# **Disposition:** Being Thankful

## **Lesson:** One

### **Question/LO:** When and why do believers say “thank you” to God for food?

### How and why do other traditions say thank you?

| **Dimension of learning** | **Activities** | **Resources** |
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| Learning from experience | Explore the ultimate source of foodstuffs, e.g. the story of bread or the story of milk. Or, look at a meal and where the components come from.Children to draw a flow chart or web detailing the origins of the food looked at. Use a globe or map to identify the geographical journey. Ask the children to look out for any packaging detail that might source the origin of the food.*Cross-curricular: geography and science.* | Globe or Map of the World |
| Learning about religious traditions and non-religious worldviews | Watch the film, ‘Being Thankful’. Children, mainly of Muslim heritage visit an interfaith project. In her church, Rev. Jo Mason encourages the children to understand why Christians give thanks at harvest time.What are Hindus thankful for?Discuss with a partner how many food sources we get from cows (eg. Milk, yoghurt etc). Explain that for many Hindus cows are very special or sacred animals. In Hindu teachings because a cow provides milk it is viewed as one of the earth’s mothers. Early in his life, Lord Krishna was a cow herder. Today Hindus protect cows to continue this work. Some Hindu farmers still look after cows when they no longer can provide milk. These older cows are taken to special farms or sanctuaries. They are called goshalas. These also exist in the UK.Use the links to research: What are Hindus thankful for? Some Hindus treat all life as sacred and so do not eat any meat. Do you know what someone who does not eat meat is called? (a vegetarian). Treating all life without harming living creatures. How do thinking cows are special affect the way people like Hindus might live? (eg. not eating beef or beef products or using leather products). In India, this extends to the ‘free roaming’ of cows – even in shops. It is considered very good fortune if a cow passes or even sits in your shop or home.HumanismExplain to pupils that Humanists do not believe in God. A humanist naming ceremony is a non-religious ceremony. Humanist parents are free to decide where to hold the ceremony, what happens during the ceremony. Freedom is very important to humanists. Humanists raise their children to be free to decide what to believe a how to live in their future life. Family and friends of the Humanists’ family may attend to support the baby and make promises to support them in their life.Watch the perfect welcome film: *This is the same film used in the Year 1 lesson.* Ask the pupils to help to plan a naming ceremony for a new baby. Consider the questions asked in the film while you are planning:1. Where would you hold a naming ceremony?
2. Who would you invite?
3. What would you do to make it special?
4. What would you say?
5. What promises would you make?
6. What advice would you give?

Why do we need support from other people in our lives? You could share aspects of the pupils’ ceremonies amongst the whole of the class. | A video ‘Being thankful’ will have downloaded into the same folder as this lesson plan. KS2\_Y4\_Unit\_01\_Aut\_Wk\_01\_of\_03\_R123\_Video\_Being\_Thankful\_at\_Harvest\_Time\_v1<https://www.bhaktivedantamanor.co.uk/home/?tag=goshalla><https://www.ahimsamilk.org>Hindu holy books mention how special cows are:Bhagavad Gita Chapter 14 Verse 16Of all kinds of animal killing, the killing of cows is most vicious because the cow gives us all kinds of pleasure by supplying milk. Cow slaughter is an act of the grossest type of ignorance. Srimad Bhagavatam  12.3.36In India, the cow is considered sacred because Hindus understand that the cow is a mother. As children, nearly all of us were nourished with cow’s milk, and therefore the cow is one of our mothers. Certainly, one’s mother is sacred, and therefore we should not kill the sacred cow.See photo in resource(<https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/res_films/naming-ceremony/>) |