

~HOLY WEEK & EASTER ALPHABET STORY~

- A** is for **All** the people who watched Jesus ride into Jerusalem
- B** is for the palm **Branches** waving at Jesus on the crowded streets
- C** is for the **Coins** of the cheating people that made Jesus angry
- D** is for the **Donkey** that Jesus rode into the city gates
- E** is for **Everyone** in the crowd listened to the teachings of Jesus
- F** is for 12 **Friends** called Disciples who followed Jesus
- G** is for the **Good** news Jesus spread about God's love
- H** is for "**Hosanna**" that all people sang out to Jesus
- I** is for **Inside** the upper room Jesus met his Disciples for Passover
- J** is for **Jesus**, known as the "King of the Jews"
- K** is for Jesus on his **Knee** washing the feet of His Disciples
- L** is for the **Last** Supper Jesus ate with Disciples of bread and wine
- M** is for "remember **Me**" when I leave Jesus said to his Disciples
- N** is for **Nighttime** sky in the Garden of Gethsemane
- O** is for the **Olive** branches in the garden with the Disciples nearby
- P** is for **Praying** hands of Jesus while His Disciples fell asleep
- Q** is for the **Questions** the soldiers asked when they arrested Jesus
- R** is for Jesus' **Red** wounds as He is nailed on the cross
- S** is for the **Sadness** when Jesus died on Friday up on the hill
- T** is for the **Tomb** Jesus' body is laid in
- U** is for the **Unbelievable** empty tomb on the third day
- V** is for the **Victorious** Easter Sunday that "Christ is Risen"
- W** is for Jesus is **With** God in heaven
- X** is **eXtra** light from Jesus shines through us
- Y** is for **You** to follow Jesus
- Z** is for a **Zigzag** wonderful journey filled with God's love

“HOLY WEEK” LEARNING EGGS: JESUS’ LAST WEEK

(multi-age activity)

Supplies: 12 plastic eggs (different colors), egg carton, sharpie, see list below

Directions: *note: symbolic items for eggs can also be drawn or use computer clip art*

- Number eggs with sharpie 1-12
- Place one item (listed below) in each egg according to it's number
- Put all eggs in carton
- Open each egg in order and read numbered sentence for each egg as you open them
- The story of Jesus will be revealed!
- Ask child to retell story opening the eggs 1-12 and only looking at the symbols

- 1) green leaf (palm) : Jesus came to town. People waved palms shouting “Hosannah!”
 - 2) coin: The temple market place cheated people. Jesus knocked over their coin table.
 - 3) bread: Jesus shared bread and cup at the last supper with 12 disciples on Passover.
 - 4) star: Jesus and his disciples went into the garden of Gethsemane to pray all night.
 - 5) twine: Jesus was arrested and tied up and brought to Pilate for a trial.
 - 6) twig crown: Soldiers yelled “King of the Jews” and put a crown of thorns on Jesus.
 - 7) nail: Jesus’ hands and feet were nailed to a large wooden cross to be crucified.
 - 8) dice: Soldiers rolled dice to win the clothing and items of Jesus.
 - 9) tooth pick: Soldiers poked Jesus as he hung on the cross before He died.
 - 10) white cloth: After Jesus died, He was wrapped in a white linen cloth.
 - 11) stone: Jesus’ body was put into a tomb and was closed shut with a big stone.
 - 12) empty: On the 3rd day, the tomb was empty! CHRIST IS RISEN!
- Read The Easter Story: Matthew 27 & 28, Mark 15 &16, Luke 23 & 24, John 19 & 20



Preschool Version

Supplies: 6 plastic eggs (different colors), 1/2 egg carton, sharpie, see list below

Directions: *Number eggs with sharpie 1-6 *Place one item (listed below) in each egg according to it's number *Put eggs in carton *Open each egg in order and read numbered sentence for each egg as you open them “The Story of Jesus will be revealed!”

*Ask child to retell story opening eggs 1-6 and only looking at the symbols

- 1) cross - Jesus was arrested and nailed to a wooden cross.
- 2) bread - Jesus shared bread and cup at the last supper with 12 disciples.
- 3) paper towel - Jesus died and His body was wrapped in a white cloth.
- 4) stone - Jesus Christ was put into a cave called a tomb with a large stone closing it.
- 5) empty - After 3 days, the tomb was empty.
- 6) candy - “Christ is Risen!” This is the sweetest part of story! Jesus is with God!

