

# EASTER THEMED PROGRAMME



## AIM

Celebrate Easter with this themed programme which includes going hunting for Easter eggs, learning about the Easter story and getting creative by making an Easter garden from biscuits.

## ACTIVITIES

-  Edible Easter Garden
-  Easter Egg Hunt
-  Easter Egg Bowling
-  Easter Basket Gift
-  Easter Bunny Beetle
-  My Jelly Bean Easter

# EASTER

## » INTRODUCTION

Easter is the Christian celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Jesus was crucified on the cross on Good Friday and rose three days later on Sunday. Easter is therefore important to billions of Christians around the world, as Jesus died on the cross for our sins.

Easter, for many, also means a time with family, visits from the Easter bunny and indulging on chocolate Easter eggs.

## ? DID YOU KNOW?

- Over 2 billion Christians celebrate Easter, making it one of the largest celebrations in the world.
- Easter falls on the first Sunday after the full moon in March. This means it can land anywhere between 22nd March and 25th April.
- The UK's first chocolate Easter egg was made in 1873.
- Over 500 million Cadbury Creme eggs are made each year.

## GET CREATIVE: EDIBLE EASTER GARDEN

Create an edible Easter garden from biscuits, sweets and icing. A tasty way of sharing the story of Jesus' resurrection.

Before the activity, pre-cut the bottom of the jam centred biscuit off to give it a flat bottom.

- 1 Using green icing, ice the rich tea biscuit, to create the garden.
- 2 Next stick the jam centred biscuit at the back of the iced rich tea. The jam centre is the tomb and should be facing the front.
- 3 Spread sugar sprinkles on to make the flowers of the garden.
- 4 Place a mini egg to the side of the tomb. This represents the stone which was rolled away revealing the empty tomb.
- 5 During the activity or afterwards, share the story of Easter Sunday and the empty tomb.



### What you'll need:

- Rich Tea Biscuits
- Jam Centred Biscuits
- Green Icing
- Sugar Sprinkles
- Mini Eggs



GET CREATIVE



10 MINUTES



PREPARATION  
NEEDED

## GET ACTIVE: EASTER EGG HUNT

No Easter celebration is complete without an Easter egg hunt.

Hide some small Easter eggs around your meeting space and encourage the group to go and find them. This could be done as individuals or in teams. Make sure there are enough eggs for each person taking part, so everyone gets to find at least one egg.



GET ACTIVE



10 MINUTES



PREPARATION  
NEEDED



GET ACTIVE



15 MINUTES



PREPARATION  
NEEDED

## GET ACTIVE: EASTER EGG BOWLING

Before the meeting, a leader will need to hard boil enough eggs for one per person.

- 1 Give each child a hard-boiled egg. Ask them to decorate the egg using colouring pens. You could have a prize for the best decorated egg.
- 2 Once everyone has decorated their egg, explain that they are going to have a competition of egg bowling. Place a big chocolate Easter egg at one end of the room and line the children up at the other end of the room.
- 3 One at a time, the children must bowl their egg along the floor and try to get it to stop as close to the chocolate Easter egg at the end of the room. Any egg that hits the Easter egg doesn't count, so be careful!
- 4 After everyone has bowled their egg, the person closest to the chocolate Easter egg wins it as a prize.
- 5 Play as many rounds of this game as you wish.



GET INVOLVED



20 MINUTES



PREPARATION  
NEEDED

## GET INVOLVED: EASTER BASKET GIFT

Do something nice for someone this Easter. Create and decorate an Easter basket to give to someone else as a gift.

- 1 Give each child a paper cup. Ask them to decorate the cup using colouring pens. Their design should reflect Easter, so could be of the Easter bunny, eggs, chocolate or even a drawing of the Easter story.
- 2 Using a hole punch, punch holes into the top of the cup on opposite sides, ready for a handle.
- 3 Insert the pipe cleaner into one hole and wrap it around itself to secure the handle in place. Repeat this with the other end of the pipe cleaner in the other hole. This should create a small handle for your Easter basket.
- 4 Fill half of the cup with shredded coloured tissue paper.
- 5 Now place some Easter treats, such as individually wrapped Easter eggs.
- 6 Finally on a small piece of paper write a message wishing the person you are giving the basket to a Happy Easter. Place this message into your basket.
- 7 Take the basket home and give it to a family member, friend or someone special as a gift. Alternatively these gifts could be given out to Church members or others in the community that may not get a gift this Easter.

### What you'll need:

- Paper Cups
- Colouring Pens
- Pipe Cleaners
- Hole Punch
- Tissue Paper
- Paper
- Small Easter Eggs





GET ACTIVE



15 MINUTES



PREPARATION  
NEEDED

## GET ACTIVE: EASTER BUNNY DRIVE

An Easter twist on the classic game of 'Beetle Drive'. How to play:

- 1 Players should be in groups of 4-6 per table. Each table needs a dice, pencils, paper and to download a copy of the 'Easter Bunny Drive' Activity Sheet which shows numbers on dice and the matching parts of the bunny.
- 2 On Go, players take turns to roll a dice and add the appropriate body part to their bunny. They must, however, throw a 6 first (head) in order to start drawing.
- 3 Players carry on rolling the dice in turns, adding the body parts to their bunny. Players can only add one body part on at a time. So, if they get a four, they add on only one eye and must roll another four later on in order to add the second eye.
- 4 Once a player has drawn a complete bunny – 1 head, 2 ears, 2 eyes, 1 nose, 6 whiskers, 1 bow – they can then shout BUNNY and the game finishes. Award a prize to the winner.



## GET INTO THE BIBLE: MY JELLY BEAN EASTER



GET INTO  
THE BIBLE



15 MINUTES



PREPARATION  
NEEDED

Share the Easter story with your group, using this reminder with jelly beans. It is a really easy way to share all the important parts of the Easter story in a bitesize way, whilst also getting to enjoy some tasty jelly beans in the process.

Give each child the 8 coloured jelly beans in the story below. As you go through the story, use the prompts from the text to talk about each part of the Easter story. After you've finished talking about each jelly bean, let your children eat that coloured bean.



**Purple** - Reminds us of the purple robe the soldiers made Jesus wear before he was put on the cross.

**John 19:5**



**Red** - Reminds us of the blood of Jesus, who died on the cross. **Mark 14:24**



**Black** - Reminds us of the dark tomb Jesus was in for 3 days. **Matthew 27:58-60**



**Blue** - Reminds us of those people crying when Jesus was dead. **John 20:13**



**Orange** - Reminds us of the sunrise on Easter morning when Jesus rose to life. **Matthew 28:1**



**White** - Reminds us of the angels that rolled the stone away. **Matthew 28:2-4**



**Green** - Reminds us of the garden where Mary first saw Jesus. **John 20:14-17**



**Yellow** - Reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world and that if we ask Jesus to be in our lives and trust in him we will have ever-lasting life. **John 3:16**