



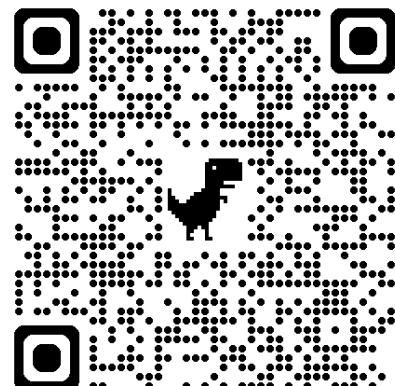
HARVEST HOOPLA: 4-Week Curriculum

HARVEST HOOPLA is a 4 lesson series that teaches children to cultivate gratitude for God's blessings while embracing the changes He has planned. This curriculum combines the excitement of fall festivities with deep spiritual truths, helping children develop a thankful heart and confident faith.

Main Idea: I can be grateful for God's blessings and excited about changes because He is in control.

Gospel Connection: Jesus secured our eternal future on the cross. This truth can free us from anxiety about change because our loving God is in control. Just as farmers trust the seasons for a bountiful harvest, we can trust God's perfect timing. By believing in Jesus, we receive forgiveness and eternal life – the ultimate harvest to be thankful for in any season.

You are viewing the complete week #1 lesson plan as a free sample. Use this link or scan the [QR code to purchase the full 4-week curriculum.](#)



4-Week HARVEST HOOPLA Curriculum Overview

Week 1 - You'll Never Guess What Happened

- **Bible Story:** Ruth 1-4 (The story of Ruth and Boaz)
- **Supporting Scriptures:** Matthew 6:19-21, Proverbs 31:10-31, Psalm 37:4-6
- **Lesson Main Idea:** God provides for us in surprising ways.
- **Gospel Connection:** Just as Ruth found a new family and future through Boaz, we find our eternal family and future through Jesus. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross secures our place in God's family, providing us with hope and salvation.

Week 2 - While You Were Sleeping

- **Bible Story:** Mark 4:26-29 (The Parable of the Growing Seed)
- **Supporting Scriptures:** Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Cor. 3:6-9, Col. 1:9-12
- **Lesson Main Idea:** God makes everything grow in His perfect time.
- **Gospel Connection:** Just as seeds grow unseen beneath the soil, Jesus' work in our hearts may not always be visible immediately. But through faith, we can be certain of salvation and eternal life with Him.

Week 3 - The Original Harvest Hoopla

- **Bible Story:** Leviticus 23:33-43 (Instructions for the Feast of Tabernacles)
- **Supporting Scriptures:** Deut. 16:13-15, Nehemiah 8:13-18, Zechariah 14:16-19
- **Lesson Main Idea:** We celebrate God's goodness and remember His faithfulness.
- **Gospel Connection:** The Feast of Tabernacles celebrated God's provision for Israel. Jesus, during the Feast, declared Himself the living water, pointing to the ultimate provision of salvation through His life, death, and resurrection.

Week 4 - Wait! That's Not Fair

- **Bible Story:** Matthew 20:1-16 (The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard)
- **Supporting Scriptures:** Ephesians 2:8-9, Isaiah 55:8-9, 1 Corinthians 15:10
- **Lesson Main Idea:** God's grace is generous; it's not a reward for our work.
- **Gospel Connection:** The parable teaches us that God's grace is not earned but given freely. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is the ultimate act of grace, offering us salvation not based on our works but on His generosity and love.



Week 1 – You'll Never Guess What Happened

Bible Story: Ruth 1-4 (The story of Ruth and Boaz)

Supporting Scriptures: Matthew 6:19-21, Proverbs 31:10-31, Psalm 37:4-6

Lesson Main Idea: God provides for us in surprising ways.

Gospel Connection: Just as Ruth found a new family and future through Boaz, we find our eternal family and future through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.

Video Bible Stories: Use this link to access recommended Bible story videos, worship music, and bonus ideas for this curriculum series. https://linktr.ee/harvest_hoopla.lesson



Introduction Game – Harvest Hoopla Hop

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Cones or markers to delineate the game area
- Task Station: Choose what works best in your teaching space.
 - Sorting Seeds: Children sort different types of seeds (e.g., corn, beans, sunflower seeds) into separate containers.
 - Stacking Hay Bales: Children stack small hay bales (or brown pillows) into a small tower.
 - Gathering Grain: Children gather small bundles of wheat or barley (cardboard cutouts) and place them in a basket.
 - Balancing Produce: Children balance small pumpkins or other durable produce on their heads while walking a short distance.
 - Watering Crops: Children pretend to water crops using small watering cans and a designated "field" area.
 - Planting Seeds: Children "plant" seeds by placing fake seeds into small pots filled with soil or shredded paper.
 - Harvest Toss: Children toss small bean bags or balls into baskets labeled with different crops.

