

Easter Sunday 12th April 2020

Supernovas at home!

Aim: To help children to understand the message of Easter - the great sacrifice of love that Jesus made for us. Also to help them to understand how all the Easter symbols are linked to Jesus death and resurrection.

I've put in a few different starter options - feel free to do all or just one - you could do this Bible study over a couple of days!

Starter 1

Start with an Easter Egg hunt around your house/garden - just for fun!

Starter 2 - Game - Bunny hops

Mark out a start line and a finishing line. Have a bunny hop race. A bunny hop uses both hands and feet (just like a bunny would!). If hands and feet are not both used, disqualification may occur!

Ideally have several heats, semi-finals and a final to build the excitement.

Starter 3 - Game - Easter egg chocolate game

Equipment

Good sized Easter egg – complete with packaging, Easter bonnet (any silly hat would do), scarf, gloves, knife, fork, dice, plastic table cover or sheet (for containing the mess)

Sit the children in a circle. Place the egg (in the packaging), hat, scarf, gloves, knife and fork in the middle on the plastic cover/sheet.

The children pass the dice round the circle, each throwing it. If they get a six, they must run into the middle, put the hat, scarf and gloves on and attempt to unpack and eat as much of the egg as possible using the knife and fork.

Meanwhile, the dice throwing continues until someone else gets a six, at which point they take over in the middle.

Play until the egg is gone (or everyone is too sick to play anymore...!)

Teaching - Hot cross buns



Start off by eating/looking at a picture of hot cross buns together. Ask the children if anyone knows what time of year you traditionally eat hot cross buns? (Easter and especially - Good Friday).

Ask why hot cross buns are linked to Good Friday. (They have a cross on which reminds us of Jesus dying on the cross on Good Friday). Ask the children why it's called Good Friday and not Bad Friday. See how much of the story of

Good Friday they can tell you. Fill in the gaps.

Read the Easter story in the Bible (Matthew 27:11-end and 28:1-10) or watch this video which tells the story in a child friendly way...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HL8R158Ujp4>

Then watch this video Neil and Mel - Supernovas leaders - have made to go with the session today to teach the children the Easter message ...

https://youtu.be/FO_1Je5PSmY

Activity

Give the children 5 minutes to draw Easter pictures. Encourage them to draw things they think are associated with Easter.

Talk about each picture they have drawn and ask them if they know what it has to do with Easter (if anything).

Easter egg: reminds us of new life – Jesus died on the cross and was raised to new life

Lamb: We have lamb at Easter as it goes back to the stories in the Bible before Jesus died when the Jews used to sacrifice a lamb to atone for their sins.

Lilies: less well known but these are a symbol of Easter because the white symbolises purity.

Easter bunny: Bunnies were chosen to represent new life because they are a good example of new life because they have so many babies each year. Rabbits typically have litters of 6-10 about 6-7 times a year

Cross: reminds us of Jesus dying on the cross on Good Friday

Easter bonnet: in the olden days, ladies used to buy or make new bonnets to celebrate Easter time. The time before Easter is called Lent and often people give up luxuries during this time – having a new bonnet was a way of celebrating that this time was over.

Chick: continues with the new life idea

Flowers: continues with the new life idea - the spring flowers mark the end of the dead season of Winter and the beginning of the growing season of Spring.

When you have talked about all of the pictures (feel free to go into lots of detail and tell parts of the Easter story if you wish – get the children to tell you as much as they can), ask the children to put them in order of the thing that is most to do with Easter, down to the thing that is least to do with Easter. Let them lead this activity but make sure they give reasons as to why they have placed the pictures in that order.

The Point: To help the children understand the spiritual significance of all the Easter symbols they see around.

Pray

Thank God for giving his son to die for us so that we can be forgiven for our sins and be free from sin so that we can spend eternal life with him. Thank God that Easter is a great time to celebrate the main message of the Bible - that Jesus sacrificed himself for us - the ultimate deed of love.