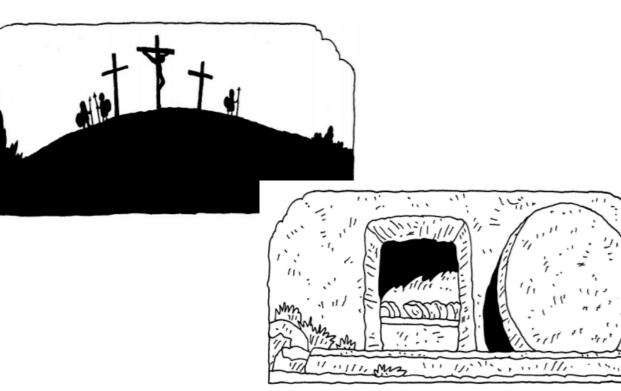
EYFS RE Investigating Easter Christianity





Investigating Easter - EYFS

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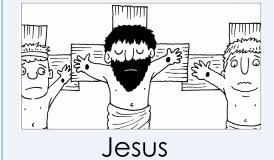


Background information for adults

Christians believe that:

- The world is not perfect; its pain and suffering is not what God intended. The world needs to be put right and people can make a new start with God as King. Christians pray 'your kingdom come, your will be done'.
- The world has been spoilt by sin. 'Sin' means deliberate wrongdoing, and also failure to do the right thing. All humanity sins and falls short of God's standards; no one is perfect.
- The Bible tells the story of salvation, of how Jesus came to earth on a rescue mission. Jesus' name means 'he saves'. Jesus said he came to 'seek and save the lost', and he helped all he met.
- The cross is a reminder of Jesus' death, and that putting things right can be costly. Christians say Jesus died to save everyone, to pay the price of sin in our world and reunite humans with God.
- Christians ask God to forgive their sins in Jesus' name. They pray for help to live the right way. They pray for people in need. They tell others about Jesus the Saviour and what he has done.
- Christians should be committed to 'rescuing' or 'saving' others. Jesus said, 'Love your neighbour'; they must not 'walk by' those in need. Christians say we should help to bring in the Kingdom of God.

Investigating Easter Word Mat





Cross



palm leaf





cave or tomb



stone



silver coins



Holy Communion





wine



bread



hot cross bun



Easter egg

Web Links

RE Quest - Holy Week and Easter video (all lessons) https://request.org.uk/restart/2017/03/14/holy-week-and-easter/

A Good Friend story (Lesson 4 The Garden)

https://worldstories.org.uk/reader/a-good-friend/english/335

Easter Garden (Lesson 6 Jesus is Alive!) https://request.org.uk/restart/2017/02/23/make-an-easter-garden/

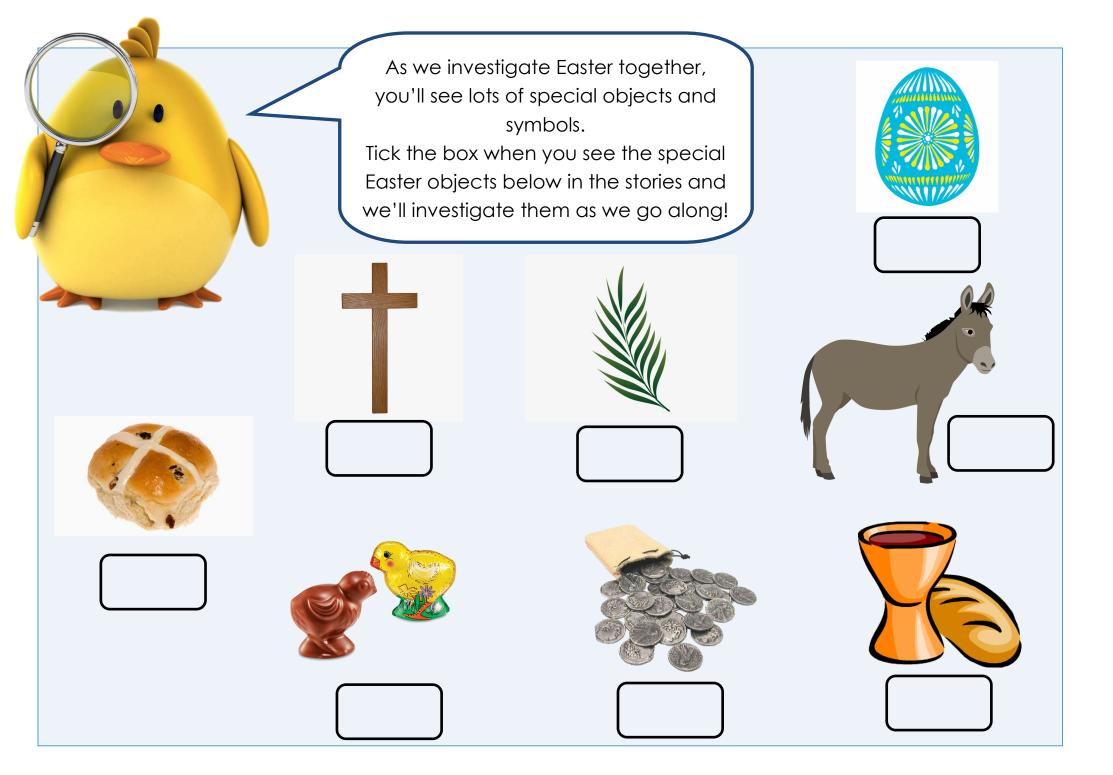
Celebrating Easter (Lesson 6 Jesus is Alive!)

https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/lets-celebrate-easter

Lorenzo Quinn 'Building Bridges' sculpture (Lesson 5 The Cross)

https://www.lorenzoquinn.com/portfolio-items/building-bridges-venice-italy/





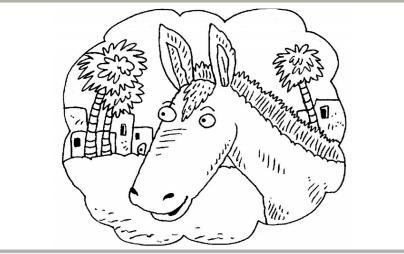
How do Christians celebrate Easter?

Palm Sunday



Watch: <u>https://request.org.uk/restart/2017/03/14/holy-</u> week-and-easter/

How do Christians celebrate Easter? Palm Sunday



1. This is a story found in the Bible about an event we celebrate each year on Palm Sunday.



3. They found the little donkey where Jesus said. They told the man who owned the donkey that Jesus needed it to go to Jerusalem, and they took the little donkey back to Jesus.



2. Jesus was going to the temple in Jerusalem. He sent two helpers to get a little donkey that was tied up beside its mother in the town nearby.



4. They put their coats over donkey's back, for Jesus to sit on. Jesus sat on the donkey's back. He was going to the temple in Jerusalem.

Watch: https://request.org.uk/restart/2017/03/14/holy-week-and-easter/



5. Lots of people came along the road. They were so happy to see Jesus! People put their coats on the road for the little donkey to walk on.



6. Some people picked palm branches from palm trees growing by the road. They waved the branches as Jesus passed by.



7. Everyone was happy to see Jesus. 'Hosanna to the King,' they shouted as Jesus went up the road into the city of Jerusalem.



8. When they got there, Jesus got off the little donkey and went into the big temple to pray to God.

What do you think a King would usually look like?

Would you expect him to ride on a donkey?

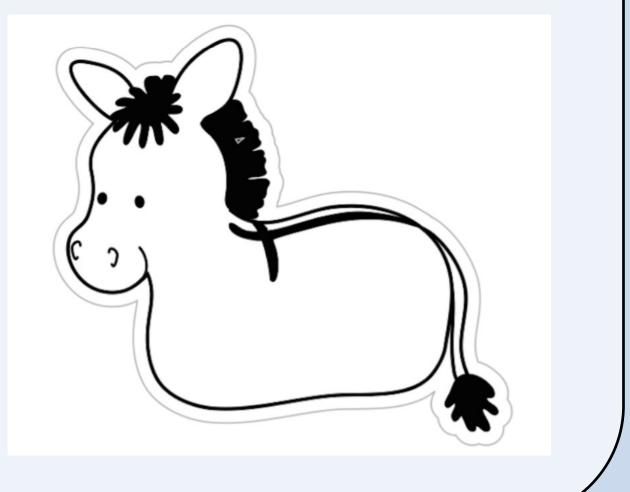
The people celebrated Jesus arriving in Jerusalem on a donkey. They shouted 'Hosanna to the King'! Draw a picture of a King. How will he travel? Christians believe that Jesus was showing the people that he was a different kind of king. He didn't have a fancy horse and carriage, or a castle to live in. He was going to help the people in a different way.

