRATOR 17 Then the old King continued speaking, but now his voice sounded a bit angry...

KING Three months ago, I gave you all seeds that had been boiled. Not one of them was capable of producing any sort of plant. Yet all of you have tried to lie and cheat your way towards my throne. Sir Prance-a-lot, you have disappointed me the most. Not only have you tried to trick me, but you have also made fun of an innocent boy. Guards, arrest Sir Prance-a-lot and place him in the deepest, darkest dungeon.

NARRATOR 17 As the whimpering Sir Prance-a-lot was dragged away, the King, now smiling again, spoke kindly to an astonished William...

KING But as for you my lad, I am so pleased with you. Out of everyone here, you were the only one to show honesty, bravery, courage, integrity and loyalty to your King, therefore you are now my one and only heir. LONG LIVE KING WILLIAM!

EVERYONE LONG LIVE KING WILLIAM!

NARRATOR 17 As the crowd hailed their new King, the old King removed his crown and placed it on the stable boy's head. And from that day on King William, the stable boy reigned as a very successful King for many, many years to come.

- CHILD 13 The moral of this story is that if you sow seeds of honesty, integrity, kindness, goodness, bravery and courage, then eventually you will reap many, many, rewards in life. But if you sow seeds of lying, cheating, boasting and arrogance... well, watch out you may well end up reaping trouble for yourself, just like Sir Prance-a-lot did.
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- CHILD 15 (JA) Have you ever thought about how many different types of vegetables there are in the world? And how many different types of fruits, grains, herbs and meats there are? It's mind boggling! Here's our harvest alphabet which shows some of them.
- CHILD 16 A is for apple, aubergine, apricot, asparagus and avocado.
- CHILD 17 B is for banana, beetroot, beef, broccoli, barley and Brussels sprouts.
- CHILD 18 C is for carrot, cauliflower, cinnamon, cabbage, corn, chicken, cheese and cucumber.
- CHILD 19 D is for dill, damson, date and dairy.
- CHILD 20 E is for egg, elderberry and eggplant.
- CHILD 21 F is for fig, fennel, fish and flour.
- CHILD 22 G is for grape, green bean, grapefruit and ginger.
- CHILD 23 H is for ham, honey, herbs, hot peppers and honeydew melon.
- CHILD 24 I is for iceberg lettuce, icing sugar and... ice cream! YUM-YUM!
- CHILD 25 J is for juice, jasmine, juniper berry, jam and... jelly! YUM-YUM-YUM!
- CHILD 26 K is for kiwi, ketchup, kale and kidney beans.
- CHILD 27 L is for leek, lentil, liver, lettuce, lemon and lime.
- CHILD 28 M is for mandarin, mustard, mushroom, milk, melon, mango and maple syrup.
- CHILD 29 N is for nectarine, nutmeg and nut.
- CHILD 30 O is for orange, onion, olive, oregano and oats.
- CHILD 31 P is for potato, pork, parsley, passion fruit, pomegranate, papaya, pumpkin, parsnip, peach, pear, plum, peppermint, peas, prunes, peppers and peanuts... phew!

- CHILD 32 Q is for quail, quail's egg, quince and Quorn.
- CHILD 33 R is for rhubarb, runner bean, red cabbage, rye, raspberry, raisin and rice.
- CHILD 34 S is for sugar, sultana, satsuma, strawberry, spinach, salmon, sage, sweet potato, sunflower oil and sunflower seeds.
- CHILD 35 T is for tomato, thyme, turnip, turkey, tuna and tangerine.
- CHILD 36 U is for uglifruit and unpasteurised milk.
- CHILD 37 V is for venison, veal, vinegar, vanilla, vine leaves and virgin olive oil.
- CHILD 38 W is for wheat, watercress, watermelon, walnut, water and wild rice.
- CHILD 39 X is for xigua fruit (which is a type of water melon from China)!
- CHILD 40 Y is for yam, yucca, yoghurt, yolk, yellow beans and yellow mustard.
- CHILD 41 Z is for zucchini! WOW, what a list!

