



Reception Easter Learning Activities 3rd April 2020

Although much of our learning is specific to our individual classes and year groups, some aspects are broader and shared by all. Learning about religious and cultural festivals and also our personal, social and emotional themes linked to our school values happen alongside other learning and can be delivered in different ways such as assemblies or by external visitors.

At this time of year, we would normally be learning about the Christian festival of Easter.

Easter focused learning

Watch the three videos ('Preparing for Easter', 'Celebrating Easter' and 'Easter Story') from 'Lets Celebrate' within Cbeebies - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/lets-celebrate-easter?collection=lets-celebrate-celebrations>

Talk about the symbols of Easter.

How do we know Easter is coming? What might we see around us?

Focus on the 'egg' and how it reminds us of Spring, when new animals are born.

What other signs do we see of new life? (blossom, bulbs growing, spring time bird song).

The egg symbolises 'new life'. Christians believe Jesus gave 'new life' when he came back to life.

If you celebrate Easter in your home, talk to your child about how and why you choose to celebrate.

Things to try!

- Follow a recipe and cook some hot cross buns or chocolate nests together. There are lots of great skills involved in this that you will be reinforcing, for example, attention and listening skills, following instructions, measuring language, numbers and counting, naming and describing.
- Create a colourful pattern for an Easter egg. This could be in an egg shape on paper or you could make some ornamental salt dough eggs and paint them.
- If you do go outside for a walk with your family, look for signs of Spring time and new life. You might see blossom on trees, new flowers growing or hear bird song in our quiet streets.
- Having watched the second video from the Cbeebies 'Let's celebrate' links above, make a cardboard cross shape (maybe from a cereal packet or delivery box) and decorate it with flowers. You could draw or paint some of your own or even pick one from your garden like the children do in the video.

Other learning ideas if you would like some extra for the holidays.....

Reading - Depending on your child's reading level, write single sounds, digraph sounds or tricky words on small pieces of paper - fold them up and hide them around the house for your child to find in a 'sound/word hunt'. When they find one they need to say the sound or word. For additional challenge you could ask them to tell you - some words that begin with the single sound they have found, words that contain one of the digraph sounds they have found or say a sentence containing the tricky word they have found.

Maths - organise your Easter eggs by size (by placing in an ordered line of size or by grouping like sizes together), compare different groups to say which one has more/fewer/the same number of eggs, count the total number of eggs and then try and count them in 2's for extra challenge, look at the patterns of their wrapping and ask your child to describe it. If you have kitchen scales you could make predictions about which ones might be heavier and then weigh them. Were you right? Why was that one the heaviest/lightest?

Physical development - Work to develop your child's cutlery skills, how good are they at using a knife, fork and a spoon? Challenge them to cut up their own food, even when it's a bit tricky - praise them for their efforts! Ask them to help with simple food jobs such as peeling potatoes and carrots with a hand peeler.