



# Harvest & Scarecrow Week

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## Cardboard Tube Scarecrows



It wouldn't be harvest time without a scarecrow or two. Here's how craft-obsessed children can make their own craft scarecrow without destroying your wardrobe.

### You need:

Cardboard tube  
Coloured paper  
Googly eyes  
Straw or yellow strips of paper

### Instructions:

**Step one:** Younger children may need a helping hand with making a hat for their scarecrow. Cut brown paper into 10 X 15 centimetres. Fold it in half, then in half again. Open out the second fold and place the paper, so the folded edge is at the top.

**Step two:** Fold down the top corners to the middle to create a point. Fold up the top piece of paper at the bottom to meet the base of the triangle. Turn over and repeat.

**Step three:** Draw your scarecrow face on to the top of the tube – add googly eyes if you have them.

**Step four:** Wrap a piece of coloured paper round the bottom half of your tube to make a coat for your scarecrow. Fix at the back with glue.

**Step five:** Cut out a small square shape in a different colour and stick to his coat. Draw black lines, so it looks as though it's stitched to his jacket.

**Step six:** Glue your straw or yellow strips to the top of the tube and then fix on the hat. You can add additional details like a small flower or a button if you wish to make a unique scarecrow of your own.

## Corn Music Shaker!

### Equipment:

- Corn
- A bottle
- Arts and crafts for decorating

### Method:

- First, fill your bottle with corn. It is up to you how much you use.
- Seal the bottle so none of the corn escapes when you shake it
- Decorate the bottle how you wish to decorate it
- SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE!!!



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## Harvest Festival Facts for Children

In Britain, thanks have been given for successful harvests since pagan times.

In North America it has become a national secular holiday with religious origins, but in Britain it remains a Church festival giving thanks to God for the harvest.

The celebrations on this day usually include singing hymns, praying and decorating churches with baskets of fruit and food in the festival known as Harvest Festival or Harvest Home or Harvest Thanksgiving or Thanksgiving.



Harvest is from an Anglo-Saxon word "haerfest" which meant 'Autumn.' It then came to refer to the season for reaping and gathering grain and other grown products.

In British churches, chapels, and schools people bring in food from the garden, the allotment or farm. The food is often distributed among the poor and senior citizens of the local community, or used to raise funds for the church, or charity.

In the USA and Canada, the festival is set on a certain day and has become a National Holiday known as Thanksgiving.

The full moon nearest the autumnal equinox is called the Harvest Moon. So, in ancient traditions Harvest Festivals were traditionally held on or near the Sunday of the Harvest Moon. This moon is the full moon which falls in the month of September.



## Harvest Festival Traditions

- An early Harvest Festival used to be celebrated at the beginning of the Harvest season on 1 August and was called Lammas, meaning 'loaf Mass'. Farmers made loaves of bread from the fresh wheat crop. These were given to the local church as the Communion bread during a special service thanking God for the harvest.
- Early settlers took the idea of harvest thanksgiving to North America. The most famous one is the harvest Thanksgiving held by the Pilgrims in 1621.
- Nowadays the festival is held at the end of harvest which varies in different parts of Britain. Sometimes neighbouring churches will set the Harvest Festival on different Sundays so that people can attend each other's thanksgivings.
- Farmers celebrated the end of the harvest with a big meal called a harvest supper. Some churches and villages still have a Harvest Supper.
- The modern British tradition of celebrating Harvest Festival in churches began in 1843, when the Reverend Robert Hawker invited parishioners to a special thanksgiving service at his church at Morwenstow in Cornwall. Victorian hymns such as "We plough the fields and scatter", "Come ye thankful people, come" and "All things bright and beautiful" helped popularise his idea of harvest festival and spread the annual custom of decorating churches with home-grown produce for the Harvest Festival service.
- In the early days, there were ceremonies and rituals at the beginning as well as at the end of the harvest.

- Church bells could be heard on each day of the harvest.
- A corn dolly was made from the last sheaf of corn harvested. The corn dolly often had a place of honour at the banquet table and was kept until the following spring.
- In the West of England, the ceremony of Crying The Neck was practiced. Today it is still re-enacted annually by The Old Cornwall Society.
- The horse, bringing the last cart load, was decorated with garlands of flowers and colourful ribbons.
- A magnificent Harvest feast was held at the farmer's house and games played to celebrate the end of the harvest.
- Harvest is celebrated by many people but in Christianity, it is widely looked at in schools, and focused on in church.
- Harvest is mainly associated with fruit and vegetables, which we give thanks for. This is the whole point of The Harvest Festival.
- This can be seen in Wallace & Gromit: the Curse of the Were-Rabbit.

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What you will need:

- Lollipop sticks
- Paper
- Glue
- Colouring pens or pencils/Paint



## Lollipop stick Scarecrow

To start with you need to gather your lollipop sticks and on a piece of paper line them up next to each other making sure they are level, once they are even glue each stick to the piece of paper and then stick an extra one horizontally towards the top. Leave it all to dry properly before moving onto the design, The main part of the face can be drawn or you can use paint, the horizontal lollipop stick you placed earlier will create the brim of the hat and the space above will be the main part of the hat. Then you can also add extra bits of yellow paper or even straw if you have it sticking out of the hat to resemble the straw stuffing.



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## Pumpkin Prints with Apples



### Instructions:

**Step one:** Cut your apple in half. Put orange paint on to a paper plate.

**Step two:** Kids can push the cut side of the apple into the paint and then stamp it on to paper.

**Step three:** Finish by adding two googly eyes and short pieces of brown and green pipe cleaner for a stalk and leaf.

Your children will have great fun creating repeating patterns – all you need is an apple. Activities for children don't come much easier, and it's ideal for harvest festival crafts.

### You need:

Paper

One Apple

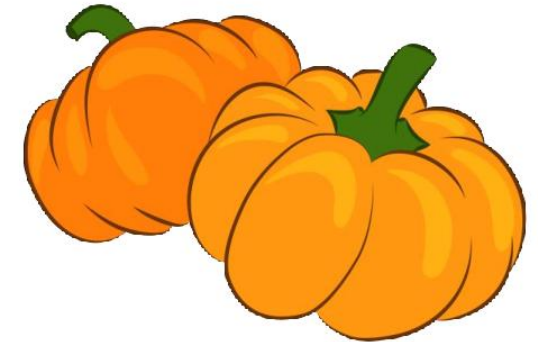
Orange paint

Brown and green pipe cleaners

Googly eyes

What you will need:

- A piece of scrap card
- Colouring pens or pencils
- Orange wool or string
- Scissors



## Wool Wrapped Pumpkins

To start with you need to grab your scrap piece of card (you can use something like an empty cereal box for card) and on this you need to draw out a pumpkin, once you have done this cut out your pumpkin from the card. Next you need to get your orange wool ready tie a knot at one end, then cut a little slit into the pumpkin at the top and slot the string with the knot in and then begin to wind the wool all around the pumpkin in different directions so it begins to cover the card. Stay away from the pumpkins stalk as when you are done you can colour this in. Once the pumpkin is covered enough for you, cut the string and tie it to one of the strings already wrapped around and you are done.



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