

# **OUR FIRST HARVEST**

## **Story Version**

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### **SONG 1:**                    **Sing A Song Of Harvest**

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#### **INTRO:**

Farmers are wonderful people, aren't they? They work so hard and plant and grow so many lovely foods for us. Have you ever thought about how many amazing things they grow and look after? Listen to this harvest poem, which helps us appreciate how many amazing foods there are:

All the fruit and vegetables that we eat,  
Makes us healthy from our heads to our feet,  
If we eat plenty of them every day,  
Then we'll have lots of energy to play.

Potatoes, sweetcorn, apples and lime,  
Cauliflower, carrots, parsley and thyme,  
Oranges, bananas, grapes and lemon,  
Strawberries, raspberries, figs and melon.

This section of text has been covered for copyright reasons.

It goes on to list many more foods in rhyming verse.

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### **SONG 5:**                    **Everything That We Eat**

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#### **ACTIVITY:**

Introduce the theme of roots. If possible, show the children some actual plant roots, either by using pictures/photographs, or preferably by bringing in a plant and carefully lifting it out of its pot to display its roots for all to see. Discuss with the children, things that a plant and its roots need to survive. For example, sun, soil and rain.

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**SONG 3:****Roots That Are Strong**

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**STORY:****The Sunflower Competition**

It was a lovely Friday afternoon in August and as the children in class 6 were lining up to go back into class after dinnertime, they found themselves buzzing with excitement for two reasons. Firstly, because it was their last day in school before the summer holidays, and secondly because their teacher, Mrs Miller had told them that she was going to be announcing a special competition today. None of the children knew what the competition was, but they were all trying to guess.

When they went in the classroom though, they soon realised that they were all completely wrong. On each of their tables was a large brown plastic flowerpot, a bag of soil, a small yellow watering can and a trowel.

Two of the children, Susan and Penny, sat next to each other, as usual, and glared at each other, as usual.

"Whatever this competition is," said Susan in a know-all sort of way, "I'm going to win it!"

"We'll see!" replied Penny with a raise of her eyebrows, which suggested that she'd believe it when she saw it!

Susan and Penny lived next door to each other, they had to sit next to each other in class and their birthdays were even next to each other. However, they weren't exactly the best of friends.

Susan could be very bossy and was good at pretending to be busy all the time. Yet, whenever it came down to doing some work, Susan would always have an excuse.

Penny, on the other hand was very much the opposite. She would always try hard and do her best with any task she was given. She rarely complained and would never think about boasting that she'd won anything, never mind bragging that she was going to win a competition that hadn't been explained yet!

"Right class," said Mrs Miller with an excited double clap, "I've told you all that you'd be entering a competition and... here it is! A sunflower growing competition!" The class gasped in amazement; they'd not been expecting this!

While Mrs Miller came round, handing each child a sunflower seed, she explained how the competition would work. The children would plant the seeds today and then take the pots home to look after them over the summer. Then on the first day of the autumn term, two months later, they would bring all the plants into school again to see whose was the tallest.

"This is going to be easy!" boasted Susan.

“We’ll see!” responded Penny again with a sigh. She’d heard Susan talking like this so many times before.

Penny and Susan planted their seeds quickly. Susan was right. This bit at least, was easy. All they had to do was write their name on the pot, fill it with soil, and prod their finger down a couple of centimetres in the centre to make a small hole. Then they dropped the seed in and covered it over. Last of all, they watered it a little.

“Not too much water,” reminded Mrs Miller again, “Just enough to keep the soil feeling damp, not waterlogged - no Joshua, not that much water - we’re not making the Amazon rain forest! And remember children, they’re called SUN-flowers for a reason! They need LOTS of sun, so when you get home put them in the sunniest, safest place you can and keep the soil moist all the time.”

Later, when the children got home, Penny and Susan both decided they were going to take good care of their plants and they were going to win. However, there was one big difference between the two girls... Penny immediately put her plant pot in the best possible place in her back garden and checked the soil to see if it was moist. Susan however, put her plant pot under her bed! Her favourite programme was just starting on the television and she couldn’t miss it!

#### REMAINING CONTENT:

After the conclusion of this story, there is a short summary, an optional prayer and one further song.