Adaptations: For smaller spaces, reduce the number of stations and have children rotate through them in smaller groups. For larger groups: Create multiple sets of the same stations to reduce wait times. For younger children: Simplify tasks or provide more guidance at each station. For older children: Add time limits or competition elements between groups. If you're planning a large event or have a large group, you'll need volunteers to operate and explain each game station.

TEACHER: Hello, everyone! I'm so glad to see all of you. Today, we're starting a new lesson series called HARVEST HOOPLA. Have you ever felt both super excited and a little nervous about change? Maybe it's starting a sport or meeting new friends. Change can feel like a roller coaster – thrilling but also scary!

Over the next few weeks, you'll learn how God provides for us in every season, just like He provides the harvest in the fall. We'll try to spot the good things God is doing, even when things are changing. Get ready for fun fall activities, amazing Bible stories, and a chance to grow a thankful heart that's as big as a prize-winning pumpkin!

To kick things off, we're going to play Harvest Hoopla Hop, which will help us see just how bountiful and fun God's provision can be. Here's how we play:

1. I've set up several stations around the room, each one representing a different 'field' with crops like wheat, barley, and corn.
2. You'll start at the first station, and when I say "Go," you'll hop to the next station.
3. At each station, there's a quick task for you to complete.
4. Once you complete the task, hop over to the next station. The goal is to visit each field and see how much you can gather from each crop.

Alright, let's get ready, line up at the first station, and remember to have fun while thinking about all the good things God provides for us!

TEACHER: Remember, just like we worked together to complete these harvest tasks, God often uses different people and experiences to provide for us in surprising ways. Let's be thankful for all the ways God takes care of us!

Game Activity – Ruth’s Relay Race

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Relay batons (or any small, safe object to pass between runners)
- Cones or markers to set up the relay course
- Large bags or baskets to collect 'grain' (could use crumpled paper or small balls)

TEACHER: Today, we're learning how God provides for us in surprising ways, just like He did for Ruth. Our next game will show us how working together and supporting each other can lead to amazing outcomes. This game is called "Ruth's Relay Race."

Here's how we'll play:

1. We'll form two teams. Each team will have a start line and a finish line, with a basket at the end to collect your 'grain.'
2. At my signal, the first person in line will race to the basket with a baton, grab a piece of 'grain,' and race back to hand off the baton to the next teammate.
3. The next teammate will do the same, and this will continue until all the grain is collected.
4. The goal is to see which team can gather all their grain the fastest, showing how working together helps achieve great things.

TEACHER: Great job, everyone! Just like you worked together to collect the grain quickly, Ruth received help in her time of need. Together with Boaz, they accomplished something wonderful. God often uses our relationships with others to provide for us, showing His love and care in surprising and exciting ways.

Bible Story – The Story of Ruth and Boaz

Learning Objectives: After this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Summarize the main events in the story of Ruth and Boaz.
2. Identify the central message or theme of the story.
3. Describe how characters in the story respond to major events and challenges.
4. Make connections between the story and their own experiences.

Main Idea: God provides for us in surprising ways.

Approximate teaching time: 20-25 minutes

TEACHER: Today, we're going to hear an amazing story about how God takes care of us in ways we don't expect. In our Bible story, a woman named Naomi and her daughter-in-law Ruth. They lived a long time ago when there wasn't enough food in their town of Bethlehem. They were dealing with some major changes. Ruth's husband died, and then she moved to a different country to stay loyal to her mother-in-law, Naomi. They didn't know what was going to happen next and didn't even know how they would find food. But they trusted in God, and he provided for them in surprising ways, which we'll see in this story.

READ: Ruth 1:1-5

Naomi, her husband, and their two sons moved to a place called Moab to find food. But then something sad happened. Naomi's husband died. Her sons got married, but then they died too. Poor Naomi was left with just her two daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth.

Have you ever had to move to a new place or say goodbye to someone you love?

