

Harvest Festival

What Is the Harvest Festival?

Harvest is when crops and food are picked. A Harvest Festival is a celebration of the food picked. It happens all over the world.

When Is the Harvest Festival Celebrated?

It is celebrated on or near to the harvest moon. This is the full moon closest to the 23rd of September.

Why and How Is It Celebrated?

Harvest Festival is celebrated to say thank you for the crops. Harvest Festivals happen at churches and schools. People bring in baskets of food and the food is given to those who need it. They might sing songs too.

How Is the Harvest Festival Celebrated Around the World?



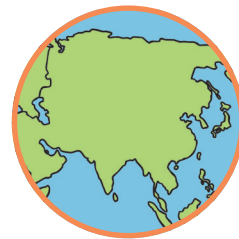
America and Canada

In Canada and America, it is called Thanksgiving. Everybody gets the day off.



West Africa

In West Africa, there is a Festival of Yams. People eat yams and dance.



China

In China, people celebrate the Harvest Moon Festival. They celebrate with family and friends.



Questions

1. What is a harvest? Tick one.

A harvest is when people go on holiday.

A harvest is when schools close.

A harvest is when crops and food are picked.

2. When is the Harvest Festival celebrated? Tick one.

on the last day of the year

on or near to the harvest moon

on the first day of school

3. Where does a Harvest Festival happen? Tick one.

It only happens in England.

It only happens in France and Germany.

It happens all over the world.

4. What do people bring to school when they celebrate the Harvest Festival?
Tick one.

rocks found at the beach

baskets of food

a pet from home

5. What is the name of the Harvest Festival in America and Canada? Tick one.

American Harvest

Festival of Harvest

Thanksgiving

Answers

1. What is a harvest? Tick one.

A harvest is when people go on holiday.

A harvest is when schools close.

✓ **A harvest is when crops and food are picked.**

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✓ **on or near to the harvest moon**

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✓ **baskets of food**

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5. What is the name of the Harvest Festival in America and Canada? Tick one.

American Harvest

Festival of Harvest

✓ **Thanksgiving**

Harvest Festival

What Is the Harvest Festival?

Harvesting is when crops and food are picked and gathered. A Harvest Festival is a celebration of the food that is harvested. They happen all around the world.

When Is the Harvest Festival Celebrated?

Harvest Festival is celebrated on or near to the harvest moon. This is the full moon that is the closest to the 23rd of September.

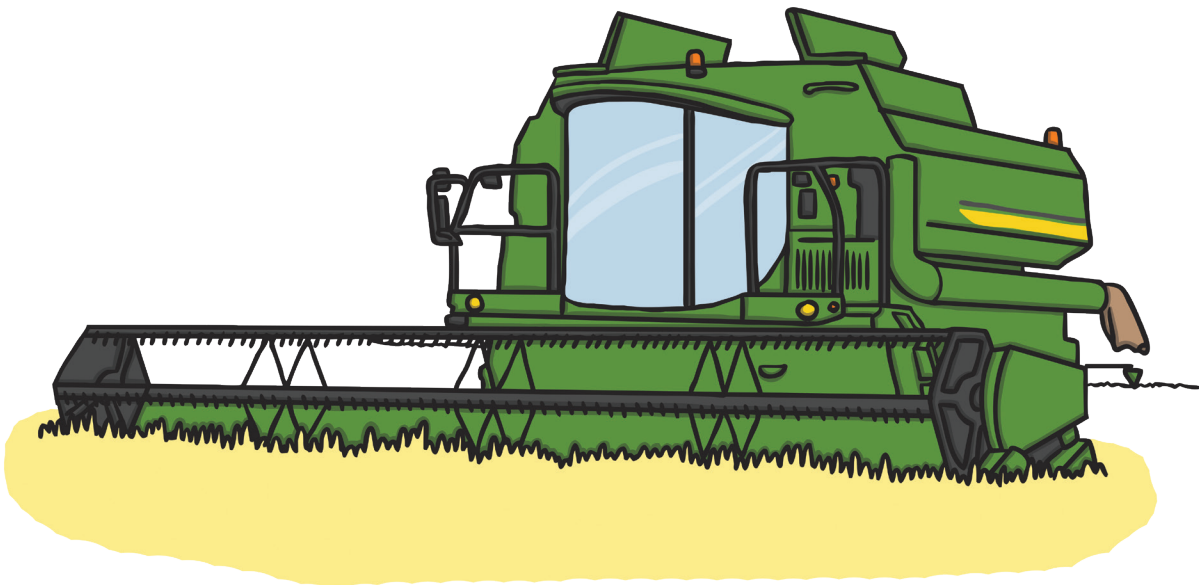
Why and How Is It Celebrated?

