

Fruit of the Spirit: JOY

There are nine fruit of the Spirit. Each fruit of the Spirit links to different Christian values and has 12 days of CW.
With thanks to staff at All Saint's CE Primary School in Newmarket for the wonderful idea!

Background Notes: The fruit of the Spirit are found in the book of Galatians, which is part of the New Testament in the Bible. The letter to the church in Galatia was written by Paul. Christians believe that the Bible says that the moment someone chooses to believe in Jesus Christ they receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit's help make Christians more like Jesus. One of the main purposes of the Christian life is to progressively allow the Holy Spirit to produce more of His fruit.



Key Bible verse: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5 v 22 and 23)

Resources

Lion Storyteller Bible by Bob Hartman
Hey-O! Stories of the Bible by Saddleback Kids

Consider...

- Learning the BSL for each fruit of the Spirit.
- Interspersing your CW with a focus on a different festival, theme or learning more about courageous advocacy.

Fruit of the Spirit Songs

Silly, catchy and useful to help remember the fruits!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-hrxEjWxkE>
<https://youtu.be/Rezg4jYFoj0>
<https://youtu.be/xWoWDdeD-ns>

How can we link the fruit of the Spirit to our school Christian values?

Love: Friendship, Trust

Patience: Perseverance, Wisdom

Faithfulness: Truth, Hope

Joy: Thankfulness, Courage

Kindness: Generosity, Service

Gentleness: Compassion, Humility

Peace: Respect

Goodness: Creativity, Responsibility

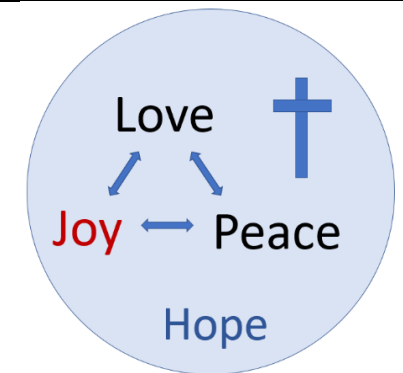
Self-Control: Justice, Forgiveness

JOY

LISTEN:

[Give Me Joy in my Heart](#) – The song has a familiar tune, with joyful words.
[Joy](#) – A very joyful worship song, talking about joy that comes from God.

Key message		Bible	Engage and Response: Christians believe...
1	Fruit of the Spirit: Joy	Galatians 5 v 22 and 23	<p>What is joy? Start by watching the trailer for Inside Out here. In the video, what does joy look like and why is it a strong emotion? In this film, Joy stays strong no matter what is thrown at her. She is a natural leader of the other four emotions. In real life, the emotion of joy can affect our bodies in a positive way. Joyful people tend to be healthier and appreciate everything around them, such as family and pets. What is the difference between joy and happiness? Happiness is a temporary feeling that we show on the outside through smiling or laughing. It is usually based on our circumstances such as what we are doing or who we are playing with. Joy is a long-lasting feeling that we have on the inside. It's connected to feeling peaceful and content, knowing that we have everything that we need right then. We can be going through a tough time, but still feel joyful. Next, watch this video and talk about what it means for Christians to feel joy. We will talk over the next few weeks about joy and how we can grow in it. Joy can be a strength that helps us through good and bad times. If you'd like to, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you grow in joy.</p>
2	Fruit of the Spirit: Joy	Galatians 5 v 22 and 23	<p>Have a look at this picture. What do the words say? What symbol can you see? What do you think the arrows mean? This diagram reminds us that each exist because of each other. Out of love for God and love for others we can experience joy and peace – together these fruit of the Spirit give us hope for the future too. When do you experience joy? Perhaps it's time with your family and friends, a sunny day, a cuddle, achieving something you have persevered with, the love and friendship of a pet. Christians believe that all these things were created by God and that he wants us all to experience joy. How can we share joy with our neighbours? How can you help those in our local community who are experiencing a tough time? Are there local action projects or charities you are supporting as a school or could support? Find</p>