How did that make you feel? (Pause for responses) Sometimes, life can be really hard, just like it was for Naomi. But even in those difficult times, God is still with us and has a plan.

How do you think Naomi felt? (Pause for responses) She was probably very sad and worried. Sometimes we feel sad or scared too. But even when things look bad, God is still watching over us.

READ: Ruth 1:6-18

Naomi decided to go back home to Bethlehem. She told Orpah and Ruth to go back to their families. Orpah said goodbye, but Ruth didn't want to leave Naomi alone. Ruth said, "I'll go with you. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God." Wow! Ruth chose to help Naomi even though it was hard.

Ruth chose to stay with Naomi even though it was difficult. Can you think of a time when you had to make a difficult choice to help someone else? (Pause for responses) When we choose to be kind and loyal, like Ruth, we're showing God's love to others.

READ: Ruth 2:1-13

In Bethlehem, Ruth went to pick up leftover grain in the fields to get food. She ended up in a field owned by a kind man named Boaz. He was actually related to Naomi's family! Boaz was very nice to Ruth and told his workers to leave extra grain for her.

Isn't it cool how God led Ruth to the right field? Sometimes, God guides us to the right place, even when we don't know it.

Has anyone ever been kind to you when you were new somewhere, like at school or in the neighborhood? (Pause for responses) Boaz was kind to Ruth when she was new. We can be like Boaz and welcome new people, too. How could you be kind to someone new this week?

READ: Ruth 2:14-23

Boaz invited Ruth to eat with him and his workers. He even told his men to drop extra grain for her on purpose! Ruth worked hard all day and brought home lots of food for Naomi. When Naomi heard it was Boaz's field, she was so happy! She knew God was taking care of them through Boaz's kindness.

Ruth worked hard all day to provide for herself and Naomi. What are some ways you help out at home or at school? (Pause for responses) When we work hard and help others, we're showing love and responsibility, just like Ruth did.

God often uses other people to help us. Can you think of a time when someone was extra nice to you? (Pause for responses) That might have been God working through them to take care of you! We can be kind to others, just like Boaz.

READ: Ruth 3:1-18, 4:1-12 (or read the following summary)

Naomi had an idea for Ruth to marry Boaz. It worked! Boaz wanted to marry Ruth, but there was a small problem. Another man had the right to marry her first. But don't worry – God had a plan!

Boaz talked to this other man, and guess what? The man didn't want to marry Ruth after all. So Boaz got to marry her! God brought Ruth and Boaz together in an amazing way.

Sometimes, God's plans for us might seem strange. But we can trust that He knows what He's doing, even when we don't understand. Can you remember a time when something didn't go as you planned, but it turned out okay in the end? (Pause for responses) Just like with Ruth and Boaz, God might have a surprise in store for us!

READ: Ruth 4:13-22

Ruth and Boaz got married and had a baby boy named Obed. Naomi was so happy! She went from being alone to having a new family. Here's the really cool part - Obed grew up to be the grandfather of King David. And much later, Jesus came from David's family!

God turned Naomi and Ruth's sad story into a happy one. Have you ever had a bad day turn into a good one? (Pause for responses) God can change our tough times into good ones, too. We can always have hope because God is working things out for good.

Let's look at some other Bible verses that go with Ruth's story:

READ: Matthew 6:19-21

Jesus teaches us to care about things that really matter - like loving God and being kind to others. Ruth cared about Naomi and about following God. What are some ways we can show we care about God and others?

READ: Psalm 37:4-6

These verses tell us that when we love God, He gives us good things. Ruth loved God by being faithful, and God blessed her in big ways. How can we show we love God in our everyday life?

SUMMARY: So, what did we learn from Ruth's story? God took care of Ruth and Naomi in surprising ways. He led Ruth to Boaz's field, helped Boaz be kind to her, and gave them a new family. God took care of them even when things looked hard.

Remember our main idea? God takes care of us in surprising ways. Just like He did for Ruth and Naomi, God can work in unexpected ways in our lives, too.

GOSPEL CONNECTION: The best part? Ruth's story is part of God's big plan to bring Jesus into the world. Even though Ruth wasn't from Israel, God made her part of Jesus' family tree. This shows us that every single one of us is important to God, no matter where we come from.

Jesus is God's greatest gift to us. Just like Boaz took care of Ruth, Jesus takes care of us. He loves us so much that He died on the cross to forgive us and make us part of God's family forever. When we trust in Jesus, we can be sure that God will always take care of us, no matter what surprises come our way!