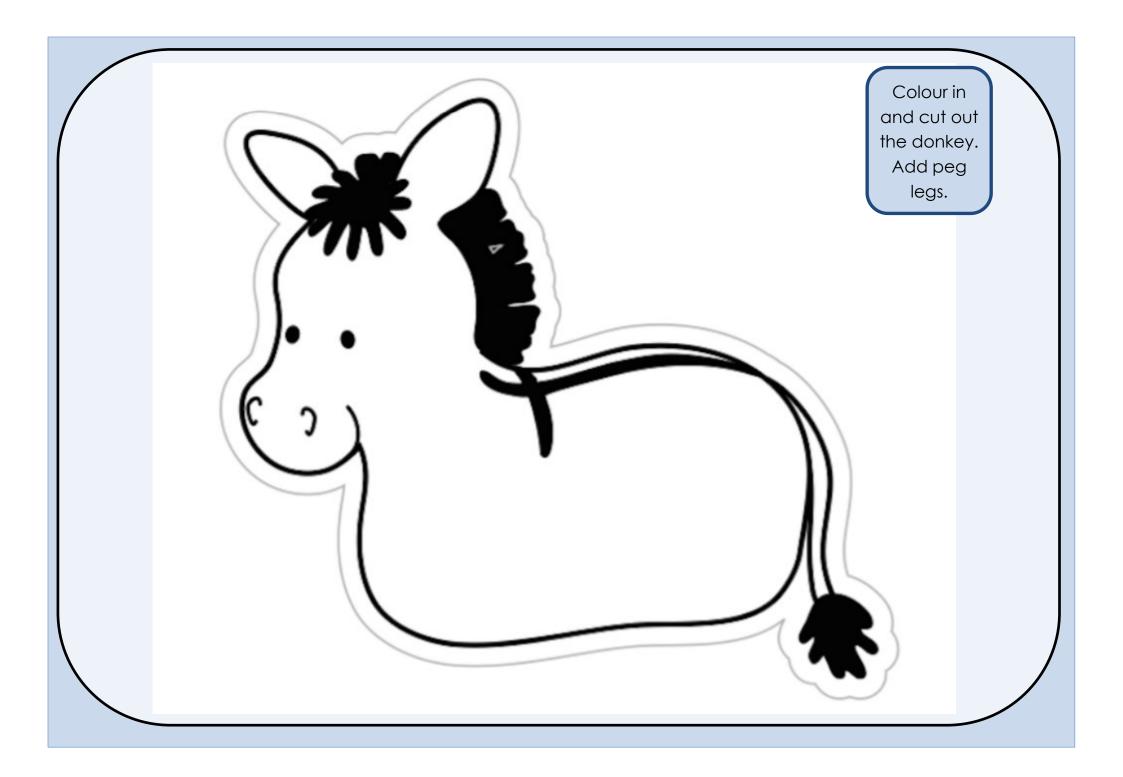


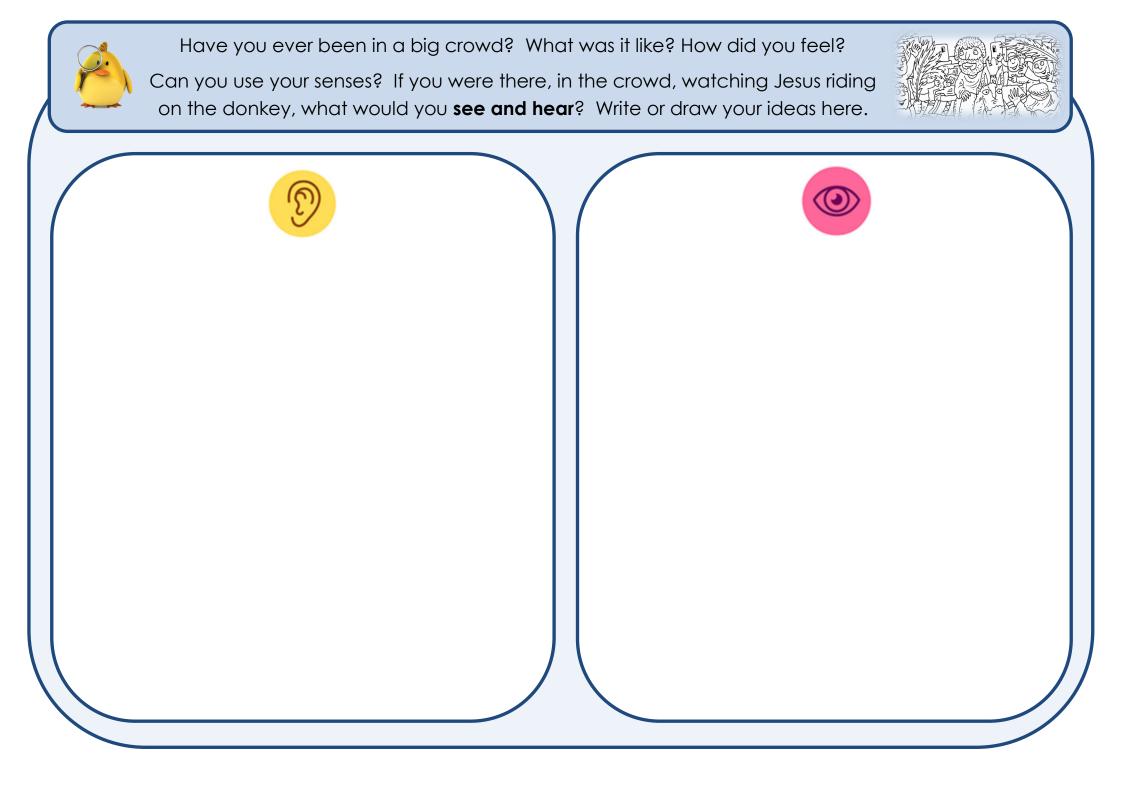


Can you make your own donkey using the template on the next page. You can add pegs for legs!









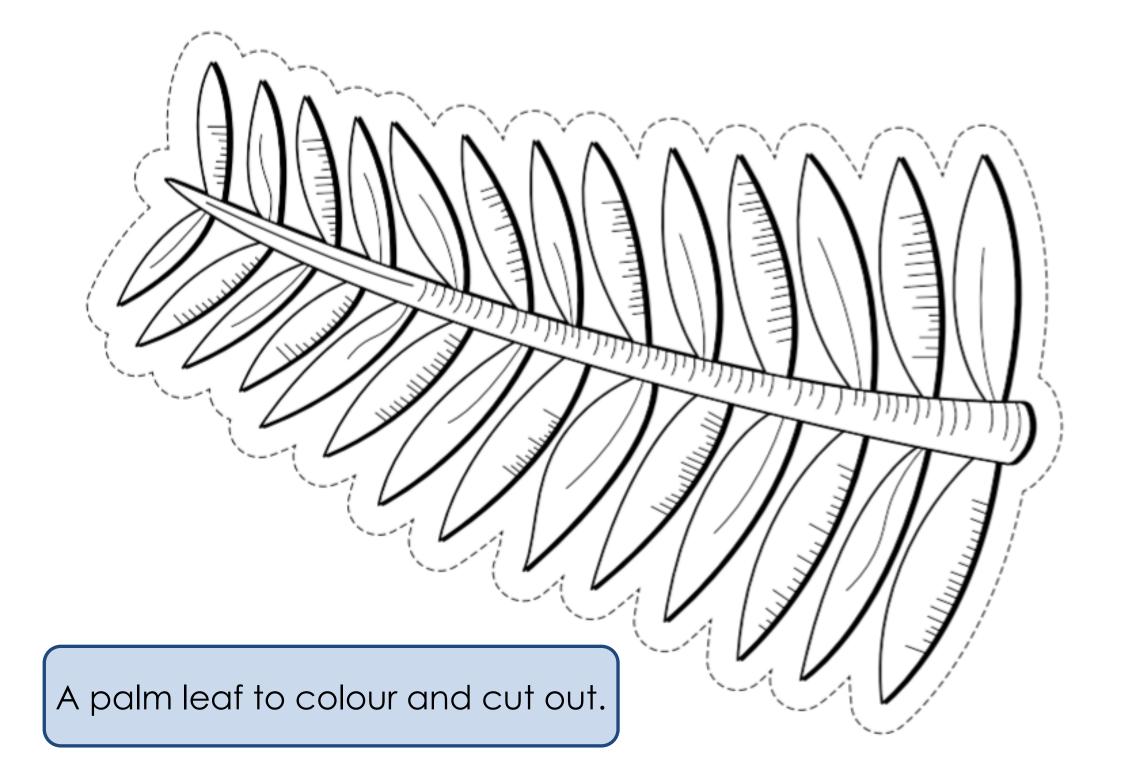


How do the people feel? Can you write some words around the picture or draw some more crowd faces?





Could you use Lego or toys to create a Palm Sunday scene?





Hands Palm Craft





What you need: Paper (Green or white)

A Pencil

Scissors

Glue

A strip of cardboard

What to do



Draw around your hand onto the paper. Do this as many times as you want. The more hands the bigger the leaf.



If using white paper, colour the paper before cutting out the hands.



