

Fruit of the Spirit: LOVE

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



LOVE

LISTEN:

[Reckless Love](#): This worship song uses the analogy of the lost sheep to describe God's love.

[Love Divine, All Loves Excelling](#): The words of this hymn describe the love God has for humankind and how they see Jesus as the ultimate demonstration of this love.

LOVE			LISTEN: Reckless Love : This worship song uses the analogy of the lost sheep to describe God's love. Love Divine, All Loves Excelling : The words of this hymn describe the love God has for humankind and how they see Jesus as the ultimate demonstration of this love.
	Key message	Bible	Engage and Response: Christians believe...
1	Fruit of the Spirit: Love	Galatians 5 v 22 and 23 1 John 4:8	What is love? It is more than just a feeling and it's more than just liking something a lot. Watch this video and talk about what it means for Christians. Christians believe that love comes from God. Love is unconditional – what does that mean? Christians know that God will always love them – no matter what they do. Read the Bible verse from 1 John together. I wonder...what it means when it says, "God is love." We will talk over the next few weeks about love and how everyone can grow in it. If you'd like to, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you grow in love.
2	Loving everyone	The Good Samaritan: Luke 10. Lion Storyteller Bible p104. Hey-O! p280.	You may have heard of the story of the Good Samaritan before. Did you know it was a story that Jesus told to teach people about love and goodness? Watch this video. The people Jesus was talking to knew they had to love God, but they were surprised when Jesus told them it means they must love and be good to all – just like the Samaritan in the video. This Samaritan man didn't care that the injured man was from a different group of people – he was so kind, so loving and full of goodness. What would you do in this situation? Jesus finished the story by telling the people to "Go and do the same." I wonder...how we can go and do the same.
3	John's letter about love	1 John 3:16-20	John was one of Jesus' disciples. He spent a lot of time with Jesus and saw how much Jesus loved everyone around them. When Jesus died, John wrote letters to people. Do you like writing letters or notes to people? What do you like to write about? Watch this video. In John's letter, he talks about real love. We want to show real love too! That means not just saying that we love people but showing it in our actions too. What can you do today to show people?
4	Loving and serving others	Jesus washes His disciple's feet: John 13:2-5	What are kings usually like? Kings usually want people to serve them. But not Jesus. Despite being a King, he wanted to serve and love others. Watch this video. Washing the disciple's feet was an act of love. Jesus told them to do as he had done for them.



		Hey-O! p335.	He told them to follow the example he set for them, to love and serve each other and to not think of themselves as greater than others. Spend a moment reflecting on this.
5	Love: Giving our all	The widow's offering: Mark 12:41-44 Lion Storyteller Bible p134.	For the lady in this story, her husband had sadly died, and she didn't have much money. Watch this video . Consider acting it out to show the differences in the amount of money, and the importance of the widow giving only two small coins. Although she only had a small amount to give, Jesus said she had given more because she had given everything she had to live on. Imagine giving away all your money: what would that be like and how would you feel? Why do you think the lady does this? Some people in the story gave enormous amounts of money but they still had some left. How could we be like the widow? Is it always about giving money? How could we give something else to show love to others?
6	Loving everyone, just like Jesus did.	Zaccheaus: Luke 19:1-10 Lion Storyteller Bible p130. Hey-O! p308.	In Jesus' time, tax collectors like Zaccheaus were unpopular. They took bribes and would be greedy at the expense of everyone else. How would you feel if someone kept demanding more and more in taxes? How do you think Jesus felt towards them? Watch this video . When Jesus expressed his desire to dine with Zaccheaus, he was showing him love. It didn't matter what Zaccheaus had done - Jesus accepted him for who he was, regardless of his faults.
7	Love around the world	Christian Aid plan	Session 2 from https://www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/get-involved/primary-resources-sessions-1-and-2
8	Love can involve being brave.	Moses and the Pharaoh's Daughter: Exodus 2:1-10 Lion Storyteller Bible p28. Hey-O! p71.	During early Bible times, a king was ruling Egypt, called a Pharaoh. It was not easy for the Israelites to live there because they weren't born in Egypt. In fact, Pharaoh feared the Israelites so he decided that they should all be slaves. They were treated very badly. Watch this video . Moses' mother loved him deeply and knew he was special. After keeping him secret for a while, she put him in a basket and allowed the basket to float down the river. Pharaoh's daughter saw the basket, became curious and asked one of her servants to get it. She saw that it was an Israelite baby and knowing the danger he was in, took pity on Moses and decided to adopt him. The Egyptian princess was aware of her father's orders, yet she bravely went against him to save the boy. She may not have known it at that time, but her act of love eventually saved and helped an entire nation. You might enjoy listening to this rhyming song too.
9	Love your enemies	Matthew 5:43-44	When someone hurts us, it is so tempting to get even with them. If someone kicks you, or says something unkind, what should you do? Should you do the same back to them? Jesus gives people another option. Watch this video . Reflect on Jesus' words. We should go above and beyond for each other and always try to show love. Can you



			try to remember Jesus' message over the rest of the week? You can ask the Holy Spirit to help you, if you'd like to.
10	Putting love into action	Ruth: Ruth 1 Lion Storyteller Bible p48. Hey-O! p113	Watch this video. Ruth was full of compassionate and love. Her mother-in-law was lonely and grieving. Ruth knew how important it was to stay with her, even though for Ruth it meant giving up her desire to go back to her own family, her own country, and her own way of life. She followed her heart and gave up everything to stay with her out of love. Sometimes loving someone means we must sacrifice our own desires, just like Ruth did. We can't always do or get what we want, and we have to understand that it might help others more to do something different. Reflect on this for a moment or two.
11	Agape (<i>pronounced ah-gah-pay</i>)	Matthew 7:12	For Christians, agape lies at the root of all other values. It is different and means more than friendship, in fact it means love, respect, affection and good will combined! It is selfless and means putting others before yourself. It is a Greek word and is often used in the stories Jesus told. In his stories, Jesus made the point that we should extend our love to all people in the world. How could we do that? Watoto is a charity that loves and cares for people in African communities. See if you can find Uganda and South Sudan on a map of the world. Watoto's motto is: Celebrating Christ, Caring for Community. Can you think of some ways they might celebrate Christ in these two countries? Then learn more about Watoto's work by watching this video about Daniel David. Do you agree that Heroes always love?
12	Love your neighbour	Mark 12:31	Read the verse from Mark together and talk about what it means to 'love your neighbour.' The slides here might be helpful. Ask the children to share some examples of times when they have shown love to their neighbour or that their neighbour has shown love to them. Discuss how we could show love to our neighbours this week: How can we show love to people in school, our community and around the world? Is it easy to show love to people around the world? How could we do this? If you'd like to join in, use the EXAMEN prayer to reflect on love. It has five steps, so you might like to count them on your fingers. 1. GIVE THANKS for God's love for you and for people who have shown love to you recently. 2. ASK FOR HELP in thinking about ways you could show love to others today. 3. REFLECT on your day and think about when you have loved your neighbours well. 4. SAY SORRY for the times you know you have not loved others as well as you could have done. 5. DECIDE how you will be a 'good neighbour' tomorrow. You could use this idea: https://prayerspacesinschools.com/resources/love-your-neighbour/