Discussion Questions & Prayer

TEACHER: Great job, everyone! You all did wonderfully listening to our story about Ruth and Boaz. Remember, our main idea today is that God provides for us in surprising ways. Let's talk about that a little more.

Discussion Questions:

1. Can you tell me two or three important things that happened in Ruth and Naomi's story?
2. How did God surprise Ruth and Naomi with His care? What does this teach us about how God might take care of us?
3. Ruth and Naomi faced some big problems. How did they respond? How can we respond when we face hard times?

Now, let's share some prayer requests. Does anyone have something they'd like us to pray about? (Allow time for children to share prayer requests) Let's pray together:

Dear God,

Thank you for taking care of us, just like you took care of Ruth and Naomi.

Help us to trust you even when things are hard. Thank you for all the people who are kind to us, and help us to be kind to others too. We love you, God.

(Include any specific prayer requests the children mentioned)

In Jesus' name, Amen.

God provides for us in surprising ways.



Word Search Puzzle

BOAZ - BLESSINGS - FAITH - FAMILY - FIELD - GLEAN

GOD - GRAIN - HARVEST - LOYAL - RUTH - TRUST - WHEAT

L	C	D	A	J	X	B	C	D	V	D
H	A	R	V	E	S	T	O	N	C	O
I	P	A	Q	G	E	G	B	B	Y	Q
B	Z	Q	B	L	L	T	L	L	E	W
V	T	E	A	G	S	F	I	E	L	D
I	B	Y	T	U	R	M	Y	S	A	V
C	O	V	R	X	A	F	F	S	H	N
L	A	T	A	F	G	R	A	I	N	D
T	Z	B	Z	M	U	U	I	N	O	R
J	X	W	H	E	A	T	T	G	P	P
K	D	M	Z	Y	T	H	H	S	F	G

Word Search Answers

BOAZ - BLESSINGS - FAITH - FAMILY - FIELD - GLEAN

GOD - GRAIN - HARVEST - LOYAL - RUTH - TRUST - WHEAT



Snack Activity – Boaz's Bounty Bowls

Be aware of possible food allergies in your class when planning snack activities.

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Sliced apples
- Banana pieces
- Grapes
- Optional toppings like honey or yogurt



Activity: Children create their own "Bounty Bowls" by choosing from the available fruits and adding toppings if desired. Each type of fruit can be associated with different aspects of God's provision, such as apples for health, bananas for energy, and grapes for joy. Optional toppings like honey can represent sweetness and abundance in life.

Teacher Tip: Pre-slice all fruits and place them in separate bowls for easy access. Provide small bowls or cups for each child to create their mix. Ensure any optional toppings like yogurt or honey are served with utensils for hygiene.

TEACHER: Today, we're going to have a special snack time where you can make your own fruit bowls, called "Boaz's Bounty Bowls." You'll choose from apples, bananas, and grapes to fill your bowl. Each fruit reminds us of the different ways God provides for us—like apples for health and grapes for joy. If you like, you can add a little honey or yogurt to make it even more delicious! Let's see how creative you can be with your bowls and think about all the wonderful things God gives us.

Craft Activity – Gleaning Gratitude Bags

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Burlap bags (or any small fabric bag)
- Fabric markers
- Stickers
- Ribbons



TEACHER: Today, we're going to make "Gleaning

Gratitude Bags." This craft is part of our HARVEST HOOPLA series, where we learn to be thankful for the many ways God provides for us, just like He did for Ruth. As you decorate your bags, think about the things you are grateful for.

Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. Choose some fabric markers and think about what colors you like best.
2. Use the markers to draw or write things on your bag that you're thankful for. It could be your family, friends, pets, or something fun you did recently.
3. Next, use stickers and ribbons to make your bag even more special. You can stick them anywhere you like on the bag.
4. Remember, this bag will help you remember all the good things in your life, just like Ruth remembered the kindness of Boaz.

Every time you use this bag, let it remind you of the blessings in your life and the ways God surprises you with His provision.



Week 1 – Note for Parents

This week in "Harvest Hoopla," we explored Ruth and Boaz's story. Our main idea: "God provides for us in surprising ways."

Your child learned about the following:

- God's care during tough times
- The value of kindness and loyalty
- Trusting God's plan

We also connected this story to Jesus, showing how God includes everyone in His family. Thank you for allowing your child to be part of our learning adventure!