

Lost and Found: a story of rescue



Foundation Stage Easter Pause Day: Journeys

Overall aim:

- To know that the baby Jesus born at Christmas grew up to be a very important man who died on a cross.
- That Christians believe that Easter is good news because it is about Jesus saving (rescuing/finding) people.

Outline of the day:

Using role play and a cycle of other activities, children to explore the themes of being lost and found and how the Easter story is about rescue (Christians believe that Jesus' death was the means by which people could be rescued from the consequences of their sin). It is suggested that a reflective happy/sad space is created to accompany the day.

Preparation required before the day:

- Appropriate costumes in nativity style, plastic carpentry tools, a work bench, small wooden stools and other wooden items for sale etc...
- Props for quiz (see quiz details)
- Big Book 'The Easter Story' from my very first BIG Bible stories. Published by Lionhudson ISBN 978-0-7459-6082-1 OR a good story Bible with simple account of Jesus' death and resurrection
- Space to play Hide and Seek or prepare simple hot/cold Treasure Hunt with Easter Eggs
- Prepare the additional activity (see below) of the prayer area if you are planning to use it.
- Songs from Out of the Ark Sunday's Cool Volume 1 and think through appropriate actions

Please be aware that you may find that there is far too much material, so please select what you need and not worry about items that cannot be fitted in.

Overview of the Day:

Session Aim	Activity	
1	<p>Role play area 999 rescue</p>	<p>Select appropriate costumes to enable the children to act out rescuing scenes e.g. fire, police, ambulance. Accompany with first aid equipment etc</p>
2	<p>To investigate the links between Christmas and Easter.</p>	<p>Small group quiz. You will need various props etc for the quiz (see below). The aim of the quiz is to make the link between the Christmas story and the fact that the baby in the manger grew up to be the man who had to die on a cross at Easter. The deep learning about Easter is to understand that Jesus was sent from God (i.e. the first Christmas) as a Saviour/rescuer of the world (i.e. the first Easter)</p>
3	<p>To experience being 'lost and found'.</p> <p>To know that Christians believe that Easter is the good news that Jesus came to find people who feel lost.</p>	<p>Enjoy playing Hide and Seek outside if possible</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Simple hot/cold treasure hunt for some Easter eggs</p> <p>At end of the game find somewhere to lie down in your own space but not too far away from each other:</p> <p>Reflection and things to think about:</p> <p>Sometimes things get lost and people hunt for them.</p> <p>Sometimes people get lost and other people hunt for them.</p> <p>Why do people hunt for something or a person who is lost? (because they are important and precious)</p> <p>The Bible says that Easter is good news. It is the news that Jesus came to find people who feel lost because they are precious to him.</p>
4	<p>Read 'The Easter Story'</p>	<p>Read Big Book 'The Easter Story' from my very first BIG bible stories.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>a good story bible and read the story of Jesus death and resurrection.</p>

Session Aim	Activity
<p>5 To experience what it means to be rescued.</p> <p>To understand that Christians believe the Easter story is about rescue.</p>	
<p>6 The beginning of Easter is sad the end of Easter is happy so people celebrate.</p>	<p>Learn ‘Celebrate’ from Sunday’s Cool Volume 1 ‘Out of the Ark’ Music Use appropriate actions to accompany each verse.</p>

Quiz

- **(Model of the baby in the manger)** Who can remember the name of the baby born on the first Christmas morning? **(Jesus)**
- **(Models of the 3 wise men)** The 3 Wise men gave the baby some special presents. One was frankincense, one was myrrh and the other one was? **(Gold. This was a sign that Jesus was born a King)**
- **(Model/picture of a crown)** Jesus was given lots of very important names. One of them begins ‘King of’ Can you guess the ending? **(King of Kings)**
- **(Models/pictures of rescue helicopters, firemen, ambulance)** Another name for Jesus was ‘Saviour’. Can anyone guess what that name means? **(Someone who saves/rescues other people/helps them when they are lost or in danger)**
- **(Point out the role play area)** The baby Jesus grew up to be an ordinary man who worked hard. His earthly father Joseph probably taught him how to make things out of wood. Do you know the name of a person who makes things out of wood? **(carpenter)**
- **(Show a copy of a good children’s Bible)** The baby Jesus grew up to be an amazing man who did amazing things. Who knows the name of the book where we can read about these things? **(Bible)**
- **Ask some of the children to shut their eyes tight and then open them. Then ask the children to try walking with only one good leg.** The bible says that Jesus met lots of sick people; some were blind and other people could not walk properly.

What did Jesus do? (**Made them better by helping them to see, walk and to be well**)

- **Ask children to practise shouting ‘hooray for Jesus’ when you count to 3. 1,2,3 ‘Hooray for Jesus!’** Lots of people thought Jesus was brilliant, so what do you think they shouted? (**Hooray for Jesus!**) But some people were angry with Jesus and they shouted out ‘Kill him!’
- (**Show your school cross or any small cross**) The people who did not like Jesus did something awful to him. What do you think that was? (**They killed him on a cross**)
- (**Show the cross again**) Even though Jesus died on a cross, what do you notice about the cross? (**The cross is empty**) Jesus came back to life 3 days after he had been killed.

Three cheers that Jesus came back to life again:

Hip Hip hooray! Hip Hip hooray! Hip Hip hooray!

Additional activity:

Create a prayer area inside or outside the classroom:

You will need 2 differently decorated, open sided gazebos – one ‘happy’ and one ‘sad’. You might use cushions, bright colours, lights etc for the happy area and simple plain cloth for the ‘sad’ area and you could put a cross inside both gazebos. Invite the children to spend some quiet time in each area. They might like to think about the sad time of Easter (Jesus’ death) and then the happy time of Easter (Jesus’ resurrection). Suggest that they might like to use the time to pray to God about times they have felt happy and times they have felt sad, things they want to say ‘sorry’ for and things they want to say ‘thank you’ for.