

Play: The Easter egg game

Equipment: Good-sized Easter egg - complete with packaging, Easter bonnet (any silly hat would do), scarf, gloves, knife, forks, dice, plastic table cover or sheet (for containing the mess)
Place the egg (in the packaging), hat, scarf, gloves, knife and fork in the middle of the room on the plastic cover/sheet. Pass the dice round to the people in the room, each throwing it. If you get a six, you 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...!)

Play: Easter headbands

On sticky notes, write some different Easter related items. For example: Jesus, cross, eggs, rabbits, hot cross buns, chocolate, Easter eggs, chickens. Then stick one of the Sticky notes on each of your family's foreheads. You might need to get them to hold it once you have stuck it on. Take it in turns to ask questions about what could be on your head. The people that they are asking can only answer yes or no. If you cannot guess, you could use a bit of drama to help them guess. Once everyone has guessed their item, give the sticky notes out again to different people. It will be easier the second time as they will be familiar with the selection.

Activity: Surprise acrostic

Find a word to explain the SURPRISE and Jesus rising from the grave, for each letter for the word surprise. Write the letters for S-U-R-P-R-I-S-E down the left hand side of a piece of paper. Find words for each letter that will help tell the Easter story and write them next to the letter.

Watch: Jesus is alive! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TikWatDJGuk&t=26s>

Read: Jesus is alive!

Early in the morning, on the Sunday after Jesus was crucified, two women went to the grave where Jesus had been buried. When they arrived, they found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance and the grave was empty. They were surprised to find an empty grave and wondered what had happened to Jesus.

While they were wondering about this, suddenly, two men in dazzling bright clothes appeared to the two women. Now they were not only surprised -- they were also afraid. The men spoke to the women and said, "Why are you looking for the living among the dead? Jesus is not here, he has risen just as he told you he would."

When the women heard these words, they remembered that Jesus had told them that he would be crucified, but that he would rise again on the third day. Now they were no longer surprised at finding an empty grave. They rushed back to tell his disciples -- and everyone else what they had seen. Some surprises make us happy, but the best reason we have to be happy today is that the grave is empty, Jesus is alive, and he loves us very much! That is what we celebrate today!

Make: Empty Tomb <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Vun-1FZHlc>

Cut circles out of the pastry with a large, round cutter and place a marshmallow in the middle and then fold one half over and press round the edges to seal it so that it's a semi-circular pouch. Bake in the oven according to the pastry instructions. When the pastry comes out of the oven, it will have puffed up and opened a little to reveal that it's now empty (the marshmallow has melted!) - just like the tomb was on Easter Sunday. Enjoy the sweet pastry together.

Sing & Dance: Whale of a time <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GB5bxtU4XoY>

Pray: Dear God, we praise you! Jesus has risen just as he said he would! In Jesus' name we pray,
amen.