			out about some in your local area and talk to the children about them. Use the time to inspire courageous advocacy for local issues of injustice. How can we make sure everyone around us knows love, joy, peace and has hope for the future?
3	Joy in heaven	The lost coin: Luke 15: 8 -10. Lion Storyteller Bible p118.	Jesus told many stories, known as parables. He liked people to think about the hidden meanings in the stories. In this story, there was a woman who had ten silver coins. She was a poor woman, and the coins were important and precious to her. One day, the woman counted her coins and realised one had been lost. Frantically, the woman searched her whole house until she found it. The woman was so excited and full of joy about finding her lost coin, she went out to get her friends and invited them to her house for a big party. She had a long, joyous celebration with her friends. Watch this video. I wonder...what do you think the meaning is? The woman represents God and the coin is humankind. Jesus relates the joy of the woman to joy in heaven when someone turns back to God and repents. What does repent mean?
4	Spreading Good News	Acts 13:49 Lion Storyteller Bible p150. Hey-O! p372	Today, we will learn about Paul. This is the same Paul who wrote about the fruit of the Spirit! Watch this video. This video talks about Paul's life. He used to be called Saul and used to hunt down God's people – not a loving thing to do. What happened to him? Read the verse from Acts: "And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit." Christians believe that joy spreads by sharing the good news of Jesus' love. It's not enough to be filled with joy and keep it to ourselves. God asked Paul to spread the good news of Jesus' love. He travelled and helped people all over to make sure they understood about God's love and the joy that is found in Jesus. Today, the Bible Society help to spread joy around the world by translating The Bible into different languages. They say, "Thank you for sharing God's word and for making it heard in other languages for the first time. When 30 people in the UK twinned their Bibles with the Bissa Bible , this new translation was propelled to completion and has begun changing lives in Burkina Faso". Where is Burkina Faso? See if you can find it on a map. What does twinning a Bible mean? How might being able to understand The Bible in their own language change lives in Burkina Faso? A pastor there said, "Our joy is great today because, from now on, we are going to preach and read the Bible directly in Bissa without interpretation." Those days of celebration are still to come for members of Costa Rica's Ngäbe community, who have never had the Bible in their language. Christians can bring much joy to communities by twinning their Bibles.
5	Joy in difficult circumstances	Paul: Acts 16:16-36	Let's learn about Paul again. We know that he wrote about the fruit of the Spirit and that he wanted people to ask the Holy Spirit to help them grow in joy. But did he experience joy himself? Yes, he did, even when he was in prison! Watch this video. This video talks about Paul being in prison with his friend Silas. Paul wrote a lot of his letters whilst he was in

		Lion Storyteller Bible p154. Hey-O! p377	prison, saying that he "will continue to rejoice" (Philippians 1:18). What do you notice about the word rejoice? Wow, that must have been hard for Paul! What do you think he did to help him grow in joy?
6	Joy in creation	Psalms 92:4	What gives you joy in the natural world? What do you like looking at, listening to, touching, feeling, smelling, and tasting? Consider looking at some photographs of your local area. In the Bible, it says, "For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands, I sing for joy." Christians believe that when they reflect on the works of God's hands, they should sing for joy. It can give us great joy when we look out for hidden blessings in the natural world. If you'd like to join in, use the EXAMEN prayer to reflect on joy. 1. GIVE THANKS for all the beautiful things in the world. 2. ASK FOR HELP in thinking about ways you can help to look after the world so it can continue to bring joy to you and others. 3. REFLECT on your favourite thing about being outside. 4. SAY SORRY for the times you may have not treated nature in the correct way. 5. DECIDE on how you can encourage others to experience joy when they are outside.
7	Joyful in worship	IMB Revelation 7:9-10	Listen to the different styles and sounds of worship around the world: https://www.imb.org/2019/12/10/christian-worship-around-world/ As you listen, think about how joyful they sound. Why are Christians around the world able to sing so joyfully? In the passage from Revelation, John (the writer) is describing a picture he has of a huge group of people joyfully worshipping God. It says they are from every nation, tribe, people, and language. Sing your favourite worship song and experience the joy in worship too!
8	Joy: God is an artist!	SPCK plan	Follow this plan: https://www.assemblies.org.uk/pri/4224/god-is-an-artist
9	The joy of the Lord is our strength.	Nehemiah 8:10 Lion Storyteller Bible p80. Hey-O! p196.	Watch this video. After supervising the rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem, Nehemiah wanted the people to listen to God's Word. They wept because they realized they had disobeyed God. But Nehemiah helped to turn their hearts to rejoicing. He explained that the joy of the Lord is our strength. I wonder...what do you think this meant to Nehemiah? What do you think it means to Christians?
10	Rejoice with God	Sarah laughs: Genesis 18:1-15	God brings joy through unexpected blessings and circumstances. In this story, Sarah found joy in the long-awaited blessing of her son. She named him Isaac, which means "laughter." Watch this video. Of course, Sarah felt happy after finally receiving the child she longed for, but her deep joy came in recognizing that God's timing was best. Sarah probably thought she would never have a child. But God brought her this blessing when she least expected it, and she was ready to receive the blessing with joy.

11	Weeping turns to joy	Psalm 30:5	Sometimes we can feel sad, and we may start to cry or weep. This can be for all sorts of different reasons. The Bible encourages us not to dwell or worry when we feel like this because joy will soon come. Read the Bible verse from Psalms together. Listen to this song whilst you watch the beautiful photographs on the video . Use the time to reflect and to pray, if you wish to.
12	Weeping turns to joy	Psalm 30:5	Can you remember the Psalm we talked about last time and the song we heard? Listen to the story of Joni Eareckson Tada here . Joni had an accident in a swimming pool and became paralysed from the neck down. This means that she cannot move her arms or legs. When it first happened, she felt incredibly sad but then began to embrace life and experienced much joy! Many Christians believe that she is a true inspiration because she has helped so many other people so that they can experience joy too. If you'd like to, you can pray for people who Joni helps through her charity called Joni and friends. Pray that they can embrace life.