



Unit L2.11 KC4RE: How and why do people in Cornwall mark significant events in community life?

Enquiry Questions

- Why do we celebrate special times in our lives?
- How do we celebrate special times in Cornwall?
- What is a festival?
- What is the connection between Harvest Festivals and Cornwall?
- How did Cornwall mark significant events in the past?

What will I know by the end of the unit?



A festival is a gathering of people to celebrate something. It can also be a particular day or group of days when people have a holiday so that they can celebrate something. Festivals may feature parades, music, dancing, stories and food.

There are many times in the year that festivals are celebrated by the Cornish Community. These times are often based on the need for survival (agriculture, fishing) and the need to celebrate and remember key stories.

Some examples of local festivals are St Piran's Day in March, 'Obby 'Oss and Flora Day in May, and Mazey Day in June.

Harvest Festival is a celebration of the food grown on the land. Thanksgiving ceremonies and celebrations for a successful harvest are both worldwide and very ancient. In Britain, we have given thanks for successful harvests since pagan times. Harvest Festival reminds Christians of all the good things God gives them.

The tradition of celebrating Harvest Festival in churches as we know it today began in 1843, when the Reverend Robert Hawker invited parishioners to a special thanksgiving service for the harvest at his church at Morwenstow in Cornwall.

Key Vocabulary

Cornwall, Kernow, festival, celebrate, special, significant, parade, stories, St. Piran's Day, Obby 'Oss, Flora Day, Mazey Day