



### Extension activities for harvest Blaze the Bee children's address

Listed below are a series of activities that look at the theme of harvest and what that might mean in relation to Kenya, where Blaze the Bee has been visiting Naomi Lermore to see the work that she is involved in there as a PCI global mission worker.

This is not a complete lesson but instead a series of activities that can be chosen from to create a Sunday morning that continues the theme from the children's address materials produced.

#### Activity 1

Display a world map and see if the children can find Kenya on it. Naomi lives in Nairobi, which is the capital. See if they can find that as well.

#### Ten facts about Kenya:

- The population of Kenya is about 56 million people. The capital of Kenya is Nairobi. It has a population of around 4.5 million people.
- The main languages used in Kenya are English and Swahili but there are 74 languages used altogether!
- 50% of the population are evangelical Christians.
- There is a lot of corruption in Kenya and so terrorists and international drug traffickers use Kenya as a base.
- Kenya is named after Mt Kenya, the tallest mountain in the country.
- Kenya shares Lake Victoria, the world's second largest fresh water lake, with Tanzania and Uganda.
- Kenya features many national parks and wildlife reserves, with safaris being a popular activity for visitors.
- Agriculture is important to Kenya's economy, especially tea, coffee and flowers.
- Large animals such as lions, buffaloes, leopards, elephants and rhinoceroses are present in Kenya.
- In terms of sports, Kenya is perhaps best known for its middle-distance and long-distance runners, with the country frequently producing Olympic champions.

#### Activity 2

Set up six boxes at the front of the room on a table. Do not allow the children to see what is inside the boxes but have holes so that they can put their hands in and guess the contents (see image). Ask the children to come up, put their hands in the box without looking at the contents and see if they can guess what is in the box.



#### Put the following items in the boxes:

1. Banana – either a bunch or a single banana
2. Coffee – either beans or ground coffee
3. Tea – a bag or loose tea
4. Avocado
5. Pineapple
6. Passion fruit

All of these items are major crops (and many are exported) from Kenya to other countries, including to us here in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. These are crops that we cannot grow ourselves in our climate and so we buy them from other countries. One of the important things is that the farmers who grow and sell the products get a fair price for them so that their families can make enough money to live. Many farmers and producers in countries like Kenya are very poor because they do not get paid properly for their produce. Organisations that we support through PCI help farmers to work together and to get paid fairly. We can look for the Fairtrade© symbol on food that we buy to ensure that we are buying food sold fairly.

### **Activity 3**

#### **Bible teaching**

In Kenya, Blaze learnt about how Naomi works with others to produce resources to help teach children about Jesus. These resources help in Holiday Bible Clubs, in schools and in church's children's ministry to teach children about what Jesus has done and how to follow him. These resources and the gifts that God has given Naomi and her team are the harvest that she brings and gives to God to use as he sees fit, to spread the good news of the gospel in Kenya.

The farmers grow their crops, including coffee, tea, pineapples, bananas, avocados and passion fruit, which they can bring to God, thank him for the harvest and sell it for us to be able to buy in this country for a fair price. We can also thank God for that harvest.

#### **What is your harvest?**

Bible passage: John 6:1-15 (Jesus feeds the 5000)

Read the Bible passage to the children from an appropriate translation like the International Children's Bible and/or use one of these videos of the story

(304) Jesus Feeds the 5,000 - YouTube

(304) 31 Filled Full! - YouTube

The little boy in the story did not have very much – just a small amount of food. Certainly not enough for all those people. But I don't think that he was thinking about feeding all those people – he just knew Jesus was there and he wanted to give him everything he had.

And that's all Jesus asks of us. That is our harvest. We don't have to have a lot. He just wants us to give him everything, and thankfully! He wants your love and your fears and your voice and your courage and your heart.

And what did Jesus do with the small amount the boy gave him? He fed 5000 people (plus a few more) and there were baskets full left over. He did an amazing miracle. And he can do amazing things with what you give him as well!

#### **Learn this memory verse together:**

*Each one should give, then, what he has decided in his heart to give. He should not give if it makes him sad. And he should not give if he thinks he is forced to give. God loves the person who gives happily.*

2 Corinthians 9:7