

Give us today the food we need

Theme: God provides for us!

Games:

Dodge Ball: This game is an old favourite! Line the children up at one end of the hall or area set out. They have to run to the other end of the hall. The leader stands at the side and has to throw a soft ball (gently) to hit the players below the knee as they run across. If the player gets hit then they must come out, stand with the leader and can now have a go at throwing the ball gently at the players running across the hall.

Bench ball: Two benches set up around 10 metres apart from each other, with a middle line to separate the two teams. Split all the children into two teams with one player from each team standing on the bench opposite to them. The two teams have to throw the ball to their team mate on the other bench. If he/she catches it then the thrower joins him on the bench and he also tries to catch the ball from other players throwing the ball. The other team have to stop them by jumping up and using their hands. The winner is the first team with all the players on the bench.

Introduction: Ask the children how many people a normal size pack of biscuits could feed, (if you could show them a pack for a visual aid that would be great). Then ask if the same pack of biscuits could feed one hundred people or one thousand people and so on. Explain that in the story today God shows us that he can provide food for everyone from anything he chooses to use.

Memory verse: *“Give us today the food we need”. Matthew 6 v 11*

Story: Exodus - the whole of chapter 16. The manna (bread) and quails. There are some pictures in the resources you could use to tell the story.

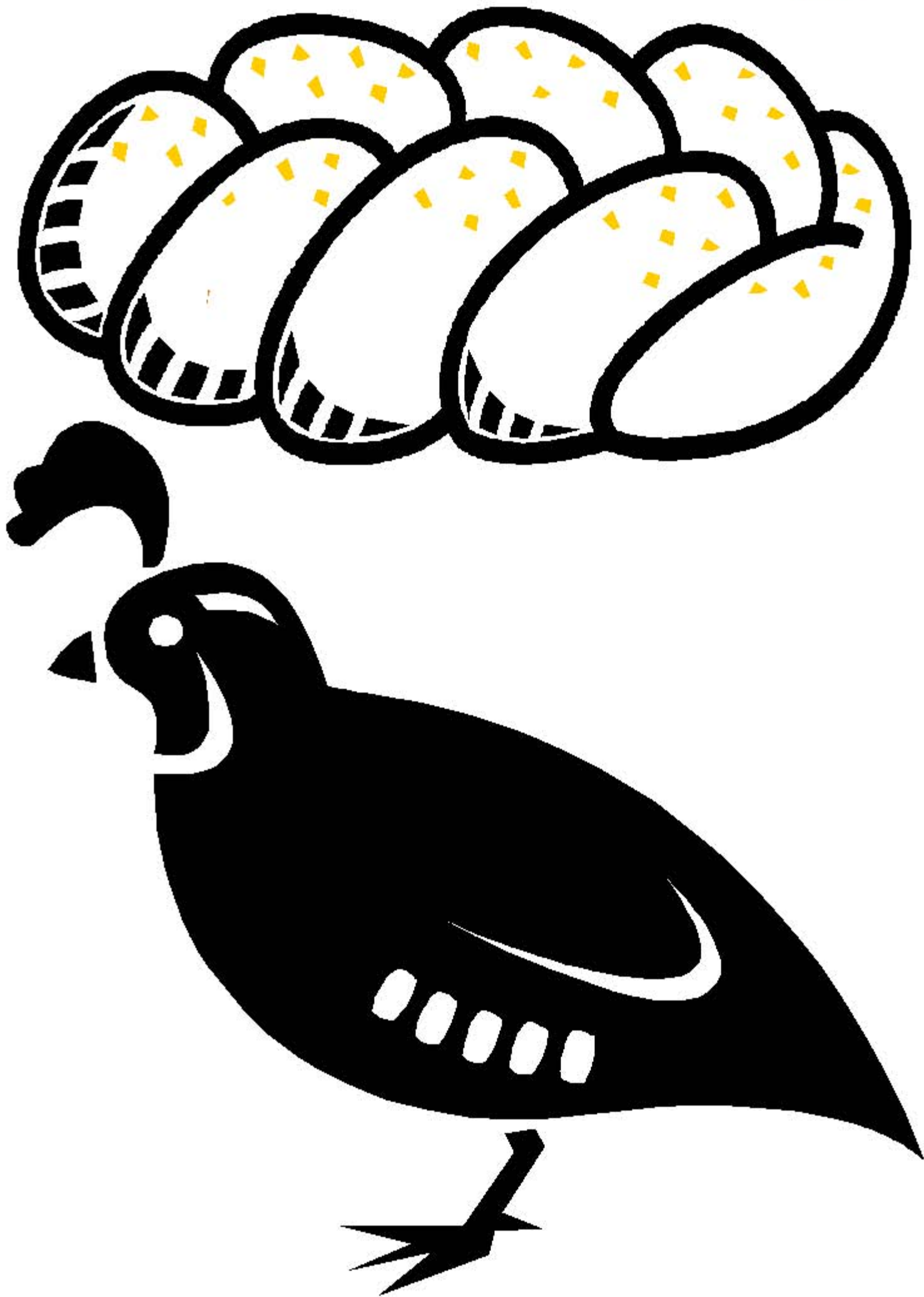
Cereal packet sketch: Select nine volunteers and give each an empty cereal packet. Explain that the nine people represent the total population of the world. God provides enough food for everyone. Split the nine children into groups of three and six. Take three packets from the group of six and give them to the three so that the three have two packets each, and the six only three packets between them. Explain that the group of three represent the rich countries, and the six the poor. The reason why so many people don't have enough is not that God doesn't provide but that people don't share it out fairly.

