



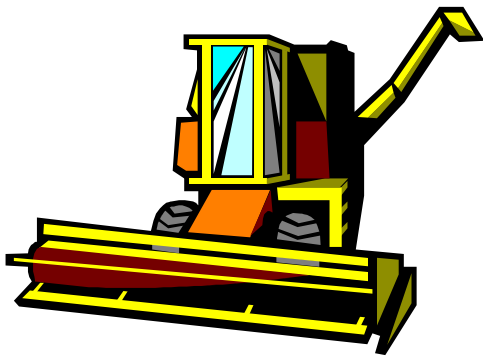
Harvest

Harvest is the time when the season's crops such as cereals, fruit and vegetables are collected in.

In the UK, the cereal harvest begins in mid-July and can continue until September. Harvesting usually starts earlier in the south of England. Why?

The crop needs to be dry when it is harvested so that it can be stored without rotting. Farmers can use grain driers but that adds to their expense.

The combine harvester is a vital piece of machinery today. What does it do?
http://www.ukagriculture.com/uk_farming/crops/harvesting_arable_crops.html



What happens to the straw left after the crop has been cut?

There is a wide variety of machinery used at harvest time today.

www.harvestmachinery.ie
www.deere.com/en_us/ag/index.html

Find other examples!

Before modern machinery was developed, harvesting was very hard work for a great many people in a community.

When the harvest was gathered in a huge feast called a harvest supper was provided for the workers.

What other customs are associated with harvest?
<http://www.woodlands-jun.kent.sch.uk/customs/Harvest.html>

Churches and schools still celebrate Harvest Festival today. This custom is a way of thanking God for the food grown. When and where did it begin?

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harvest_festival

www.teachernet.gov.uk/teachingandlearning/library/harvestfestivals



Farmers always attended the service and the last sheaf of wheat was used to make a corn dolly. You can see some modern examples at www.corndollies.co.uk

The corn dolly would be kept until the next season and placed in the first new furrow made on Plough Monday (can you find out when that was?)

Find out which crops are used to make some of your food. Look under photos for field to fridge on www.face-online.org.uk

Try making your own bread. You can find recipes at www.breadrecipes.com

There are other recipes using bread at www.flourandgrain.com

Choose a vegetable and find out how it is grown and harvested at www.rhs.org.uk/vegetables/