Glue hands together to make a palm shape. Glue a strip of cardboard on the reverse.

Christians around the world celebrate Jesus arriving in Jerusalem every year on Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday is the start of Holy Week. These are some of the things that they do in the UK...







the streets, sometimes with a donkey, like Jesus did.

> Palm leaves are waved.

In other countries around the world, the celebrations are similar...







- Palm trees don't grow in Poland so people make their own palm leaves, decorating them with tissue paper flowers and ribbons.
- Some of these fake palms can be higher than 30 metres and need lots of people to carry them!
- There are competitions for the best ones.

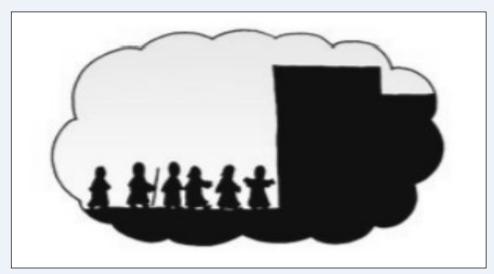


How do Christians celebrate Easter?

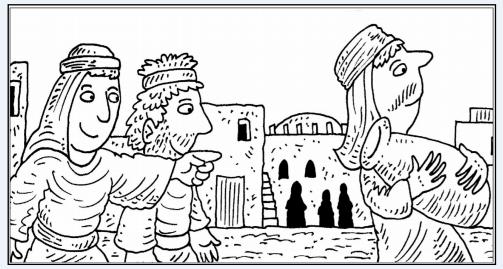
Jesus' last meal with his friends



Watch: https://request.org.uk/restart/2017/03/14/holy-week-and-

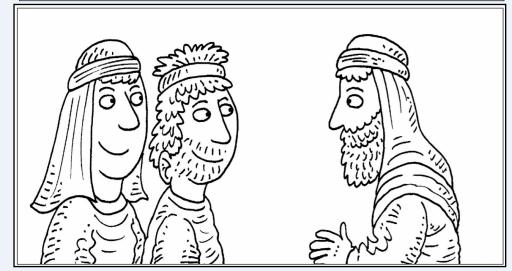


1. This is a story found in the Bible and tells us about a special meal Jesus had with His friends, the disciples. It's a meal we celebrate today to remember Jesus and how He died and rose again to save us.

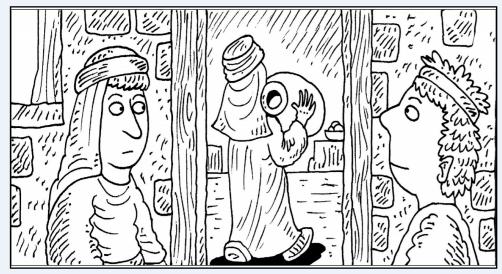


3. 'Look for a man carrying a water jar and follow him. He will show you where to go.' His friends found the man and followed him.

How do Christians celebrate Easter? Jesus' last meal with his friends

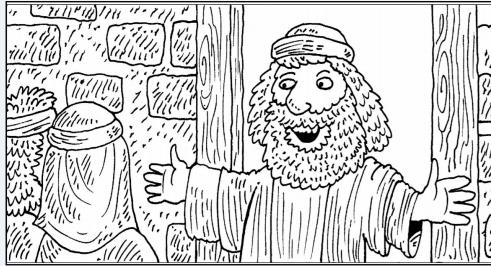


2. Jesus said to His friends, I want to eat the Passover feast with you before I go away. Go and get it ready for us.



4. The man went into a house. This was the house Jesus would be coming to for the meal. Jesus' friends knocked at the door and waited.

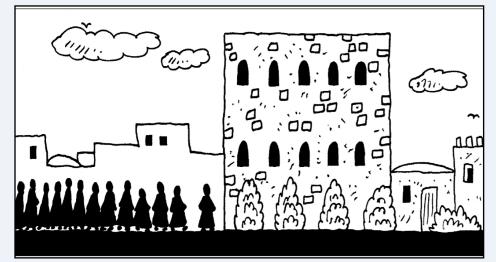
Watch: https://request.org.uk/restart/2017/03/14/holy-week-and-easter/



5. 'Do you have a room for Jesus?' they asked. 'Yes, I have a room upstairs. Everything you will need is ready. I knew Jesus would come,' said the man.



6. He took them upstairs to a big room. They got dinner ready with baskets of flat bread, and wine made from grape juice.



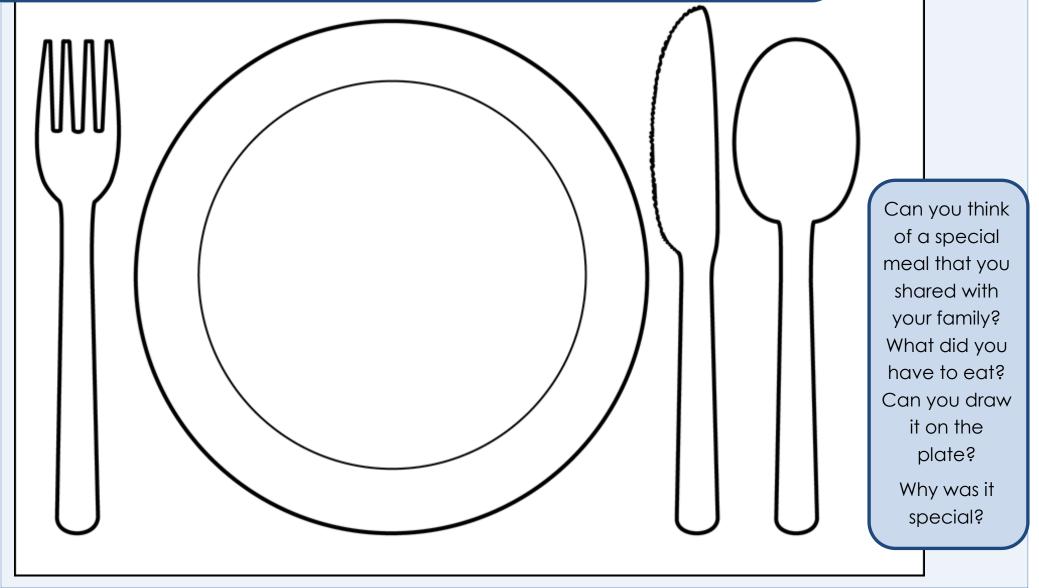
7. Soon Jesus arrived with His other friends. They went upstairs to have dinner together.



8. Jesus took the flat bread and broke it. They shared it. They shared the grape juice, too. Jesus said, 'Whenever you do this, remember me.' In church we call this 'Communion'.

Jesus and his friends were like a family. They spent their lives together and trusted each other. Jesus' friends listened carefully as he taught people about God and watched him as he performed all kinds of miracles. They often ate their meals together, just like a family, but on this day the meal that they shared was a very special meal. It was the festival of Passover.





So the friends all ate the bread and drank the wine.

They weren't quite sure why, but somehow Jesus' friends knew that this was a special moment and they must trust him. Jesus knew it was all part of God's Big Plan.



Could you use Lego or toys to create a Last Supper scene?

Later the friends would find out just how special that shared meal was and ever since that day people who follow Jesus have gathered together in churches all over the world to share bread and wine to help them to remember him. We sometimes call this the Eucharist, Communion or Lord's Supper.



Everyone at this church has a sip from the special cup called a chalice and a bread wafer.



Everyone at this church gets a little thimble cup of wine each and a piece of bread.



At this church a bread roll is shared and everyone takes a sip of wine from the pottery chalice.

This is a picture of people receiving bread and wine in a church Communion service.



Jesus used this special meal to help his friends remember him. How do you remember special people or places?

Our senses. Sights, sounds and smells can bring back memories.



Photographs of special people and places.

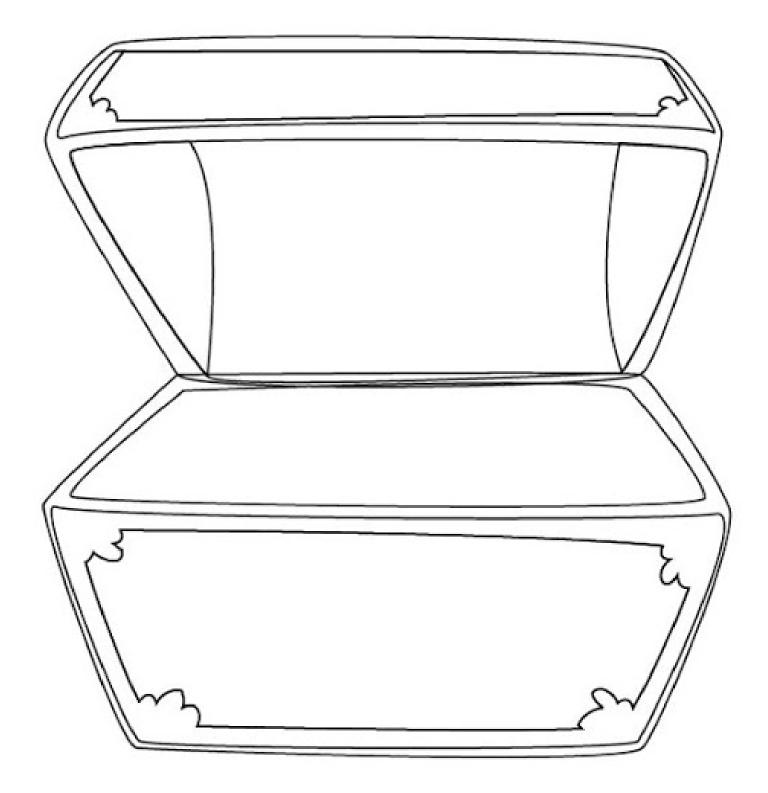




A scrap book of photos and reminders.