Application: Ask the children what words they would use to describe a desert. Deserts are not places where you can survive with great ease. Food and water are not easy to find and it gets very hot in the day and very cold at night. God proves his love and power in the story today by providing for his people even when they seem to have no hope of surviving on their own. God provides for all our needs by giving us clothes, food and shelter and God continues to provide for people all around the world. What can we do to make sure that everyone has their fair share of God's provision?

Prayer: *“Dear God, thank you that you provide enough food for the whole world. We are sorry that some people do not have enough and some people have too much. Please help us to make sure that everyone in the world has enough to eat.”*

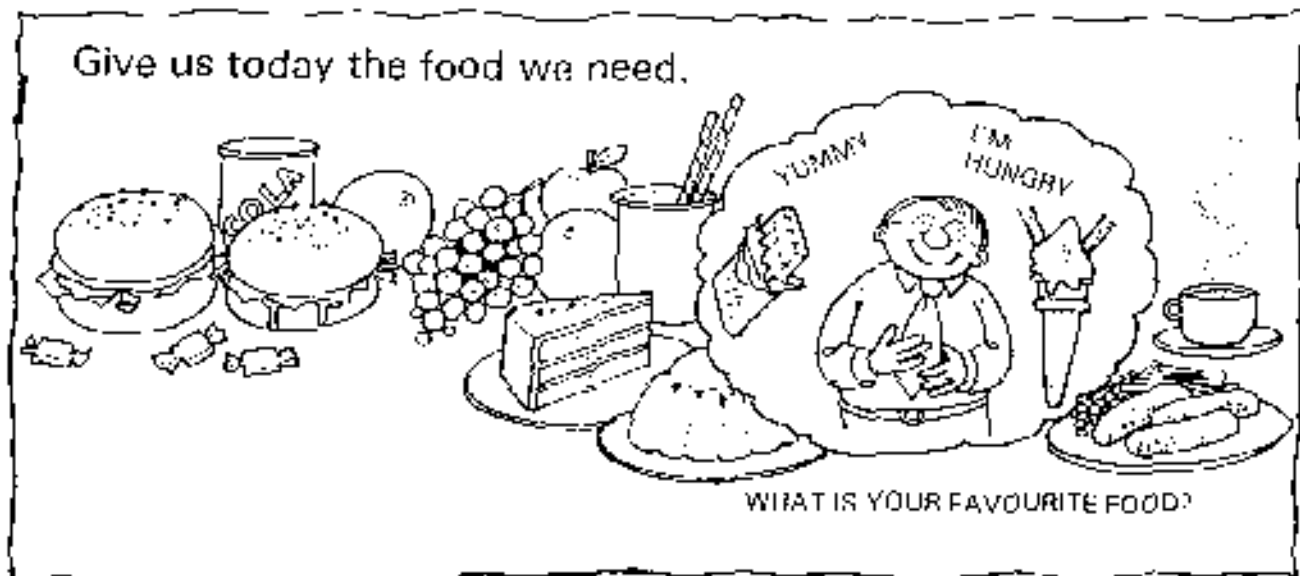
Resources: There is a funsheet for the children to complete.

Song: *“Lovely Jubbly”* on Lovely Jubbly CD

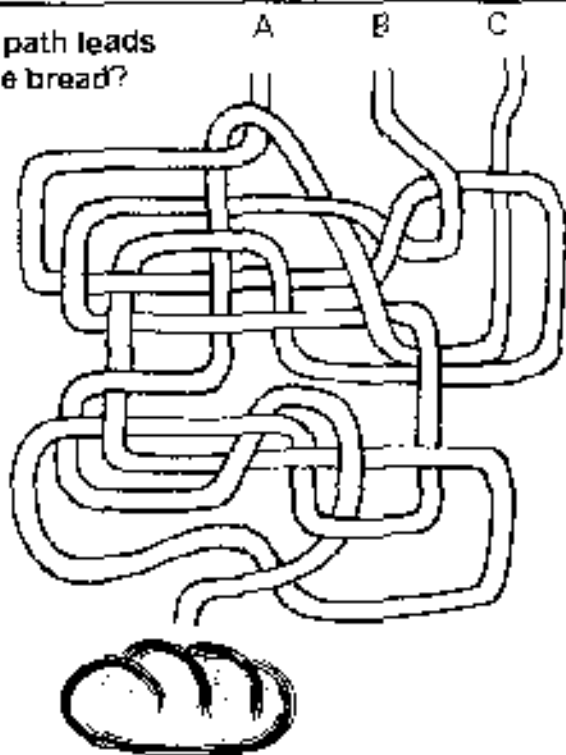


'Give us today the food we need'

Matthew 6 v 11



Which path leads to the bread?



Unscramble these vegetables:

1. KELE _ _ _ _
2. RORACT _ _ _ _
3. TAPOOT _ _ _ _
4. HIAHUS _ _ _
5. CLTE7LL _ _ _ _
6. BECAGAB _ _ _ _