

Exploring Our World

Times and Seasons



Extended Version

Exploring Our World

Times and Seasons

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Illustrated by Phillip Vernon



Bear Lands Publishing

About Aled and Siân

Aled and Siân love doing exciting things and exploring the world around them. In the *Exploring Our World* series Aled and Siân share some of their experiences with their Christian, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim friends. Aled and Siân also enjoy listening to their friends' stories, and learn about how these relate to their own. This helps the friends get to know one another better.

The series takes seriously the social significance of religion and is based on extensive research into how children learn about themselves, others and the world in which they live.

To support this storybook series, there is a large range of free downloadable resources for children and teachers available at hwb.wales.gov.uk/Resources and st-marys-centre.org.uk

The storybooks and activities are devised for 3- to 5-year-olds and 5- to 7-year-olds, but the downloadable resources make the series relevant for younger and older children too.

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Titles in the *Exploring Our World* series are:

3- to -5-year-olds
Celebrations
Myself and Others
Times and Seasons

5- to -7-year-olds
Journeys
Special People
Signs and Symbols





Aled and Siân like playing together outside. There are so many things to see and do in the autumn, winter, spring and summer.



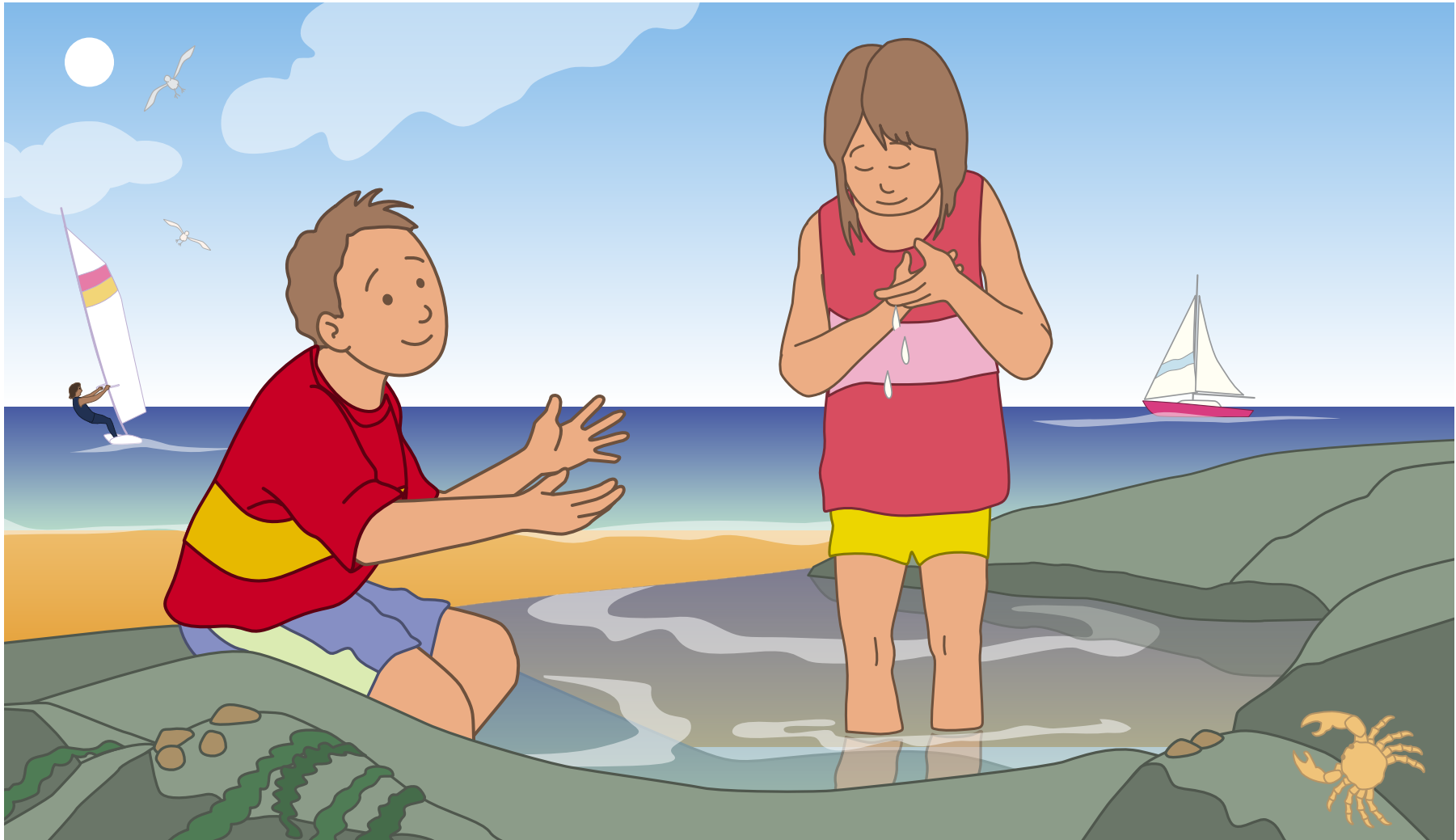
In the autumn Aled and Siân chase leaves in the park. They sniff the air and smell the smoke of burning leaves.