Can you make a memory box full of photos and objects to help you remember a special person or place? Talk about the objects that you'll put inside and decorate your box to make it special.





If Jesus' friends made a memory box, what do you think they would put inside it?

Draw and write your ideas in the box.

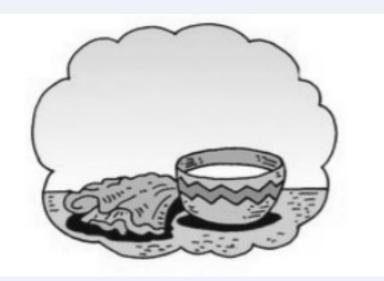
Think about some stories about Jesus that you might have heard to help you. How do Christians celebrate Easter?

Washing Feet



Watch: https://request.org.uk/restart/2017/03/14/holy-week-and-easter/

How do Christians celebrate Easter? Washing Feet



1. This is a story written in the Bible by one of Jesus' helpers called John. He saw everything that happened.



2. Jesus and His helpers had a special meal together. Then Jesus wanted to teach them that a leader looks after others.



3. He got a bowl of water and a towel. 'I am going to wash your feet,' Jesus said. His friends were surprised.



4. Jesus knelt down and began to gently wash their dirty feet and dry them on a towel.

Watch: https://request.org.uk/restart/2017/03/14/holy-week-and-easter/

How do Christians celebrate Easter? Washing Feet



5. Peter was upset. 'Why are you doing a servant's job? You are our important leader!' he said.



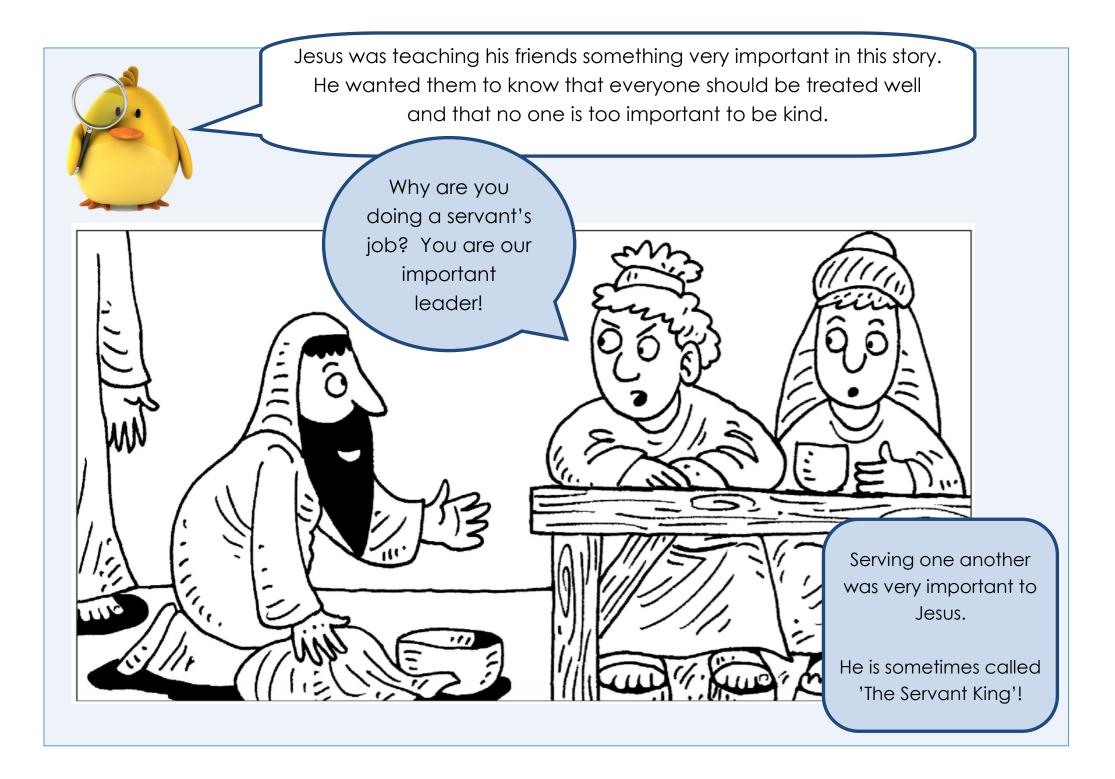
6. But Jesus was showing them that a good leader isn't too important to do anything for other people.

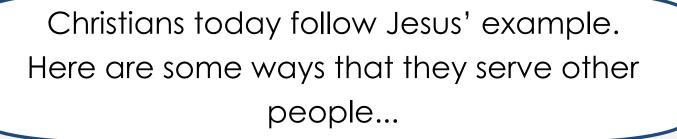


7. It was Peter's turn. You will never wash my dirty feet,' said Peter. 'But I am being your true friend,' said Jesus.



8. 'Then wash my face and hands as well! I want to learn how to look after other people, the way you do,' said Peter.







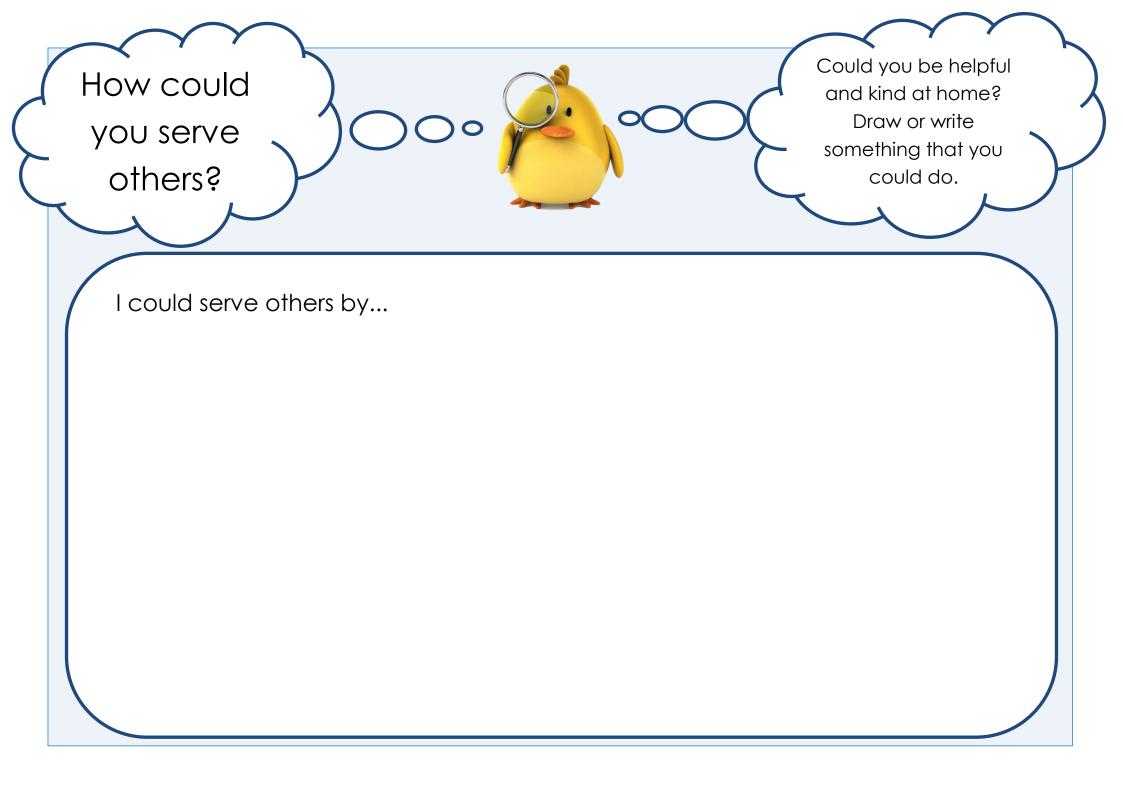
People collecting money for the charity Christian Aid which helps people in need across the world.



A 'Soup Kitchen' providing meals for homeless people.



