

# KIDS STUFF

# Messy Easter APRIL

A MONTHLY UPDATE FOR KIDS AND PARENTS AT LEWINSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## INFORMATION AND IDEAS FOR A HOMEBOUND EASTER

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## EASTER WILL STILL HAPPEN!

DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AND THE NEED FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING, THE CHURCH HAS HAD TO SUSPEND ALL PERSON-TO-PERSON ACTIVITIES THAT WERE PREVIOUSLY PLANNED FOR THE CELEBRATION OF EASTER.....BUT HERE ARE IDEAS TO CELEBRATE AND...

# BRING THE MESS HOME!

# MINI-MESS

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS & FAMILIES  
COMING EACH WEEK TO YOUR INBOX!



# WHICH CAME FIRST?

## A Look at Easter's Holy and Worldly Symbols



The original Easter color was red, representing the blood of Christ. Today's Church Easter color is white.

### COLORS

Hello pastels! Our wardrobes and our M&Ms take on a lighter, less saturated hue at this time of year.

Rabbits are a symbol of fertility and new life. Although not mentioned in the Gospel, it is likely these were borrowed from springtime pagan celebrations as symbols for Easter in the early days of Christianity.

The Easter Bunny spreads joy (and candy) to children by delivering decorated eggs and other gifts. If you bite into a chocolate bunny this year you won't be alone -- 90 million are produced each year.

At Easter, eggs represent Jesus' resurrection. In the 1200s, eggs were forbidden during Lent, so people would decorate them to mark the end of fasting and eat them at Easter.

Lilies were growing in the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus went to pray in his final days.

Jesus' death is likened to the sacrificial lamb of Passover. Jesus is often called the "Lamb of God."

The Paschal candle is lit to remind us Jesus is the light of the world.

The life cycle of the butterfly is a symbol of the Pascal Mystery: symbolizing Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

The cross is the most well-known symbol of Christianity, although not originally understood by others. Some mocked it and said it was silly, but for Christians it represents the power of Jesus' triumph and resurrection.

### RABBITS

### EGGS

### FLOWERS

### LAMB

### CANDLES

### BUTTERFLIES

### CROSS

Eggs have long been linked to pagan celebrations of spring (much like the rabbit). Today, the most popular Easter egg traditions include egg hunts and egg rolls.

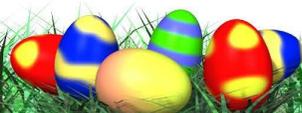
Daffodils, tulips, and lilies bloom around Easter marking the coming of spring (and allergies!).

Lamb is a traditional Easter dish, served as a main course or as a lamb-shaped cake for dessert.

Candles are lit to remember loved ones or those who are suffering.

Butterflies have long symbolized renewal or rebirth. There are about 15,000 to 20,000 species of butterflies worldwide.

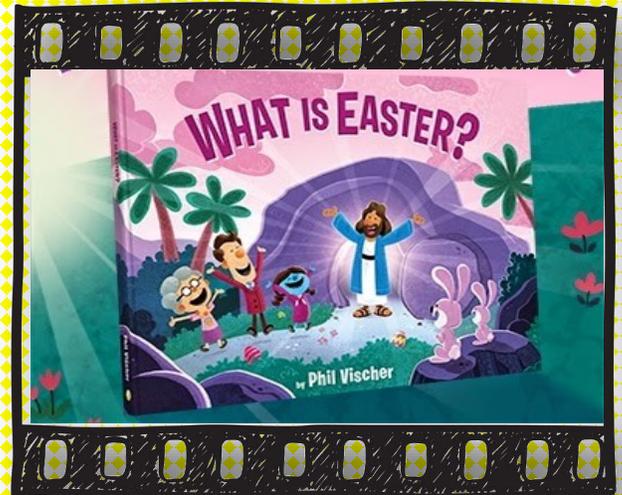
The cross was used as a device of torture and painful public execution in ancient Roman times. Crucifixion was intended to not only kill its victim, but to terrorize those who were a witness to the brutal and inhumane act.



**Click on the pictures to watch the story of Easter:**



## God's Story: Easter



## What's In The Bible?: The Meaning of Easter

FOR OLDER CHILDREN, YOU CAN ADD IN THE USE OF A BLINDFOLD TO REALLY MAKE IT INTERESTING.