~ Jesus Story Beads~

Retell the "Life of Jesus" from birth to death

Activity: Gather beads below in the order on a cord or pipe cleaner.
Make a loop to start off the beads (for finger to hold) and tie off end.



star bead : Jesus was born under the star of Bethlehem



one wooden bead : Jesus was a carpenter



dove bead : The Spirit of God came like a dove when Jesus was baptized



fish bead : Jesus was a fisherman of all people



12 triangle pony beads: 12 Disciples followed Jesus



wooden cross bead : Jesus Christ was crucified and died on a cross



one black bead: Jesus was put in tomb, on day 3, it was dark & empty



one white bead: Christ is Risen!



heart bead: Jesus shares *God's* love forever

Resurrection Cookies

Read directions before you begin!
~ Make Saturday night, the night before Easter ~

Preheat oven to 300F (don't skip this step).

You will need: 1 cup chocolate chips or pecans, 1 tsp vinegar, 3 egg whites, 1 pinch salt, 1 cup sugar, bowl, ziplock bag, mixer, wooden spoon, cookie sheet lined with wax paper, tape, Bible

- * Place chocolate chips or pecans in bag. Beat with wooden spoon into small pieces. Explain that Jesus was arrested and was beaten by Roman soldiers. Read: John 19:1-3
- * Smell the vinegar, put 1 teaspoon vinegar into bowl. Explain that when Jesus was thirsty on the cross He was given vinegar to drink. Read: John 19:28-30
- * Add egg whites to vinegar. Eggs represent life. Explain that Jesus gave His life to give us life. Read: John 10:10-11
- * Sprinkle some salt into hand. Taste it. Put the rest into the mixing bowl. Explain that this represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers. Read: Luke 23:27
- * Add 1 cup sugar. Explain that the sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because He loves us. Read: Psalm 34:8 and John 3:16
- * Beat on high speed for 12 to 15 minutes until stiff peaks are formed. Explain that the color white represents the purity in God's eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus. Read: Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3
- * Fold in broken chips or nuts. Drop by teaspoon onto cookie sheet. Explain that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid. Read: Matthew 27:57-60
- * Put the cookie sheet in oven, close door, and turn the oven OFF. Tape and seal the oven door. Explain that Jesus' tomb was sealed. Read: Matthew 27:65-66
- * GO TO BED! Explain that we may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight. Jesus' followers were in despair when the tomb was sealed. Read: John 16: 20-22
- * On Resurrection Sunday (Easter) morning, open oven and give everyone a cookie. Notice the cracked surface and take a bite. The cookies are hollow! On the first Easter Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty. Read: Matthew 28:1-9

CHRIST IS RISEN !



EMPTY TOMB ROLLS OR RESURRECTION ROLLS

Symbolism of Empty Tomb Rolls:

Large Marshmallows – body of Jesus

Melted Butter – oils of embalming

Cinnamon and Sugar Mix- spices used to anoint Christ's body.

Crescent Roll – the wrapping of Jesus' body or the tomb.

Oven – the tomb

Cavity in bun – the empty tomb or the empty cloths

INGREDIENTS:

1 (8 ounce or 12 ounce) package refrigerated crescent rolls (the bigger size makes it a little easier to wrap around the marshmallow)

1/4 cup sugar

1 tablespoon ground cinnamon

8 large marshmallows

1/4 cup butter, melted

INSTRUCTIONS:

- * Preheat oven 375 degrees,
- * Prepare muffin pan with non-stick spray (use jumbo muffin pan if possible)
- * Separate rolls into eight triangles.
- * Combine sugar and cinnamon.
- * Dip marshmallow into butter, roll in cinnamon-sugar and place on a triangle.
- * Pinch dough around marshmallow, Seal edges well, marshmallow will escape.
- * Dip tops of dough into remaining butter and cinnamon-sugar.
- * Place with sugar side up in muffin pan.
- * Bake for 10 - 15 minutes or until golden brown. Eat warm
- * Read Easter Story: Matthew 27-28, Mark 15-16, Luke 23-24 John 19-20

Christ is Risen Indeed!