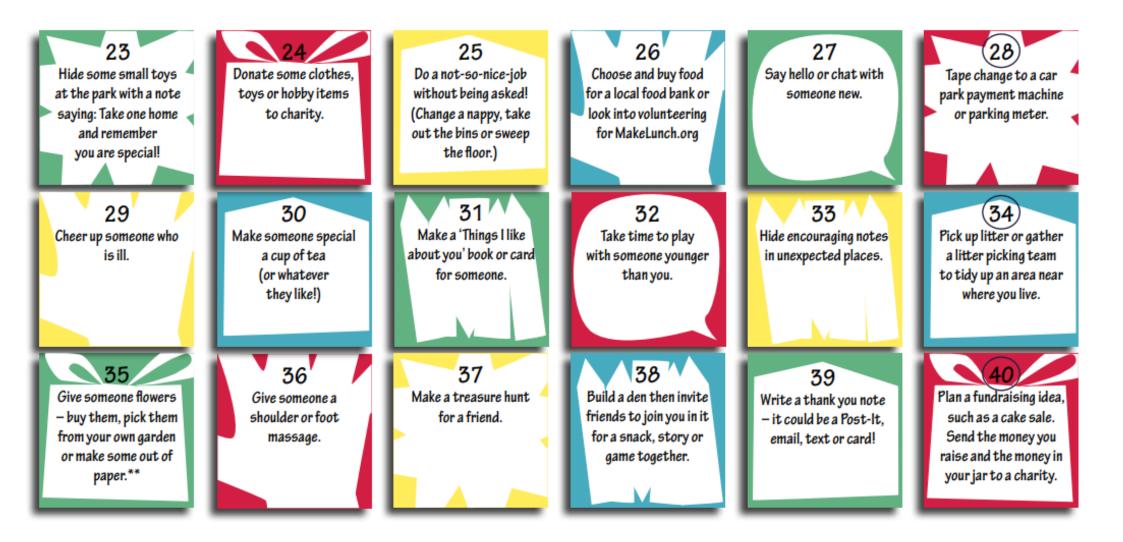
A foodbank, collecting food to give to people who are struggling.



40acts Family Wallchart

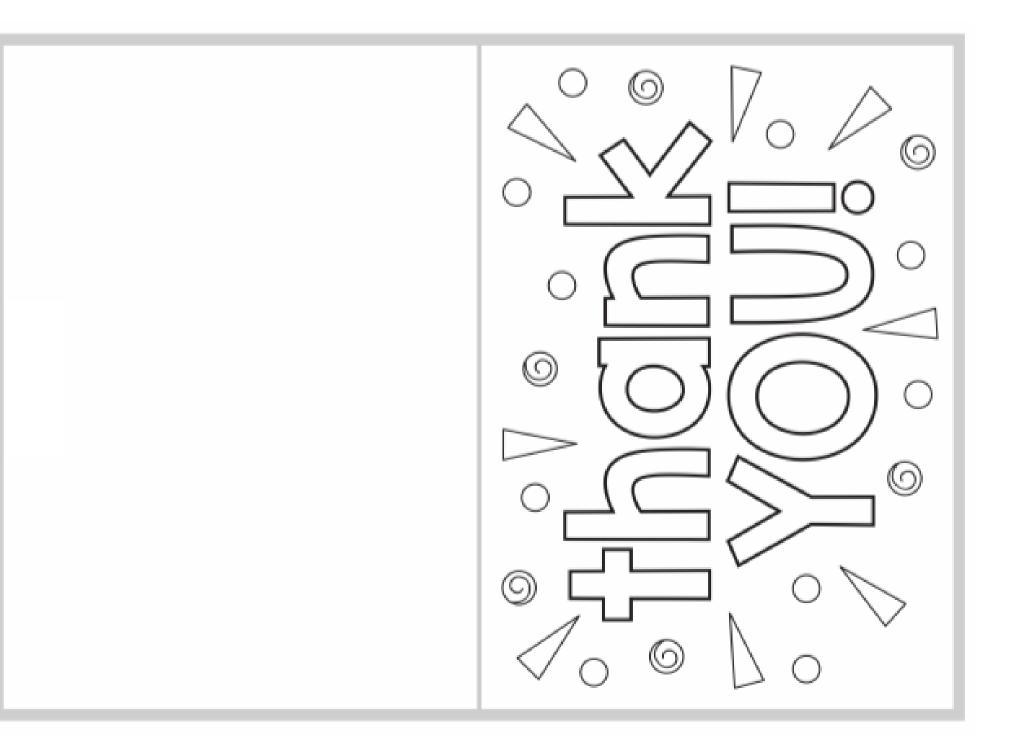
Can your family do 40acts of generosity? Add a 📢 as you do each one.





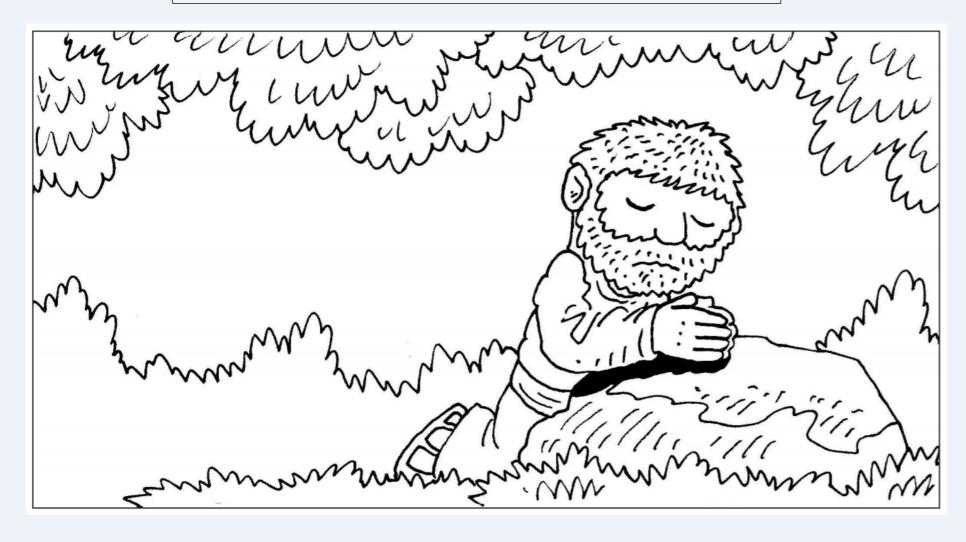
Could you and your family try some of the 40 Acts of Kindness together?



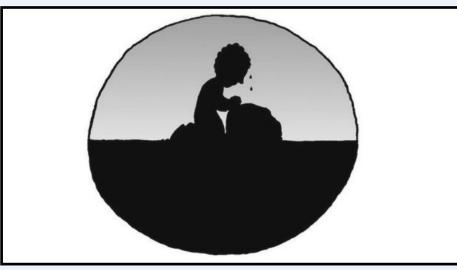


How do Christians celebrate Easter?

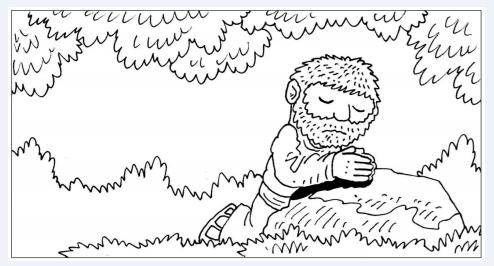
The Garden



How do Christians celebrate Easter? The Garden



1. Jesus had been on the Mount of Olives with His disciples. At the bottom of the mountain is a very old olive orchard called the Garden of Gethsemane (Gethseman-ee).



3 His friends sat down in the garden while Jesus went a little way off to pray by Himself, asking His Heavenly Father to help Him face what was about to happen.



2 Jesus was sad because He knew that soon He would die on the cross. He took Peter, James and John to the olive orchard in the garden of Gethsemane, to pray.



4 When Jesus went back His friends were all fast asleep. 'Wake up,' He said. 'Couldn't you watch and pray with me for just one hour?'

How do Christians celebrate Easter? The Garden



5 Then the temple guards with torches and swords came looking for Jesus. Judas Iscariot, one of Jesus' disciples, had agreed to show them who Jesus was if they paid him 30 silver coins.



7 Peter was so angry he cut off the ear of Malchus, the High Priest's servant. 'Put away your sword,' said Jesus. 'People who use swords will get killed by them.' He reached out and healed his ear.



6 'The person I greet with a kiss on the cheek is Jesus,' Judas told the soldiers. Peter, James and John were shocked when the High Priest's soldiers came to arrest Jesus.



8 Judas betrayed Jesus and the guards arrested Him and took Him away to be questioned by the high priest. Jesus' friends were so scared they ran off.

