

EASTER STORY



CRAFT PACK



What is Easter all about?

I wonder what you think of when you think of Easter...

Colour in all the pictures below that remind you of Easter....



Do you know, ALL of the pictures have something to do with the very first Easter!

In this pack, we are going to be crafting our way through the Easter story, you can colour the pictures as we go...

Did you know our story starts at the very beginning of time?

Christians believe God made the **WORLD** and everyone in it. God loves His creations! But people made choices that built a big wall between us and God. God was sad but wouldn't give up! He **LOVED** the world so much that he sent Jesus to earth as a **RESCUER**, to put all the wrong things right and to knock down that wall so that we could truly know God even if we've messed things up. Our Easter story starts when Jesus was a grown up....



SPRING IS COMING!

Even if it looks like there is no hope...

CRAFT IT 1!

Grab your green piece of paper and make your own palm leaf. You could wave it around like the people in the picture below...



...The friends of Jesus were beginning to realise that there was something special about him...

So, as he rode into Jerusalem on a **DONKEY**, the people shouted 'Hosanna' (meaning 'rescue us!'). They waved palm **LEAVES** to welcome him, like at a football match when the fans cheer for their favourite team. The people were very excited to see Jesus, as they were beginning to realise that he was the **KING** that God had promised them. They were realising that he was the key to God's rescue plan.



CRAFT IT 2!

You will have a wooden cross in your pack.

Colour or decorate it!

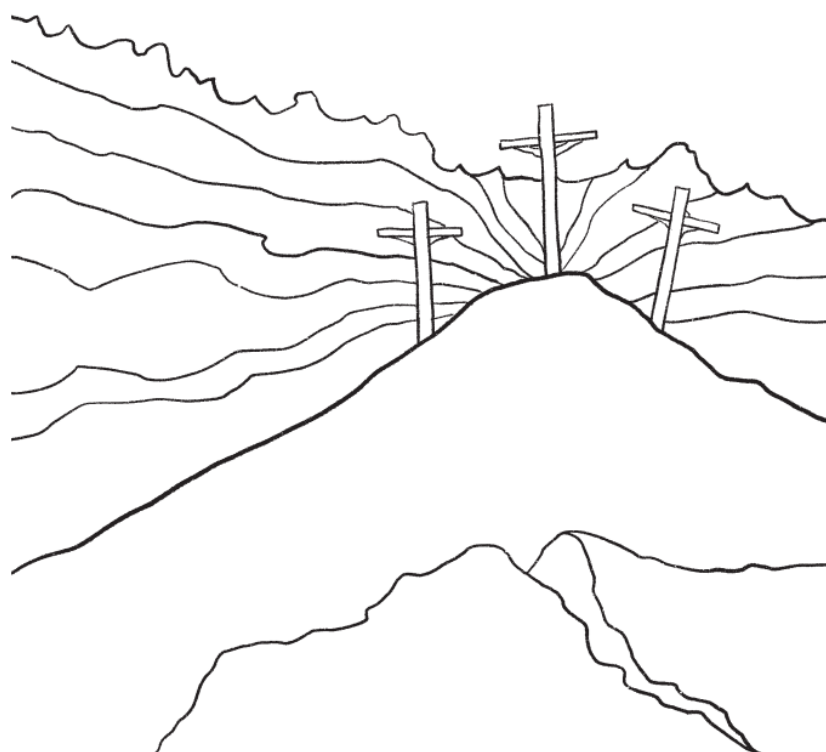
...Not everybody was happy about people saying Jesus was the king...

Some leaders decided that he should die for this, like a criminal. The day Jesus died was a very sad day. Things didn't look good. But do you know it was all part of God's rescue plan?

It's a bit like each year in the winter. It feels like there is no hope, there are no flowers, the ground is **FROZEN**, the nights are dark, the animals are hibernating. But winter is needed to prepare for spring.

Jesus died on a **CROSS** showing how much God **LOVES** us and paying the price for all the things that get in the way of us knowing God. He knocked down the wall and instead built a bridge between us and God. That's why Christians call Good Friday 'good'.

But that's not the end of the story...



Jesus Storybook Bible Colouring Book. Illustrated by Jago.



CRAFT IT 3!

Find your seeds (there in a little envelope) and cotton wool balls.

Pop the cotton wool into an old jar, cup or even eggshell.

Sprinkle water on the cotton wool.

Scatter the seeds on top.

Watch new life spring up!

...On Easter Sunday, something very surprising happened...

The friends of Jesus came to anoint the body that lay in the tomb with **PERFUME**. However, when they arrived, the **STONE** that covered the tomb had rolled away. Jesus had gone! In his place were two angels, standing bright. Mary, one of Jesus' friends heard a voice, she thought it was the **GARDENER**, but it wasn't, it was JESUS. HE WAS ALIVE!



So, what's Easter all about?

It's about new **LIFE!**

Yes, it's been a long winter, but **SPRING** is coming!

It feels like there has been no hope, but **HOPE** has come!

Plants have been hiding, but now they are bursting into **FLOWER...**

CHICKS, BUNNIES, and lambs are being born...

Jesus did die, but he came back to life! Death was not the end!

He did this so that we can know Him and have new life, life that lasts forever.

CRAFT IT 4!

In your pack find the template for the Easter basket.

I wonder what makes you think of new life?



M J T O D F O R S S E W A
O R U E S A F T P U A F S
H R E S C U E R E T S A E
U S O T H H I H O P E E T
E R E S A N D O Y Z E L J
C E T E G L B M E O E R H
Y L A V R M O U K V E N E
D R L O A G C C N W I S D
T R W L G N I K O N E L R
R W A E O H G L D H Y I A
N M O H C E F T N A C I E
I I S I P U E E A V H T O
M N H L O A S C N H S T M

ALIVE	DONKEY	HOPE	LOVE
BUNNY	EASTER	JESUS	RESCUER
CHICK	EGG	KING	SEED
CHOCOLATE	FLOWER	LAMB	SPRING
CROSS	FROZEN	LEAF	WORLD

'God wants us to remember however, we are feeling today, wherever we are today, whatever is happening in our lives today—however it looks, even if it looks like there is no hope at all—**SPRING** is coming. It may look like nothing is happening. It may even look like everything has died.

But...

Spring is coming!

Easter is coming!

Jesus dies —yes, but he comes alive again!

And one day death and sickness and tears—they will be no more. Because God is making the story end happily for his world—and for his children!

Pack designed by Flora Hinks (New Community church Southampton),
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