

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# Preview

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The Harvest Moon will rise tonight.  
I'm working up an appetite.  
The pumpkins will be plump and round.  
We'll dig potatoes from the ground.  
We'll gather yams and yellow squash.  
We'll glean each juicy McIntosh.  
We'll dance and sing a happy tune.  
Thank goodness for the Harvest Moon.

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# Harvest Moon

By Neal Levin

1. In what season do you think this poem takes place?
  - a. winter
  - b. spring
  - c. summer
  - d. fall
2. What happens during a harvest that would cause someone to work up an appetite?

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3. Can you think of another fruit or vegetable harvested during this time of year that might be included in the poem?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Reread the line from the poem:

We'll *glean* each juicy McIntosh.

What do you think the word ***glean*** means?

- a. to make something shine
- b. to gather or collect
- c. to eat
- d. to enjoy

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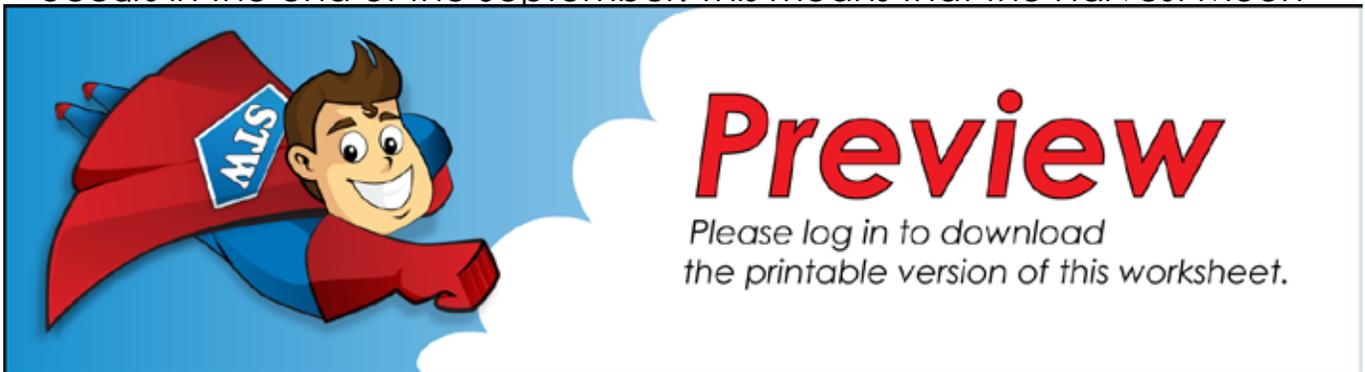


# Harvest Moon

By Neal Levin

## What is a Harvest Moon?

According to folklore, a Harvest Moon is the full moon that comes closest to the autumnal equinox. Depending on the year, this moon can appear two weeks before or two weeks after the equinox. In the Northern Hemisphere the autumnal equinox typically occurs in the end of the September. This means that the Harvest Moon



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moon. The Harvest Moon tends to produce an abundance of moonlight earlier in the evening which allowed farmers to work late into the night harvesting their crops for the year.

## Does the Southern Hemisphere have a Harvest Moon?

Yes. The Southern Hemisphere does have a Harvest Moon, with all the same characteristics, but it occurs in late March or early April.

## ANSWER KEY

# Harvest Moon

By Neal Levin



1. In what season do you think this poem takes place?
  - a. winter
  - b. spring

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What do you think the word **glean** means?

- a. to make something shine
- b. to gather or collect**
- c. to eat
- d. to enjoy