**3 PHYSICALLY ACTIVE EASTER EGG HUNT**  
MAKE A LIST OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES (HOP 10 TIMES, DO 15 JUMPING JACKS, TOUCH YOUR TOES 7 TIMES, ETC).

YOUR KIDS SHOULD FIND ONE EGG, BRING IT OVER TO THE LIST, AND COMPLETE THE FIRST ACTIVITY. NEXT, YOUR CHILD SHOULD FIND A SECOND EGG AND COMPLETE THE SECOND ACTIVITY. BY THE END, YOUR CHILD WILL PROBABLY BE OUT OF BREATH.

**4 PUZZLE HUNT**  
PUT TOGETHER A SMALL PUZZLE. THEN, FLIP IT OVER AND WRITE A CLUE ON THE BACK.

PLACE ONE PUZZLE PIECE INSIDE EACH EGG, THEN HIDE THEM. AS YOUR CHILD FINDS THE EGGS, SHE SHOULD TAKE OUT THE PUZZLE PIECE AND ATTEMPT TO PUT IT TOGETHER. ONCE THE ENTIRE PUZZLE IS ASSEMBLED, YOUR CHILD SHOULD CAREFULLY FLIP IT OVER TO READ THE CLUE ON THE BACK. THE CLUE WILL LEAD TO A SMALL GIFT OR THE GOLDEN EGG (WITH SOME KIND OF INCENTIVE INSIDE).

**1 COOPERATIVE SCAVENGER HUNT**  
WRITE SOME SIMPLE CLUES, OR DRAW PICTURES FOR NON-READERS, ON SLIPS OF PAPER TO PUT INSIDE THE EGGS. YOUR KIDS CAN WORK TOGETHER TO SOLVE THE CLUES OF TO USE THE PICTURES IN ORDER TO FIND THE HIDDEN EGGS.

**2 PLAY HOT AND COLD**  
FOR THIS VARIATION, THINK ABOUT HIDING YOUR EGGS IN A WAY THAT IS VERY CHALLENGING FOR YOUR AGE GROUP. THEN, DIRECT THEM BY SAYING HOT (WHEN THEY ARE CLOSE TO AN EGG) OR COLD (WHEN FAR AWAY).

**5 LOOK FOR ONE OF EACH COLOR**  
ASSIGN EACH CHILD A SPECIFIC COLOR EGG. THIS COULD GET REALLY FUN AND PROMOTES A LOT OF COOPERATION AS YOUR KIDS CAN HELP EACH OTHER AND ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER ALONG.

**6 LUCKY NUMBER 13**  
LET'S SAY THAT YOU ARE HIDING 20 EGGS. YOU SHOULD THEN HAVE A STACK OF PAPERS, NUMBERED IN ORDER FROM 1-20. CHOSE ONE NUMBER TO BE THE LUCKY NUMBER, LET'S SAY 13. AS YOUR CHILD FINDS AN EGG, SHE SHOULD RUN OVER AND GRAB THE SLIP OF PAPER THAT IS ON THE TOP. THE CHILD WHO FINDS THE 13TH EGG GETS A PRIZE. THIS INVOLVES LUCK AND THERE'S NO STRATEGY INVOLVED, MEANING A YOUNGER CHILD HAS JUST AS MUCH CHANCE OF WINNING AS AN OLDER CHILD.

**7 GLOWING EASTER EGGS/ IN THE DARK HUNT** FILL LARGE PLASTIC EGGS WITH FLAMELESS TEA LIGHTS ALONG WITH CANDY OR TREATS. "HIDE" THE EGGS AFTER DARK AND HAVE THE KIDS RUN TO THE LIGHTS FOR THEIR TREATS!

**8 MEMORY**  
GET A BUNCH OF SOLO CUPS AND PLACE THEM UPSIDE DOWN THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE. THEN, AND THIS IS KEY, PLACE EASTER EGGS UNDERNEATH SOME, NOT ALL, OF THE CUPS. HAVE YOUR KIDS TAKE TURNS TO TRY TO FIND THE EASTER EGGS.