Jesus knew that he was going to die on the cross and so he was feeling sad. This was a time when he needed his friends but they let him down. Some of them fell asleep when he had asked them to stay awake with him. **How do you think Jesus feels?**

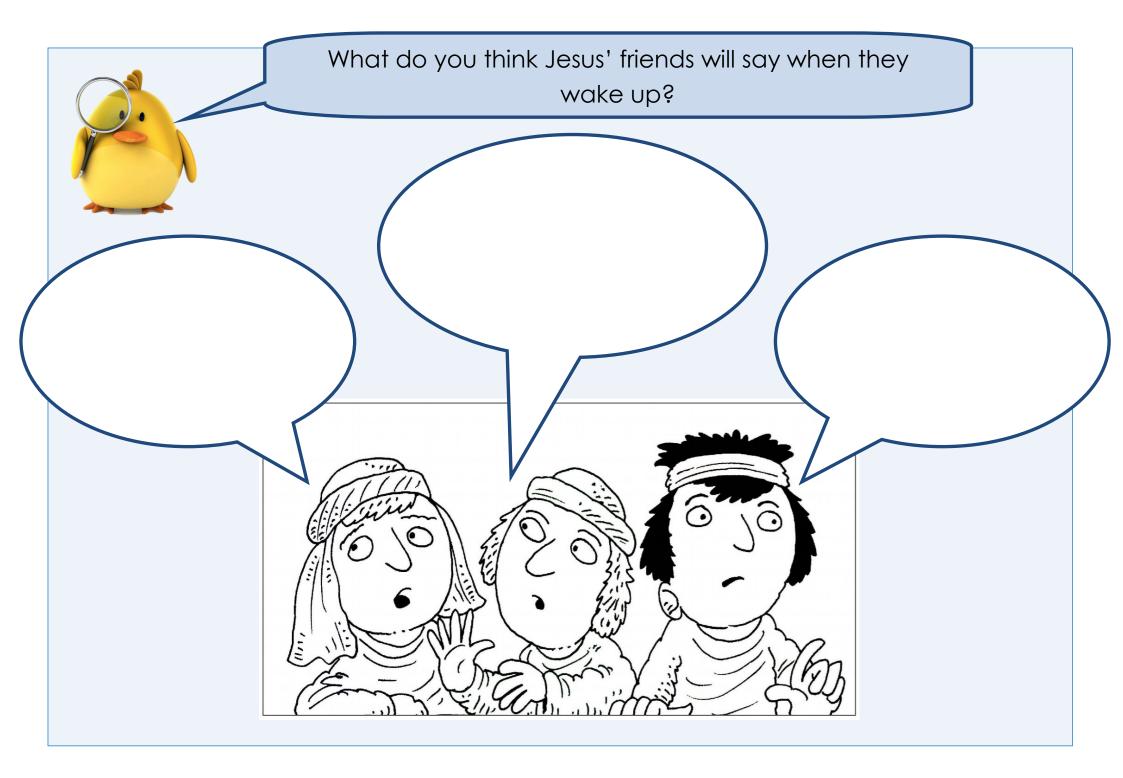
Write or draw your ideas in the thought bubbles.

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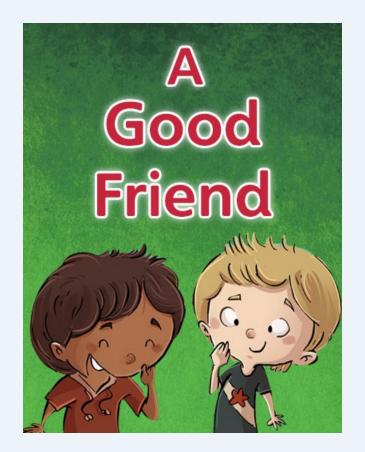
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Jesus' friend Judas really let him down! He told the soldiers where to find Jesus and was paid 30 silver coins. Later on he wished he hadn't done it.





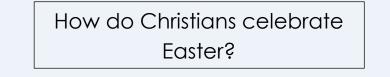
Ask a grown up to share this story with you using the web link below

https://worldstories.org.uk/reader/a-good-friend/english/335

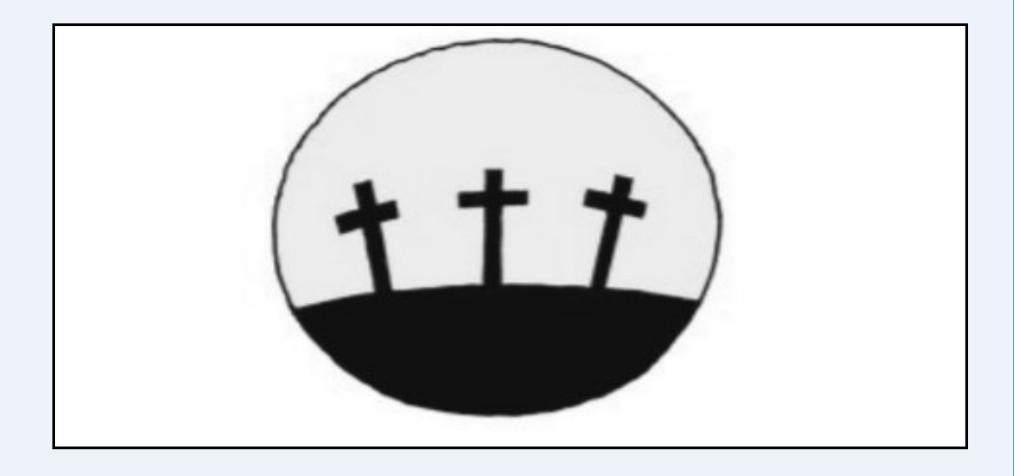


Who is a good friend to you? Can you

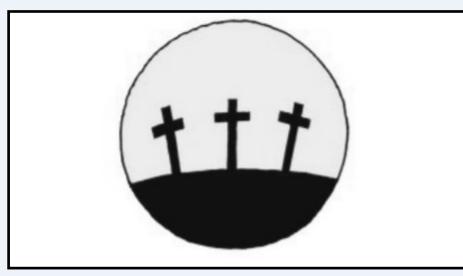
draw a picture of you and your friend?



The Cross



How do Christians celebrate Easter? The Garden



1. This story is found in the Bible.



2. Jesus was crucified on a cross between two bad men who were being punished for stealing other people's things.



3. A Roman soldier nailed some words on the cross above Jesus. The words said, 'This Is the King of the Jews.'



4. People in the crowd bowed down and made fun of Jesus, saying, 'He saved others, so let Him save himself if he is God's promised Messiah.'

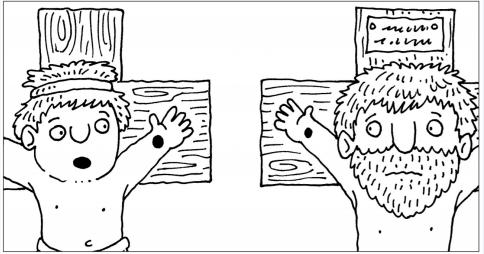
How do Christians celebrate Easter? The Garden



5 One of the bad men said to Jesus, 'If you really are the promised Christ, then save yourself and save us too.'



7. 'Jesus,' he said, 'Remember me when you come into your kingdom.' Jesus answered, 'I tell you truthfully that today you will be with me in heaven!'



6. The other thief was sorry for all the bad things that he had done. 'God knows that we deserve to pay for what we did, but Jesus has done nothing wrong.'



8. The man was forgiven and his heart was filled with peace and joy because he believed that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God. Later, Jesus died on the cross.

Christians call the day that Jesus died 'Good Friday'. It seems to be a strange name for a sad day but it's called this because the ending to the story is going to be very good!

Where have you seen a cross before? Write or draw below.

The cross is a very important symbol for Christians. Christians believe that when Jesus died on the cross, he was taking the punishment for all of the wrong things that people do. The cross is sometimes described as a bridge that lets Christians say sorry to God for the wrong things that they do and helps them to find their way back to him. Christians believe that God forgives them and gives them a fresh start.

Why is it good to say sorry if we do something wrong? Draw or write in the thought cloud

When we forgive someone it's like building a broken bridge so that we can meet in the middle again. Jesus told his friends that they should forgive each other just like God forgives them.



Look at this amazing sculpture by Lorenzo Quinn.

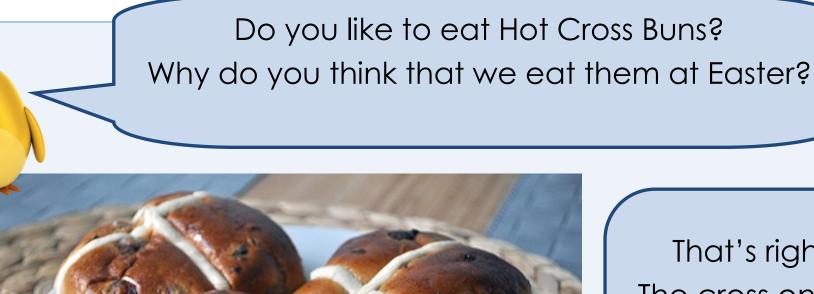
It is in Venice, Italy and it is called Building Bridges.

Look carefully...what do you think happens if we reach out to forgive each other? Could you make a picture with your handprints that shows forgiveness, just like Lorenzo's sculpture?