SONG 5

The Earth Is So Amazing

- VERSE 1 The small, small seed is buried in the earth,
And that's how the farmer's crops have their birth,
Then after months of rain and sun,
The farmer harvests them all one by one.
- CHORUS The earth, the earth is so amazing,
So many things we eat come from it,
The earth, the earth is so amazing,
So let's take better care of it.
- VERSE 2 The soil in which the seedlings all grow,
Looks very messy and dirty you know,
But it contains amazing wealth,
Nutrients, minerals to give the plants health.

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- CHILD 43 (TH) The earth really is very amazing, but if you look at a normal patch of soil it doesn't look very amazing. It's just dirty mud. But the amazing thing is that so many things we eat spring out of that muddy dirt.

- CHILD 44 (LS) The earth is indeed very special. It's very sad therefore that our planet isn't very well at the moment. It's a bit sick. The human race is producing too much waste and pollution for the earth to cope with.
- CHILD 45 (BC) But there are lots of things we can do to help save our planet. Here's our top ten list of simple ways to save the planet.
- CHILD 45 (JG) Number 10: Compost your rubbish instead of throwing it all away. Over 60% of household waste is fit for the compost pile. We can then use compost on our gardens.
- CHILD 46 (AK) Number 9: Walk or ride a bicycle instead of travelling by car. Less exhaust fumes are better for our planet.
- CHILD 47 (KU) Number 8: Use rechargeable batteries instead of single-use batteries. Apart from reducing the amount of rubbish we throw away, it's also better for our wallets and purses.
- CHILD 48 (LR) Number 7: Use recycled paper. This means that fewer trees are being cut down.
- CHILD 49 (TD) Number 6: Save water by putting a large object like a brick in your toilet cistern. This displaces some of the water, meaning there's less valuable water being needlessly flushed away.
- CHILD 50 (RK) Number 5: Replace all the light bulbs in your house with energy saving bulbs. Better for the planet and better for your finances.
- CHILD 51 (SF) Number 4: Save tap water by collecting rainwater, it's great for watering plants.
- CHILD 52 (AB) Number 3: If you've cooked a big meal and there's food to spare, save your leftover food to reuse for another meal.
- CHILD 53 (BS) Number 2: Insulate your home. A simple way to start is by placing a draft excluder at the base of your doors to stop all the hot air escaping.
- CHILD 54 (SP) And at Number 1... We can... START NOW!
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- CHILD 56 (SR) At some point every year there is a terrible disaster that hits some part of the world. It might be a famine, a drought, a hurricane, a tsunami, an earthquake, a volcano, a flood or the effects of war.
- CHILD 57 (IR) And so every year there are millions of people, children and babies who desperately need our help because they don't have enough food, water, shelter, clothes or medicine.

- CHILD 58 (LB) At harvest time when we say thank you for all of our harvest food, we also need to remember to pray for those who have no harvest at all. We can also share with them by donating money to one of the many charities who are trying to bring food, water and aid to all the peoples of the world.
- CHILD 59 (SP) Let us pray now for all these people.
 (TH) Dear God, thank you for our harvest. Thank you that in our country we all have enough food, water and clothes. Thank you that we all have homes to live in. Thank you that if we become ill, we have fantastic doctors and nurses who will look after us very quickly.
 (ST) But dear God, there are many children in the world who have none of these things. So please will you help all the charities who work very hard for these poor people to continue to raise as much money as possible so that no child anywhere is left hungry, thirsty, sick or homeless again.
 (JSR) And please help all of us to share as much as we can.
 Amen.
- CHILD 60 (ALL) Thank you for listening to our assembly.
- EVERYONE 'H' is for Harvest.
 'A' is for Autumn.
 'R' is for Reaping.
 'V' is for Vegetables.
 'E' is for Earth.
 'S' is for Sharing... and...
 'T' is for Thanksgiving...

SONG 7

Come All Thankful People Come

- VERSE 1 Come, all thankful people come, raise the song of harvest home;
 All is safely gathered in, before the winter storms begin.
 God our Maker does provide for our needs to be supplied;
 Come to God, all people come; raise the song of harvest home.
- VERSE 2 All the world is God's own field, thank Him for the harvest yield;
 Months ago the seeds were sown, now the crops have really grown.
 First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn did appear;
 Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.