## EASTER MINUTE 2 WIN IT GAMES

### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

PLASTIC EASTER EGGS  
COTTON BALLS  
PEEPS  
BUCKETS  
TIMER OR STOP WATCH

### MATCHING HALVES

THIS GAME IS SUPER SIMPLE! TO SET UP, JUST BREAK APART YOUR EASTER EGGS AND MIX THEM AROUND. YOU HAVE ONE MINUTE TO MATCH THE HALVES! READY, SET, GO!

### BUNNY TAIL DROP

THE OBJECT OF THE BUNNY TAIL DROP IS TO SEE HOW MANY BUNNY TAILS (COTTON BALLS) YOU CAN GET



IN THE BUCKET. HAVE THE CHILDREN STAND ON A CHAIR OR STEP STOOL. HOLDING THE BUNNY TAIL TO THEIR NOSE, DROP THEM INTO THE BUCKET! HOW GOOD IS YOUR AIM?

### EASTER EGG THROW

FOR EASTER EGG THROW, YOU ARE GOING TO DO EXACTLY WHAT YOU THINK: THROW EASTER EGGS. HOW MANY EASTER EGGS CAN YOU TOSS INTO THE BUCKET IN ONE MINUTE?

### STACK THE PEEPS

WHO CAN STACK THE MOST PEEPS IN UNDER A MINUTE? IT'S NOT AS EASY AS YOU THINK! THERE'S A STRATEGY TO STACKING PEEPS.







## MARKER DYED EASTER EGGS

### SOUNDS A LITTLE WEIRD, RIGHT?

YES, YOU CAN COLOR EGGS WITH MARKERS AND PLASTIC SANDWICH BAGS! IT'S FUN BECAUSE YOU GET TO PLAY WITH COLOR MIXING AND IT'S EASY ENOUGH FOR VERY YOUNG CHILDREN.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS. GRAB SOME CRAYOLA MARKERS (JUST THE CLASSIC MARKERS, NOT WASHABLE ONES) AND A FEW ZIPLOCK SANDWICH BAGS. YOU'LL ALSO NEED A CUP OF WATER AND A STACK OF NAPKINS. AND EGGS! HARDBOILED EGGS.

1. START BY COLORING ON THE PLASTIC SANDWICH BAG. JUST SCRIBBLE A FEW DIFFERENT COLORS IN SPLOTCHES ON THE BAG.
2. NEXT, DIP YOUR EGG IN WATER TO GET IT WET, THEN PLACE IT ON THE BAG. GRAB THE CORNERS OF THE BAG AND PULL IT UP AND AROUND THE EGG. THE WATER ON THE EGG TURNS THE MARKER INK INTO PAINT.
3. SMOOSH THE EGG AROUND INSIDE THE BAG TO GET COLOR ALL OVER THE EGG. THEN SET IT BACK DOWN ON THE TABLE AND OPEN UP THE BAG. AT THIS POINT, YOU CAN LEAVE YOUR COLORED EGG ON THE BAG AND LET IT DRY COMPLETELY, OR YOU CAN PICK IT UP WITH A NAPKIN AND



DAB IT DRY. WE DRIED OURS OFF WITH NAPKINS SO WE DIDN'T HAVE TO WAIT. THE NAPKIN DOES ABSORB A LITTLE OF THE COLOR, BUT PLENTY OF COLOR WILL REMAIN ON THE EGGS.

YOU CAN EXPERIMENT WITH DIFFERENT COLOR COMBINATIONS TO GET DIFFERENT EFFECTS ON YOUR EGGS. JUST REMEMBER THE COLORS ARE GOING TO MIX, SO STICK TO COLORS THAT WILL LOOK GOOD TOGETHER, LIKE

PINK-PURPLE-BLUE, OR RED-ORANGE-YELLOW.



JUST TWO COLORS TOGETHER WORKS NICELY, AS WELL. THE PRETTY TURQUOISE EGG IN THE PHOTO ABOVE CAME FROM USING BLUE AND GREEN MARKERS. JUST BE SURE TO AVOID ANY COLOR COMBINATIONS THAT WILL TURN BROWN ONCE THEY ARE MIXED (LIKE GREEN + RED).