Harvest Festivals are celebrated to say thank you for the crops. They take place in many venues, including churches and schools. Usually, people bring baskets of food to give to those in need. Poems may be read and songs may be sung.



Did You Know...?

Some people also have a harvest supper. This is a special meal to celebrate the successful harvest.



How Is Harvest Celebrated around the World?



1. America and Canada

In Canada and America, harvest is called Thanksgiving and everybody gets the day off. It takes place in October or November.

2. China

In China, people celebrate the Harvest Moon Festival. They celebrate with family and friends. They believe the moon is the brightest at this time of year so it is the best time for harvest.

3. West Africa

In West Africa, a Festival of Yams is held to celebrate the harvest of yams. This usually takes place in August. People eat yams and dance.

Questions

1. What is harvesting? Tick one.

Harvesting is when farmers go to market.

Harvesting is when crops and food are picked and gathered.

Harvesting is when people have a day off.

2. When is the Harvest Festival? Tick one.

every Sunday

on the longest day of the year

on or near to the harvest moon

3. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'the place where something happens'.

4. Draw **three** lines to match the country to the name of their Harvest Festival.

China

Thanksgiving

American and Canada

Festival of Yams

West Africa

Harvest Moon Festival

5. Why do you think America and Canada named their Harvest Festival 'Thanksgiving'?

Answers

1. What is harvesting? Tick one.

Harvesting is when farmers go to market.

✓ **Harvesting is when crops and food are picked and gathered.**

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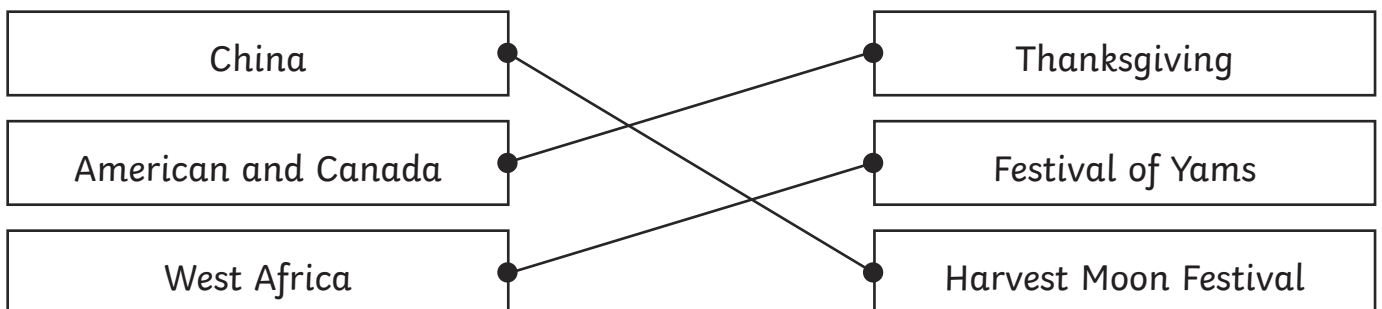
on the longest day of the year

✓ **on or near to the harvest moon**

3. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'the place where something happens'.

Venues

4. Draw **three** lines to match the country to the name of their Harvest Festival.



5. Why do you think America and Canada named their Harvest Festival 'Thanksgiving'?

Pupils' own responses, such as: They are giving thanks for the crops and the harvest and also giving to those in need.

Harvest Festival

What Is the Harvest Festival?

Harvesting is when crops and food are picked and gathered. The food is harvested either by hand or using tractors. The tractors are big and able to harvest the grains, fruits or vegetables much quicker than by hand. A Harvest Festival is a celebration of the food grown on the land and it is celebrated all around the world.

When Is the Harvest Festival Celebrated?

In Britain, Harvest Festivals are traditionally held annually, on or near the Sunday of the harvest moon. This is the full moon that happens closest to the 23rd of September.

