

## Jesus meets a little boy and feeds 5000 people!

**Remember together:** Where is the best or most unusual place that you have ever had a picnic? Maybe in your garden or maybe you have climbed a mountain and eaten your lunch on the hillside.

What is your favourite food to take on a picnic?



**The story:** Today we're thinking about a time when Jesus met a little boy who shared his lunch and how Jesus did something amazing!

Read the story in John 6:1-13 or in your Bible storybook or watch this video where Ruth tells the story: <https://youtu.be/RB-9ObdlIGQ>

**Chat together:** What surprised you most about this story?

I wonder how the little boy felt about giving away his lunch?

I wonder what Jesus friends thought when they saw what Jesus did with it?

I wonder, do you think Jesus can do miracles with the things we give Him?

What sort of things do you think we can give to Jesus? We can give our time, our money, the things that we are good at - and if we do, sometimes He will do amazing things with them! When we give what we have to God, he can take it, bless it, and do more than we could ever imagine. Even though we may not have very much, little becomes much when it is placed in God's hands.

**Pray together:** Jesus had compassion for all the people, he didn't want to send them away hungry. Think together for a few minutes, who do you know who is in need? Maybe a friend or maybe people in other countries. Spend a few moments listening to God and asking him if there is anything he would like you to do.

Find two plates, on one place a plain, dry biscuit or cracker and on the other a plateful of food (maybe what you are going to have for lunch) or you could use play food or make some food out of playdough.

Sit around the plates and ask someone to hold the plate with the dry biscuit and say a prayer for people who are hungry. Then hold the other plate and

thank God for all our food, for the people who grow it and ask God to help us to share what we have.

### **Make together:**

Tuna sandwiches - why not make some tuna sandwiches for your lunch or help to get your lunch ready! Maybe you could have lunch outside as a picnic.

Bread - here is a simple recipe for bread that doesn't need yeast. Why not have a go at making some for your lunch? Or use your own favourite bread recipe. Don't forget to wash your hands before you start!

Preheat the oven 220°C (fan 200°C, gas 6) and line a baking tray with greaseproof paper. In a bowl mix together 2 cups flour,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon sugar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt and 2 teaspoons baking powder. Add  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup warm water and mix together using a fork. Sprinkle a clean, flat surface with a little flour and tip out the bread mix on top. Gently knead the dough for 1-2 minutes and then shape into a loaf or divide to make rolls. Place on the baking tray. Bake in the oven for 15 minutes then turn the heat down to 180°C (fan 160°C, gas 5) for 10 minutes. Rolls will need less time.

Basket craft - an amazing part of this story is that there were 12 baskets of leftover food after over 5000 people had eaten! Why not make a basket to remind you of the story?

Find some card, a cereal packet is ideal. Draw around a plate or a bowl and cut out the circle. Draw around something smaller to make a circle in the middle. Cut triangles out of the card so that it looks like this, a bit like a flower or the sun! Make sure you have an odd number of strips - this is very important!



Now find some wool or string and start weaving in and out of the strips, round and round and round, gradually pulling up the sides so that it forms a basket.

Now you have made a useful little basket!

## Other ideas:

### Make popcorn

Have you ever made popcorn? Something that starts very small and becomes much bigger!

### Compassion

Our Sunday groups have for many years sponsored a child through Compassion. Just recently we have been given a new child to sponsor and his name is Nevans. He lives in a village in East Indonesia with his mum and dad and two siblings. Nevans is 6 years old and loves playing football. We can write to him regularly and it would be good if we can remember to pray for him too. If you would like to write to him or draw a picture for him then please send your messages to [helen@standrewsandallsaints.org](mailto:helen@standrewsandallsaints.org) and I can send them on!



### A game to play

Everyone sits in a circle. The first player starts by saying 'for my picnic I have an apple (or any other food beginning with a)'. The second player repeats what the first player has just said and then adds on a second object beginning with b. Continue with each person in turn remembering and repeating all the objects which have gone before and then adding on another object of their own alphabetically until you get to z.

### Get creative

I love this picture that someone has drawn to illustrate the story. Why don't you draw or paint a picture, write a poem or write in your journal what God has spoken to you about today. Or you might just like to colour in the picture below!



