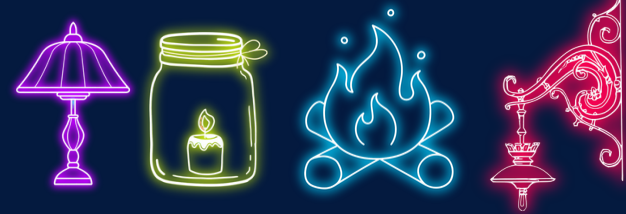


MANY STORIES ONE LIGHT



This resource has been produced by the St Vincent de Paul Society. The St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) is a Catholic international volunteer organisation whose members work with anyone in need in their local community – the homeless, the elderly, prisoners, struggling families, people who are sick and lonely. Young people are an important part of the Vincentian family. We are all called to be like Jesus by helping people, becoming their friend and working with others to make a difference. Find out more and view our school resources by visiting svp.org.uk/mini-vinnies

Leader's Guide

Many Stories, One Light at Harvest

Aim of session:

To help children understand the importance of Harvest, encouraging them to recognise the blessings they have, to give thanks for what they receive, and consider how they can share with and support people in need within their local and wider community.

What you will need:

- Many Stories, One Light at Harvest Presentation Slides
- Light Bulb Harvest Messages template

Steps for the session:

Slide 1: Welcome the children to the meeting and invite them to tell you what they can see happening, in the picture on the first slide. Use this time as a reminder of this year's SVP theme: Many Stories, One Light (see introduction to topic on Many Stories, One Light resource page).

Slide 2: Opening Prayer – Invite a child to lead the opening prayer.

Slides 3 & 4: Icebreaker – A bit of fun to see what tinned foods the children can name, followed by a short discussion about their preferences, how useful these foods are, and why we often see them included in Harvest collections.

Slide 5: Reflect on the things God has given us, including our gifts, talents, communities and food, and how sharing what we have can help others and make the world a better place.

Slides 6 & 7: Prepare the children to listen to Matthew 5:14-16. Invite one of the children to read the scripture.

Slide 8: Reflect as a group on the scripture.

Slides 9 – 13: St Vincent's Southend Story – Our case study helps the children to see how we can put our faith into action. Use the 'Time to Reflect' questions as an opportunity to share with the children that, as Mini Vinnies and a vital part of the SVP, they too can make a big difference through the small actions they take.

Slide 15: Activity – Ask the children to write a positive message on their lightbulb cut-out that can bring light to others. Encourage them to decorate it with bright colours. These can then be attached to your Harvest donations.

Slide 16: Call to action – Ask the children to bring in items for the foodbank or parish SVP collection. Encourage them to place their Lightbulb cut-outs in each parcel.

Slide 17: Invite a child forward to close your meeting in prayer.



St Vincent
de Paul Society

England and Wales

Turning Concern into Action

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