In the winter Aled and Siân make snowmen in the garden. They take off their gloves and feel the cold snow.

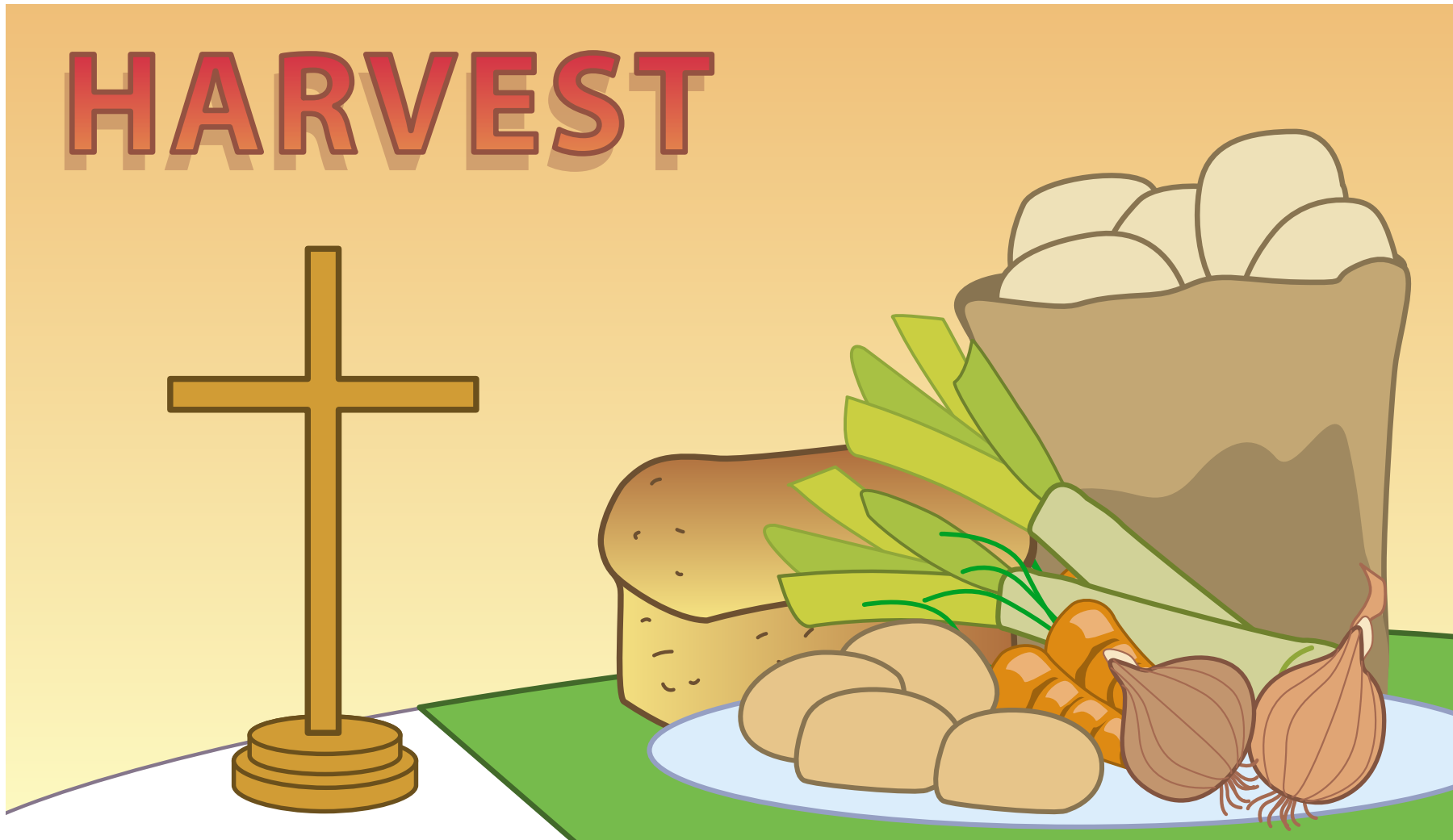


In the spring Aled and Siân pick bluebells in the wood. They listen hard and hear the singing of birds.



