

Harvest Assembly 2019 (can be used with slides)

In advance: use the list below to make up a single person Foodbank provision

Slide 1: Introduce the topic. This year we are supporting Black Country Foodbank. They provide food to local families in crisis to help them get through.

Slide 2: Get a couple of sensible volunteers to the front and give them the following challenge:

To decide how they would use the single person pack over a 3 day period. They need to put aside something for breakfast, lunch and dinner for each day for one person.

Give them just a couple of minutes, help them a bit if necessary, then share their decisions with everyone, the children will probably have lots of feedback to offer.

Ask: Do you think it would be easy or hard to live on these things?

What extra food would you include?

What do you like/ dislike?

What's special about all this food? (It's all been donated, that makes it extra valuable, and it all lasts a long time. Give a couple of examples from the food you have, explain that this is important to make sure there's time to get the food to the people that need it)

Slide 3: Black Country Foodbank gave out hundreds of packs like this last year. Enough to provide about 230,000 meals.

Ask: I've mentioned Crisis already. What do you think that means?

Slide 4: Explain: people in crisis who need to use the foodbank might be sick, have had their money stolen, just come out of prison, had a fire or be out of work, or even just had a broken cooker or washing machine that's used up all their money to put right.

Slide 5: Here's the Foodbank in Stourbridge.

Stories: Jim visited the Foodbank recently. He'd been very ill for a long time and had to give up his job. He hoped that the government could help him with some extra money while he concentrated on trying to get well. The help didn't arrive quickly enough and he couldn't afford to buy any food for a couple of weeks. We gave him a pack just like this to help him until the government gave him the money to help him.

Tasha works in a school and has 2 children. The government give her some extra money to help her look after her children well and make sure that they have everything that they need, including food. Last year things went wrong and she didn't get the extra money that she needed. It was her son's birthday and she couldn't give him a present. She was very sad about the present, but she was glad to come to foodbank and get some food, so at least he wouldn't be hungry on his birthday as well.

Slide 6: Black Country Foodbank has 23 Foodbanks across the area. The nearest one to you is in XX. That's where people like Jim and Tasha can go to get help.

Slide 7: Thank You for your generosity today!