

Holiday Name Lesson Series

Easter

Bible Verse:

John 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life.

Why We Celebrate This Holiday:

Besides Christmas, Easter is one of the most popular Christian holidays. On this day, Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus after his death. During the Civil War period, Easter became a popular holiday that families would find comforting and spiritual. They began celebrating the holiday on a regular basis. Today, many families celebrate Easter to mark the resurrection of Jesus. Traditionally, families go to an Easter church service, will hold an egg hunt for the children and will gather for a meal.

Lesson Ideas:

1. The Resurrection of Jesus: Read the Easter story to the children and talk about how Jesus died for our sins.
2. Egg Science: Take this time to teach the children about eggs. Eggs are a symbol of rebirth and represent the rebirth of Jesus. Look for easy science experiments involving eggs, such as whether or not they float. You can also decorate eggs.
3. Cross: The cross is an important symbol of Easter. It represents crucifixion and resurrection.

Decorations:

1. Decorate the room using spring colors. Use pastel balloons and streamers in the room.
2. Place a large basket in the room full of Easter grass and eggs. Use plastic eggs, which are easier than boiled eggs.
3. You can also decorate the room using crosses, rabbits and eggs.

Craft:

“Stained Glass” Cross: For this project you will need to cut out enough cross shapes for each child. Use black construction paper and then cut out the middle so that all you are left with is a ½ border. Give the children several colors of tissue paper and let them glue it on the border until the center of the cross is filled. It might be easier to use glue diluted with a little bit of water and paintbrushes. When the tissue paper has dried, hang them in the window.

Snacks: *(can be a recipe or a store bought suggestion)*

1. Easter bunny cupcakes: Frost the cupcakes with white frosting. Sprinkle coconut over the frosting. Cut two small bunny ears out of craft foam and place in the cupcake. Make a face out of two pink jelly beans for eyes and a black jelly bean for a nose. If you want whiskers, cut small pieces of thin licorice and push into the cupcake.
2. Make a “nest” using a homemade rice krispie treat recipe. Form the treats into a nest shape. Fill with tinted coconut for grass and put small jelly beans or egg shaped candy inside.

Game:

Egg Relays: These are always fun and you can use your imagination to come up with other egg relay races. Use either plastic eggs or boiled eggs and have the kids carry the egg on a spoon through an obstacle course. If the egg falls off, they must go back to the start.

Gift Idea:

Tiny Bunny Baskets:

Save clear plastic containers from individual serving sized pudding. Make them into a bunny by gluing on ears made out of craft foam. Make a face from googly eyes, a small dot for a nose and white embroidery thread for whiskers. Fill with candy.