In the summer Aled and Siân splash in the rock pools. They lick their lips and taste the salty breeze.

HARVEST



In the autumn their friends Peter and Mary like celebrating Harvest. There are so many things to see and do.



Peter and Mary help to dig up vegetables in the garden. The potatoes, turnips and carrots are muddy in the wheelbarrow.

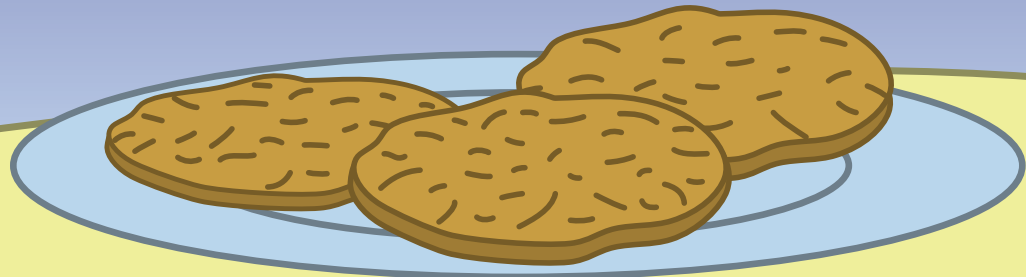
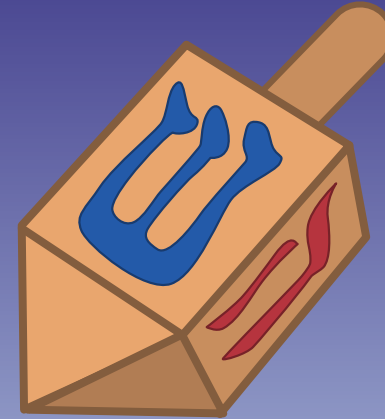
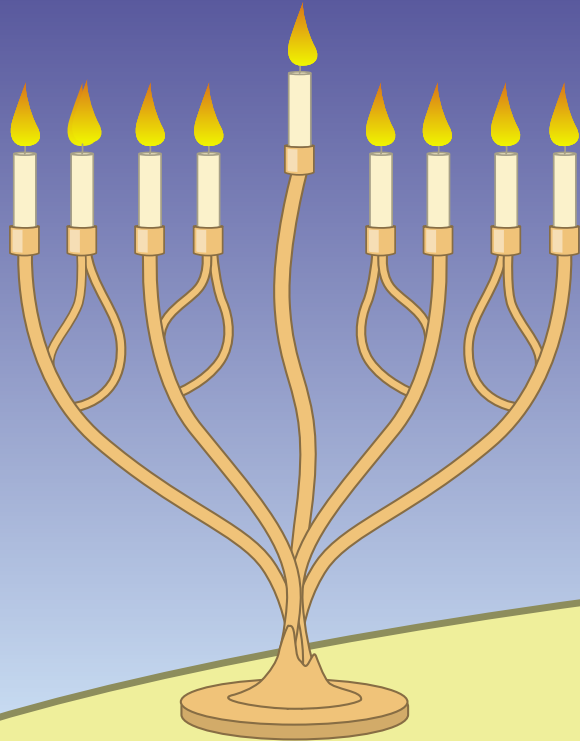


Peter and Mary go to the Harvest service in the church. The vicar accepts their potatoes and carrots, and places them by the altar.



Peter and Mary eat Harvest supper in the church hall. At Harvest Christians celebrate the fruit of the earth and the work of human hands.

HANUKKAH



In the winter their friends Nathan and Rachel like celebrating Hanukkah. There are so many things to see and do.



