

Ideas for Holy Week and Easter 2020 for Parents/Carers

Adapted from & based on Chester Diocesan RE Syllabus

Key Stage 1 – Year 1/2 Why are Christians happy on Easter day?

Discuss what is new in springtime. Identify signs of new life outside if possible. Identify signs of new growth eg bulbs, flowers, lambs, eggs, chicks, baby animals.



Make your daily exercise a 'looking walk' for objects that are dead or alive. Collect objects to display.

Read 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' Eric Carle. Reflect on new life and changes in the story

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NQK-Sm1YY>



Explore the Easter story in stages using dolls, available props or a video.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/stories/lets-celebrate-easterperformance> A simple version can be found in Lion Storyteller Bible based on the idea of a 'Sad day' & a 'Happy day', (Good Friday & Easter Sunday).

Discuss: I wonder how Jesus' friends felt when he died, when they saw him alive again? What were their faces like? Order the events that happened: <https://request.org.uk/restart/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2016/03/Order-Holy-Week-and-Easter.pdf>



Holy Week

Explain 'Jesus died on Good Friday'. Ask: Was it a happy or sad day? Why might Christians call it 'Good' Friday?

Lead Children to connect it with Easter Day. Explain Easter was happy day because Jesus died and came to life again and his friends were happy.

Look again at the Easter garden draw attention to the empty tomb. Ask: What do you think the disciples thought when they knew the tomb was empty and why?

Ask: Was Easter Day a sad or happy day? Why? Show a basket of hot cross buns. Ask: what do they have on them? What part of the Easter story does the cross remind you of? Give each child a piece of paper with a cut out hot cross bun on. Ask them to draw a sad face on the bun.



Look at a selection of Easter eggs. Make Easter egg cards with a happy face peeping out.

Ask: What does the egg remind you of? How are the cross and egg different?

How are the days they remind you of different?

Explain on Easter day Jesus came back alive and this is called the resurrection.

Ask: what happened to Jesus friends on Good Friday? On Easter day? What did they do? How did they feel?



Compose sad & happy music to go with 2 days of the story.

Paint happy and sad pictures to show the contrast between the 2 days.

Why not send some into school for your teachers to see / hear?



For further ideas see: <https://request.org.uk/restart/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/03/Easter-Home-Learning-Pack.pdf>