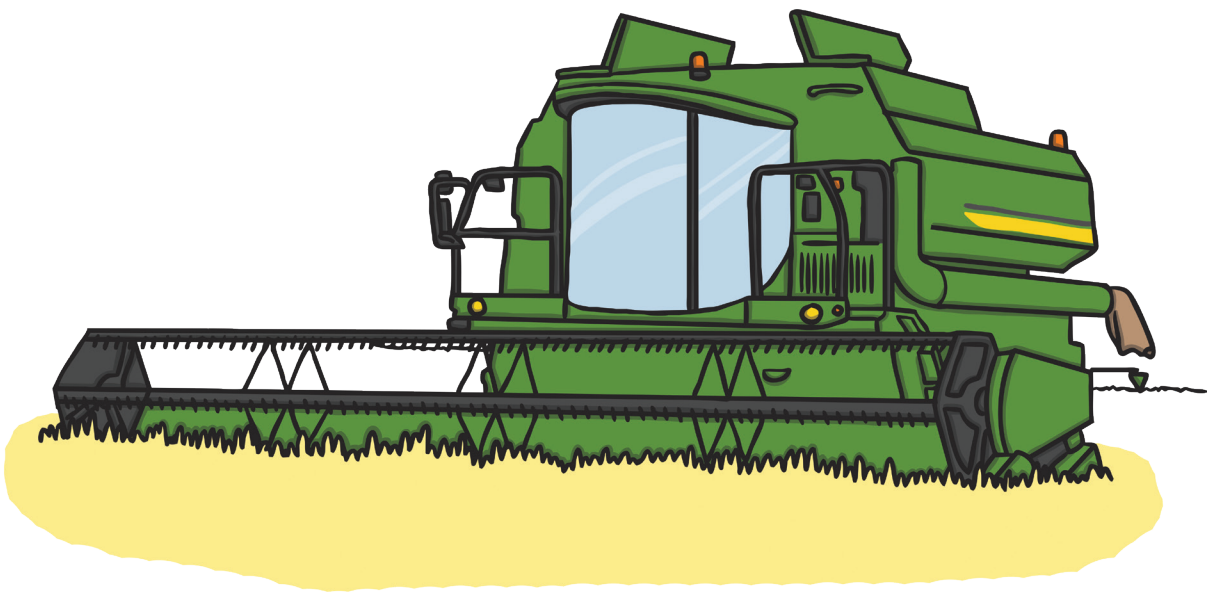
Why and How Is It Celebrated?

Harvest Festivals are a time when people are thankful for the crops which have been safely harvested. Christian people thank God for the food grown and for everything that helps the crops grow.

In Britain, Harvest Festivals are often celebrated in churches by bringing baskets of food to give thanks to God. People enjoy singing, praying, listening to stories and decorating the church.

Did You Know...?

In the past, it was not as easy to find food in the winter. It was very important that farmers brought the harvest in before the cold winter came so that there was enough food until the spring.



How Is Harvest Celebrated around the World?



1. North America and Canada

In Canada and North America, harvest is known as Thanksgiving. It occurs in October or November and is a public holiday.

2. West Africa

In West Africa, the Festival of Yams is held. It celebrates the harvest of yams, which generally takes place in August. Yams are a vegetable, similar to a sweet potato. People celebrate by dancing and sharing yams with the village.

3. China

In China, people celebrate the Harvest Moon Festival. They believe the moon is the brightest at this time of year so it is the best time for harvest and to gather with friends. Families enjoy picnics and different kinds of mooncakes. Children enjoy brightly lit lanterns and puppet shows.

Questions

1. How is the food harvested? Tick one.

by hand only

using tractors only

by hand or using tractors

2. Fill in the missing word.

In Britain, Harvest Festivals are traditionally held on or near the _____ of the harvest moon.

3. Put **three** ticks in the table to show which sentences are true and which are false. The first one has been done for you.

Sentence	True	False
Harvest Festivals are a time when people are thankful for the crops which have been safely harvested.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In the past, it was easy to find food in the winter.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In China, people celebrate Thanksgiving.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People celebrate the Festival of Yams by dancing and sharing yams with the village.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'every year'.

5. Why did farmers bring the harvest in before the cold winter came?

6. Use the text to explain why you think America and Canada named their Harvest Festival 'Thanksgiving'.

Answers

1. How is the food harvested? Tick one.

by hand only

using tractors only

✓ **by hand or using tractors**

2. Fill in the missing word.

In Britain, Harvest Festivals are traditionally held on or near the **Sunday** of the harvest moon.

3. Put **three** ticks in the table to show which sentences are true and which are false. The first one has been done for you.

Sentence	True	False
Harvest Festivals are a time when people are thankful for the crops which have been safely harvested.	✓	
In the past, it was easy to find food in the winter.		✓
In China, people celebrate Thanksgiving.		✓
People celebrate the Festival of Yams by dancing and sharing yams with the village.	✓	

4. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'every year'.

annually

5. Why did farmers bring the harvest in before the cold winter came?

Farmers brought the harvest in before the cold winter so there was enough food to last until spring.

6. Use the text to explain why you think America and Canada named their Harvest Festival 'Thanksgiving'.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think America and Canada named their Harvest Festival 'Thanksgiving' because Christian people give thanks to God for helping the crops to grow. Some people may also give to those in need.