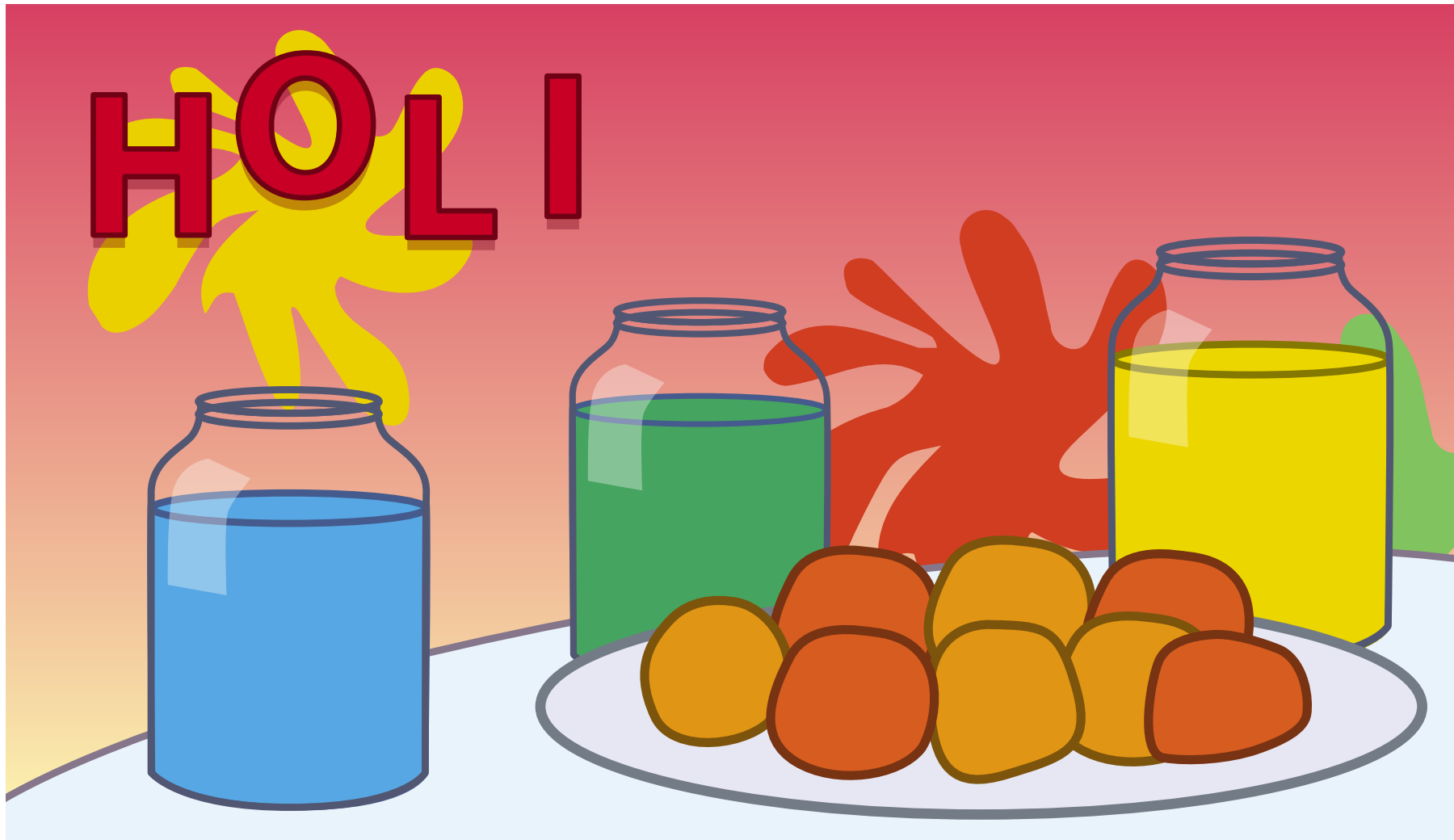
Nathan and Rachel help to cook food in oil for lunch. The potato pancakes sizzle in the frying pan.



Nathan and Rachel play Hanukkah games with their family. The dreidels spin around and around on the table.



Nathan and Rachel light the Hanukkah candles in the evening. At Hanukkah Jews celebrate the great things God has done for them.



In the spring their friends Rajeev and Meena like celebrating Holi. There are so many things to see and do.



Rajeev and Meena help to gather wood for the bonfire. The fire crackles and the flames blaze.



Rejeev and Meena throw coloured water at their friends. People laugh as they are covered in red, yellow, green and blue.



Rajeev and Meena make sweets for their family. At Holi Hindus celebrate the colours and new life of spring.



In the summer their friends Ahmed and Salma like celebrating Eid. There are so many things to see and do.



Ahmed and Salma help to find their best clothes. Everyone looks smart and happy.



Ahmed and Salma go to the Eid service in the mosque. The imam gives a sermon and they pray aloud together.



Ahmed and Salma make Eid cards for their friends. At Eid Muslims celebrate the good things God has given to them.



“The four seasons of the year are all so different,” say Aled and Siân. There are so many things to see, smell, feel, hear and taste.



“Harvest, Hanukkah, Holi and Eid must be fun,” say Aled and Siân. They see the fruits of the earth, the candlelight, the coloured water and the cards.



What do you see and do in the autumn, winter, spring and summer?
Which festivals do you celebrate?

Aled and Siân love playing in autumn, spring, summer and winter. They do special things in each season. Aled and Siân's friends share stories about the special things they do. They are excited to hear about the festivals of Harvest, Hanukkah, Holi and Eid.



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