**CLICK ON THE RED ARROW TO WATCH IT BEING DONE**

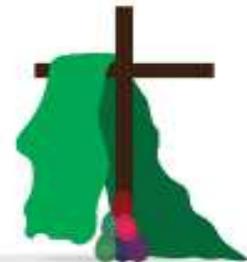
# Easter Word Search

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

APOSTLES  
 CROWN  
 LAMB  
 PRAYER  
 RESURRECTION  
 SON

CHURCH  
 FAITH  
 MARY  
 REDEMPTION  
 RISEN  
 SUNDAY

CROSS  
 JESUS  
 MIRACLE  
 REJOICE  
 SAVIOR  
 TOMB



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Thanks to Ben Gallagher (See John 20:1-18) 04-01-2002

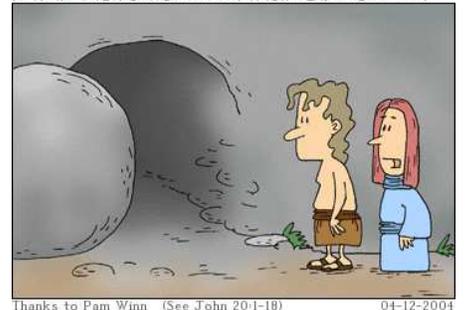
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Thanks to Zachary J. Schertz 04-06-2007

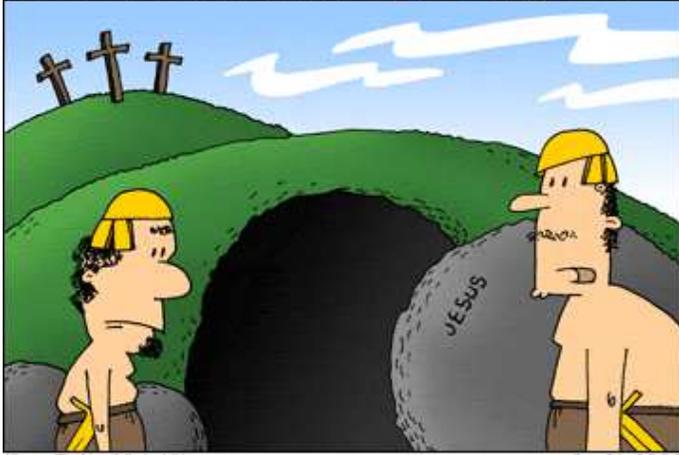
... HE DESCENDED INTO HELL ... AND REALLY FREAKED OUT THE LOCALS

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Thanks to Pam Winn (See John 20:1-18) 04-12-2004

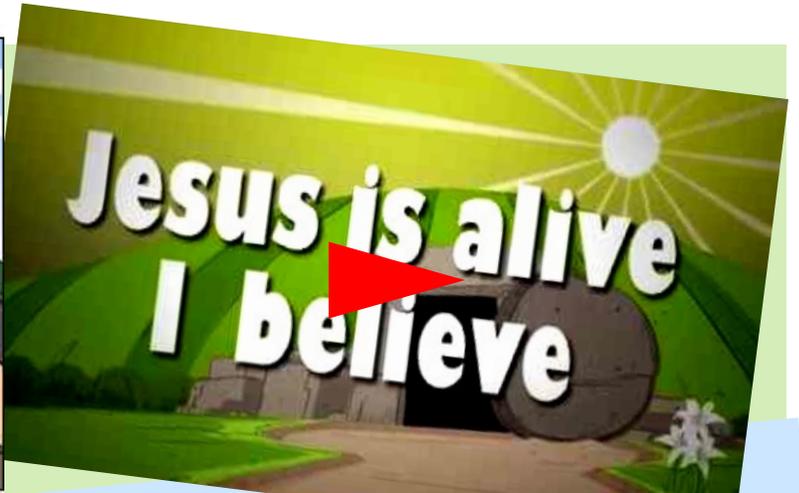
NOTHING IS CERTAIN EXCEPT WHAT AND TAXES???



(See John 20:1-18)

04-21-2003

BETCHA TEN SHEKELS THOSE CHRISTIANS HAVE FIFTY NEW SONGS BY THIS WEEKEND



04-11-2011

HOW CAN YOU NOT BELIEVE IN JESUS?!? HE IS STANDING ... RIGHT ... HERE!