That's right! The cross on the top of the bun reminds Christians of the cross that Jesus died on.

If you have some Hot Cross Buns to eat, what can you taste? Could you make some play dough hot cross buns? Add some cinnamon to make them smell like the real thing, but remember that these ones are not for eating! You could sing the rhyme as you make them!





Hot Cross Buns

Hot cross buns! Hot cross buns! One a penny, two a penny, Hot cross buns!

If you have no daughters, Give them to your sons. One a penny, two a penny, Hot cross buns!





On Good Friday, many churches take part in a Walk of Witness. Churches gather to walk through the streets of their village or town together. They do this to remember that Jesus had to carry his cross publicly through the streets of Jerusalem. The crosses are often put up in a place where everyone can see them.



How do Christians celebrate Easter?

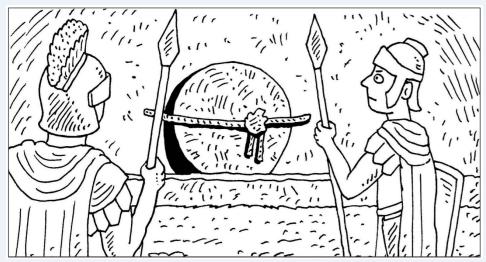
Jesus is Alive!



How do Christians celebrate Easter? The Garden



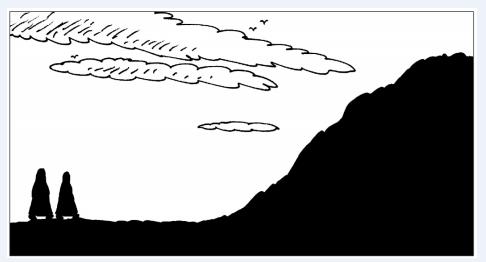
1. Joseph and Nicodemus took the body of Jesus and gently wrapped it in linen cloths with the fragrant myrrh and aloe spices that Nicodemus had brought, as that was the burial custom of the Jews.



3. Jesus had said He would rise from the dead on the third day, so the Pharisees begged Pilate to have the tomb guarded until then. He agreed. Soldiers put a seal on the door and stood guard.



2. Mary watched as the two men rolled a heavy stone over the door to seal it shut. She and the other Mary would come after the Sabbath rest, to wash the body of Jesus.

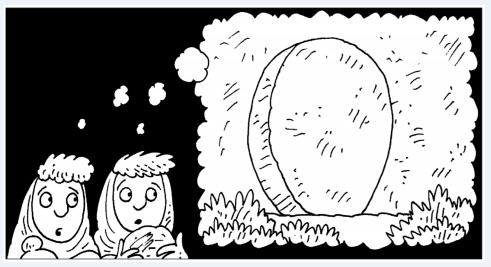


4. Very early on Sunday morning, three days after Jesus died on the cross, Two of His friends, both called Mary, went to the tomb.

How do Christians celebrate Easter? The Garden



5. They took special perfumes and spices to wash Jesus with. They were feeling sad. They loved Jesus.



7. But how could they move the big, heavy stone the soldiers had put over the door?

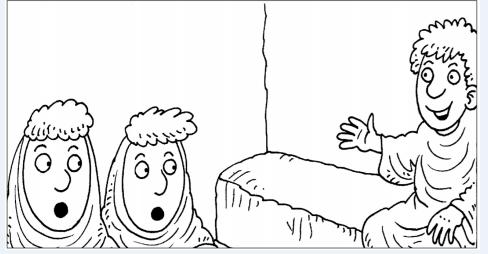


6. They had seen where Jesus had been put in a tomb, like a cave, and they knew where it was.

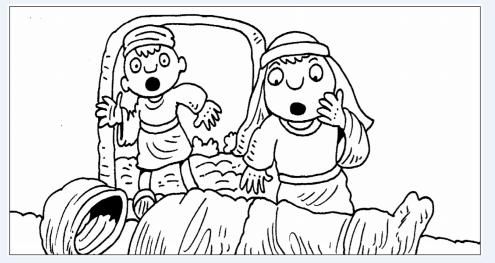


8. They got a surprise when they got there. The stone had been rolled away and the soldiers had all gone!

How do Christians celebrate Easter? The Garden



9. They went inside and saw an angel! But where was Jesus? 'Don't be frightened,' said the angel.



11. Peter and John had to see for themselves. They both ran to the tomb. They saw the empty clothes, but it was true - Jesus was gone! They went back, puzzled over what had happened.

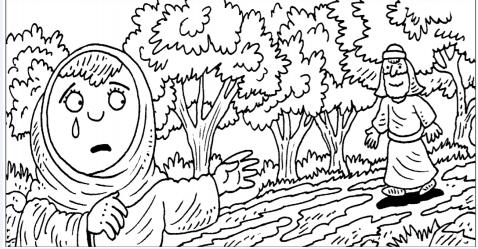


10. 'Jesus isn't here. He is alive! Go and tell everyone the wonderful news.' The happy women ran off to share the good news that Jesus is alive.



12. Mary stayed at the tomb crying. Two angels asked her, 'Why are you crying?' 'They have taken Jesus away,' she said, 'and I don't know where they have put Him.'

How do Christians celebrate Easter? The Garden



13. Then she heard another voice, 'Mary, why are you crying?' Mary thought it was the gardener. 'Where have you taken Jesus?' she asked. 'Mary,' the Person replied.



15. Mary was so happy! Jesus was dead, but now He was alive! Jesus told her to go and find His friends and tell them the good news!



14. 'That sounded just like Jesus calling her! She dried her eyes and looked up. It really was Jesus! He was alive!



16. Mary ran to find Jesus' friends. 'I have seen Jesus! He is alive,' she told them all. It is at Easter time we remember this story and that Jesus is alive!

Jesus' body was placed inside a big cave and an enormous stone was rolled over the front to block the doorway.

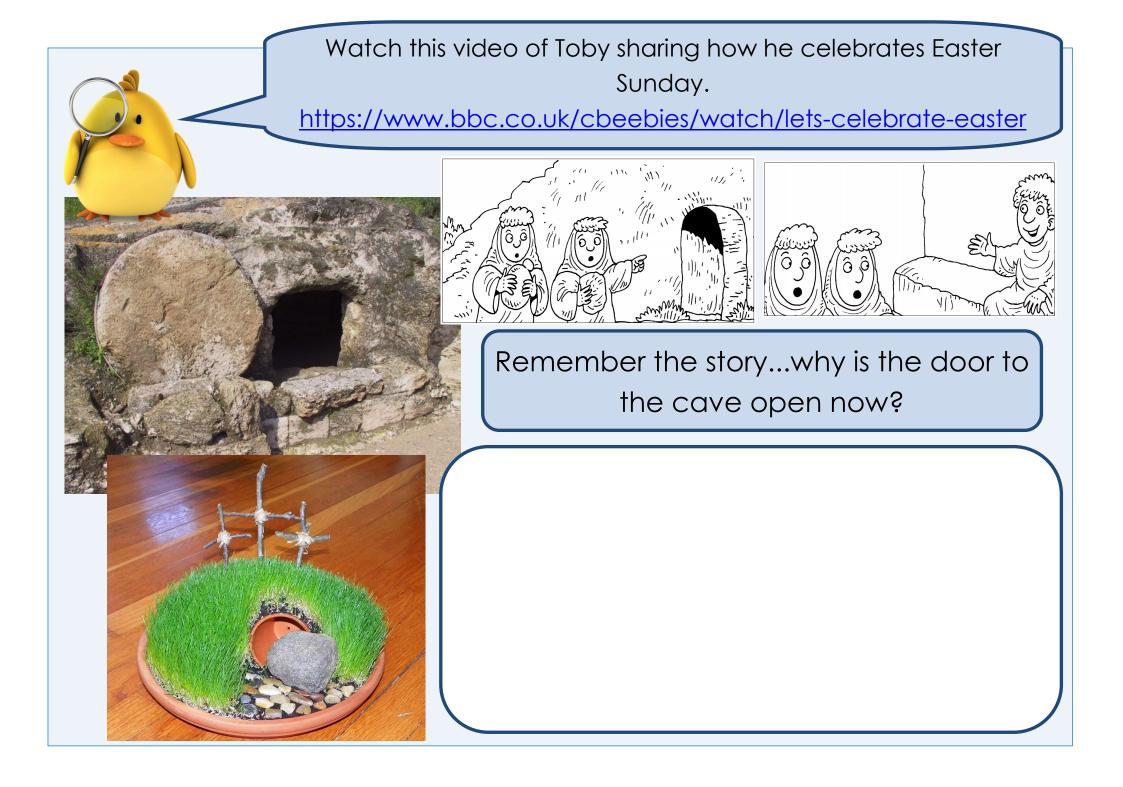
> Could you make your own Easter Garden? https://request.org.uk/restart/2017/02/23/makean-easter-garden/