(See John 20:1-18)

03-29-2002

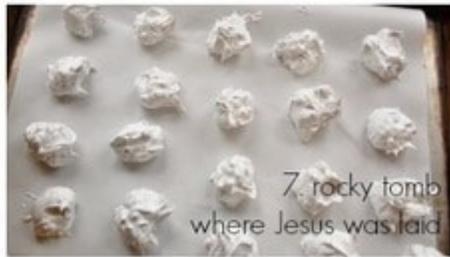
I WANT YOU TO FOLD UP MY BURIAL CLOTHES, WAIT FOR MARY, AND REMEMBER THAT THIS IS SERIOUS ... NO HIDING AND YELLING "BOO"



CLICK ON THE RED ARROWS AND SING ALONG!

# RESURRECTION cookies

yourhomebasedmom.com



**THE INGREDIENTS:** PECANS, EGG WHITES, WHITE VINEGAR, SUGAR AND A PINCH OF SALT. YOU CAN CHOOSE TO USE HALF NUTS AND HALF CHOCOLATE CHIPS IN YOUR COOKIES. PREHEAT OVEN TO 300 DEGREES BEFORE YOU START.

## THE NIGHT BEFORE:

**STEP ONE:** BEATING THE NUTS WITH A WOODEN SPOON REPRESENTS THAT JESUS WAS ARRESTED AND BEATEN BY ROMAN SOLDIERS

**STEP TWO:** SMELL THE VINEGAR AND TALK ABOUT HOW JESUS WAS FORCED TO DRINK IT WHEN HE WAS THIRSTY ON THE CROSS. IT IS ADDED TO THE BOWL.

**STEP THREE:** EGG WHITES ARE ADDED. EGGS REPRESENT LIFE AND THAT BY GIVING HIS LIFE, JESUS GAVE US ETERNAL LIFE.

**STEP FOUR:** EACH PERSON PINCH A LITTLE SALT IN THEIR HAND AND TASTE IT. THE SALT REPRESENTS THE SALTY TEARS THAT WERE SHED BY JESUS' FOLLOWERS AND THE BITTERNESS OF OUR SIN. A PINCH OF SALT IS ADDED TO THE BOWL.

**STEP FIVE:** SUGAR WAS ADDED TO SHOW THAT THE SWEETEST PART OF THE STORY IS THAT JESUS DIED BECAUSE HE LOVES US.

**STEP SIX:** THE EGG WHITES ARE BEAT TO FORM PEAKS AND THE WHITE COLOR REPRESENTS THE PURITY IN GOD'S EYES OF THOSE WHOSE SINS HAVE BEEN CLEANSSED BY CHRIST.

**STEP SEVEN:** FOLD IN THE NUTS/ CHOCOLATE BITS AND DROP BY TEASPOONS ONTO PARCHMENT PAPER COVERED COOKIE SHEET. EACH MOUND REPRESENTS THE ROCKY TOMB WHERE JESUS' BODY WAS PLACED.

**STEP EIGHT:** PLACE COOKIE SHEET IN OVEN. USE MASKING TAPE TO SEAL THE OVEN JUST AS THE TOMB WAS SEALED. THIS IS PURELY SYMBOLIC AND THE COOKIES WILL BAKE FINE WITHOUT THE TAPE. THE OVEN IS IMMEDIATELY TURNED OFF WHEN THE COOKIES ARE PLACED INSIDE (300 DEGREES) *CONTINUED NEXT PAGE...*



THE NEXT STEP IS TO GO TO BED AND THEN ON EASTER MORNING OPEN THE OVEN AND GIVE EVERYONE A COOKIE. AS THEY TAKE A BITE THEY WILL DISCOVER THAT THE COOKIES ARE HOLLOW. JUST AS ON THE FIRST EASTER MORNING JESUS' FOLLOWERS DISCOVERED THE EMPTY TOMB.

BibleWise

## *Jesus is Alive Maze*

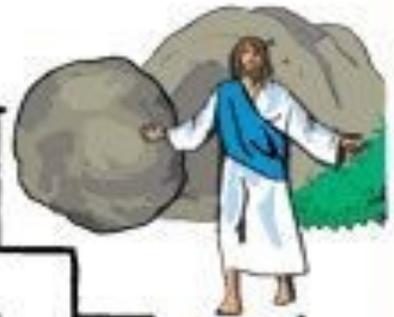
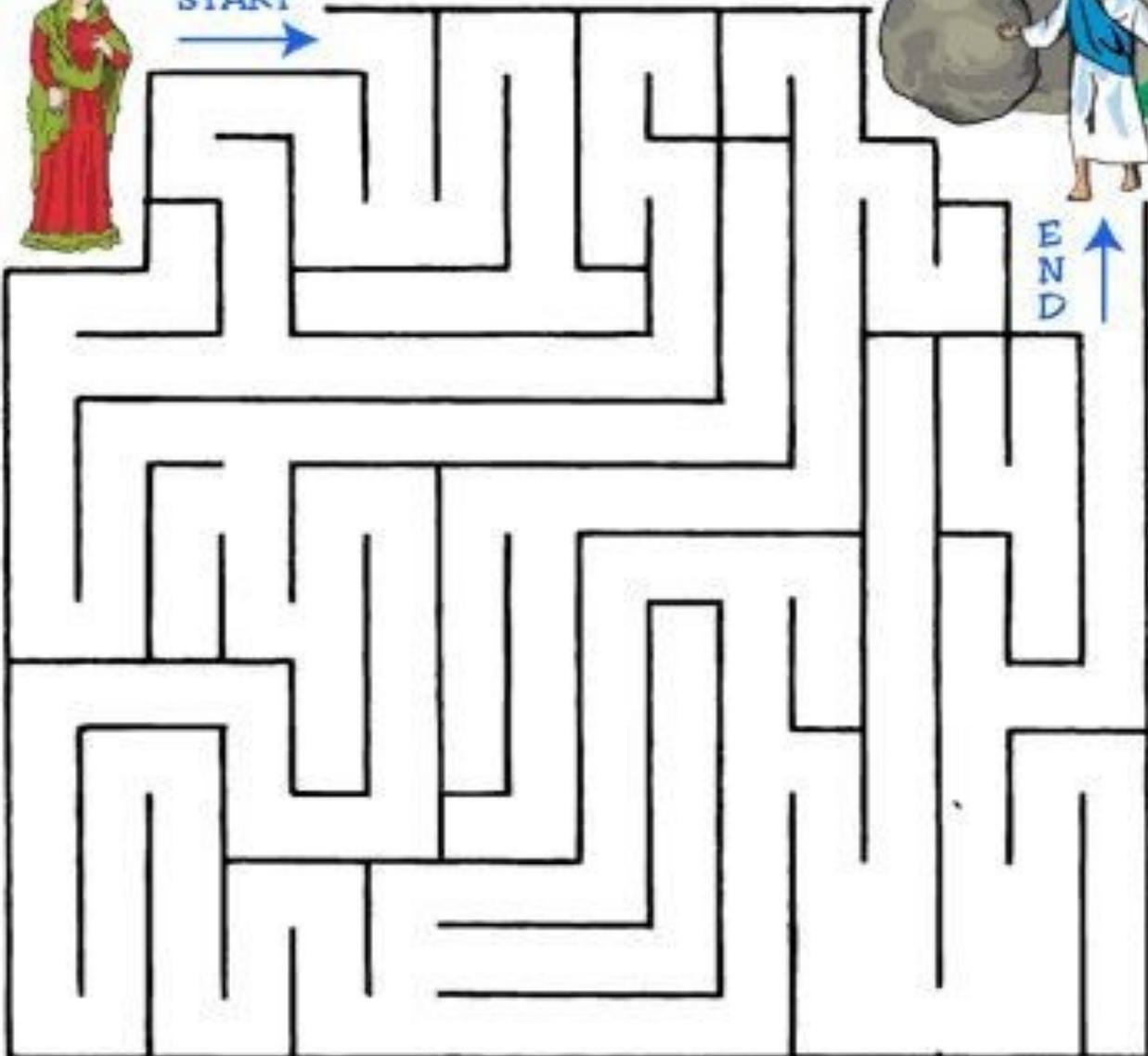
Early Easter morning, Mary Magdalene visited Jesus' tomb. The stone had been rolled away, and Jesus was not in the tomb. She was very sad because she thought someone had taken Jesus' body.