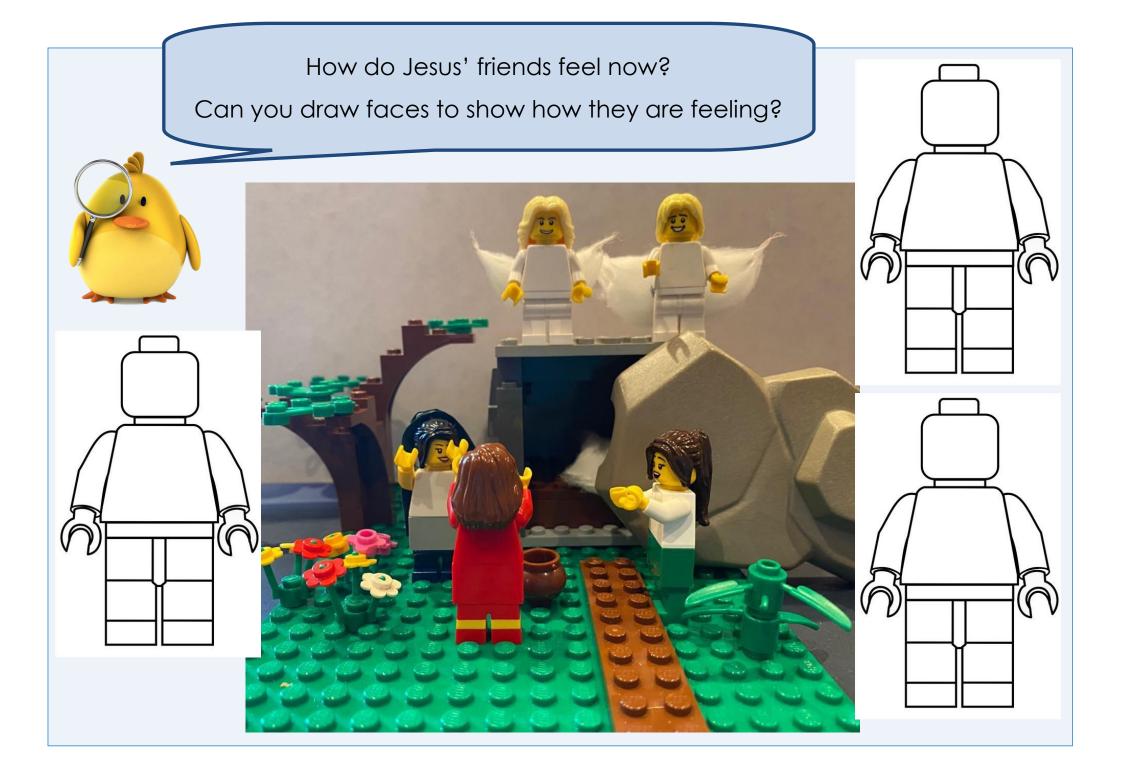
Look at the Easter Gardens in the pictures.

Can you see the cave and the stone?

Which other special symbol can you see?









Do you love to eat chocolate Easter Eggs?

Christians think that the hollow Easter Egg is a good reminder of the empty tomb!





Easter Sunday is an exciting day for Christians. They want to tell everyone Jesus is not dead: he is alive forever.

At church they sing loud, joyful songs. The vicar says in a very loud voice: 'Jesus is risen'. Everyone has to shout back: 'He is risen indeed! Alleluia!'



In some churches, like Toby's in the video, Christians put flowers onto a big cross to show that Jesus is not dead any more: flowers are a symbol of new life.

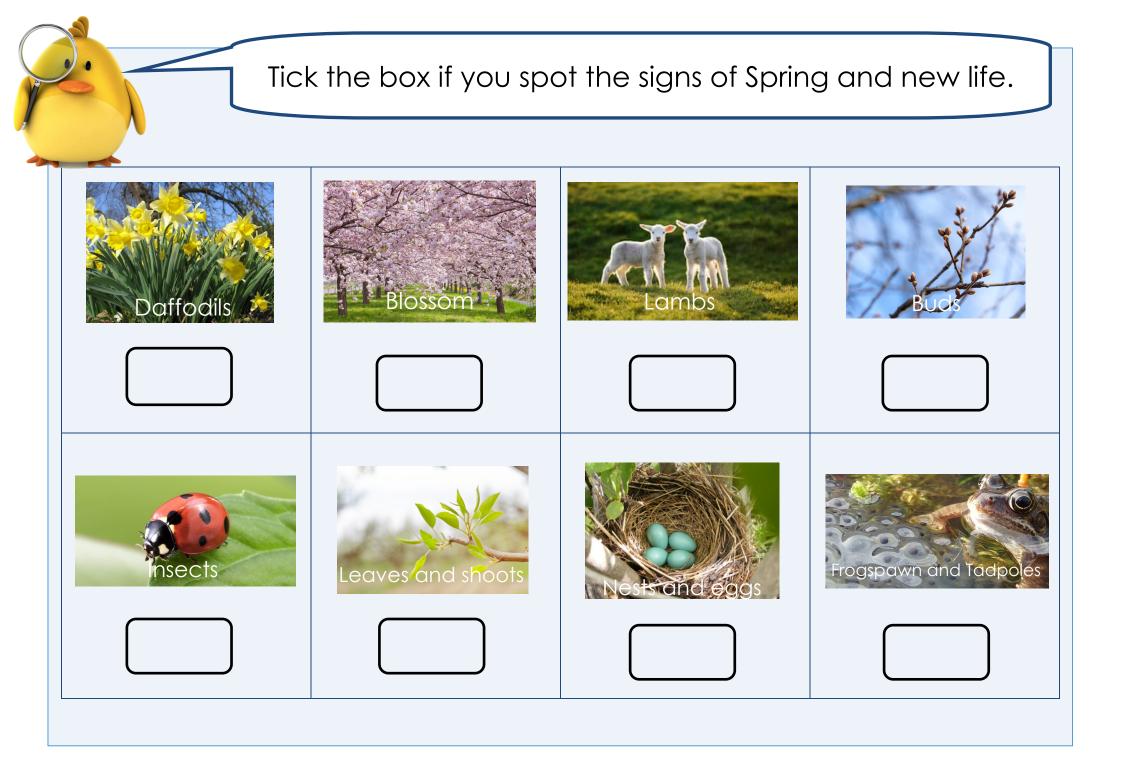


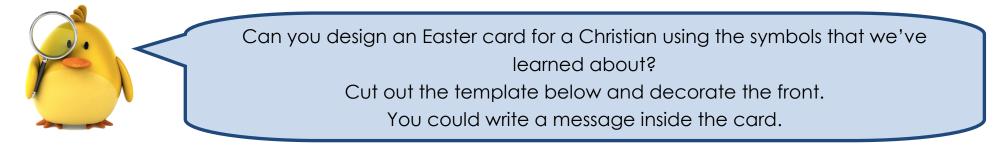
Christians think about new life at Easter because Jesus came back to life! There are lots of signs of new life at Easter time because it is always in the spring. Easter Eggs and Easter Chicks remind us of new life but there are lots more!

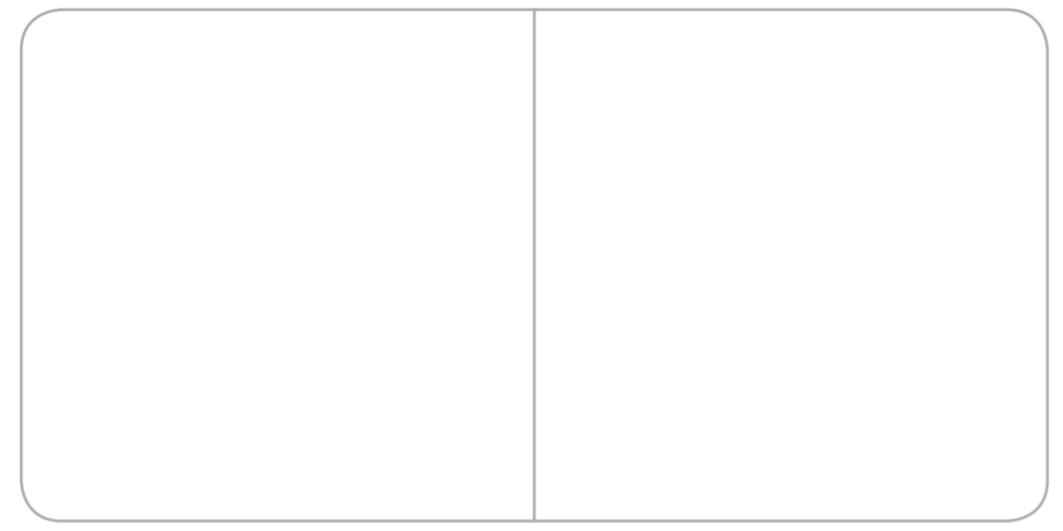


Use the Spring spotting guide on the next page to spot signs of new life when you go for a walk.









Front