Then Mary saw a man she thought was the gardener. She was so happy to see the man was Jesus! She ran to tell the disciples Jesus was alive.

Help Mary find her way to Jesus tomb.



START  
→



END  
↑

# Pipe Cleaner BUTTERFLY RINGS

onelittleproject.com

## MATERIALS:

- 2 PIPE CLEANERS – 12 INCH LENGTH
- 1 PIPE CLEANER – 6 INCH LENGTH
- SCISSORS

1-TAKE THE TWO LONGER PIPE CLEANERS AND LINE UP THE ENDS. THEN TWIST THEM IN THE MIDDLE ABOUT 4 OR 5 TIMES.

2-PLACE THE MIDDLE OF THE PIPE CLEANERS UNDER ONE OF YOUR FINGERS, MAKING SURE THE LENGTH OF PIPE CLEANERS ON BOTH SIDES IS EQUAL. THEN TWIST THE PIPE CLEANERS AROUND THEMSELVES A COUPLE OF TIMES. I FIND IT HELPFUL TO TAKE THE RING OFF YOUR FINGER BEFORE YOU TWIST IT. SOMETIMES WHEN YOU TWIST THE PIPE CLEANERS, IT MAKES YOUR RING SMALLER BY ACCIDENT. SO IF THE RING ENDS UP BEING TOO SMALL, UNTWIST IT AND TRY TWISTING IT AGAIN UNTIL THE RING FITS NICELY ON YOUR FINGER.

3-TAKE THE 4 PIPE CLEANER ENDS AND SPREAD THEM OUT THEM EVENLY. DECIDE WHICH WINGS YOU WANT ON THE TOP, AND WHICH WINGS YOU WANT ON THE BOTTOM. WHICHEVER COLOR YOU DECIDE YOU WANT ON THE BOTTOM, SNIP OFF A LITTLE LESS THAN 1 INCH FROM THE ENDS OF THOSE PIPE CLEANERS. WE'RE TRIMMING THEM BECAUSE WE WANT THE BUTTERFLY'S BOTTOM WINGS TO BE JUST A LITTLE BIT SMALLER THAN THE TOP WINGS.

4-PINCH THE END OF THE PIPE CLEANER AND ROLL IT INTO A TIGHT SPIRAL, TOWARDS THE MIDDLE. REPEAT FOR THE OTHER 3 ENDS OF THE PIPE CLEANERS. PINCH EACH END OF THE PIPE CLEANER AND ROLL IT INTO A TIGHT SPIRAL, TOWARDS THE MIDDLE. FOR THE TOP WINGS, MAKE SURE YOU ROLL THE SPIRAL DOWN TOWARDS THE BOTTOM WINGS. AND FOR THE BOTTOM WINGS, MAKE SURE YOU ROLL THE SPIRAL UP TOWARDS THE TOP WINGS.

5-MAKE SURE THE BOTTOM WINGS ARE TUCKED BEHIND THE TOP WINGS. THEN PINCH THE WINGS TO BEND THEM INTO A WING SHAPE. TAKE THE SMALLER BLACK PIPE CLEANER AND PLACE IT BEHIND THE BUTTERFLY. TUCK IT IN BEHIND THE WINGS, RIGHT WHERE THE BODY OF THE BUTTERFLY WOULD BE.

6-WRAP THE BOTTOM OF THE BLACK PIPE CLEANER UP AND AROUND THE BUTTERFLY TO MAKE ITS BODY. THEN TWIST 2 OR 3 TIMES RIGHT ABOVE THE TOP WINGS TO HOLD IT TOGETHER. TRIM THE ANTENNA IF NEEDED TO MAKE THEM EVEN. FINALLY, PINCH THE END OF EACH BLACK PIPE CLEANER, AND CURL IT DOWN INTO A LOOSE SPIRAL TO MAKE THE ANTENNAE.

7-MAKE SURE THE BOTTOM OF THE BLACK PIPE CLEANER IS WRAPPED AROUND THE BUTTERFLY TO MAKE ITS BODY. THEN TWIST 2 OR 3 TIMES RIGHT ABOVE THE TOP WINGS TO HOLD IT TOGETHER. TRIM THE ANTENNA IF NEEDED TO MAKE THEM EVEN. FINALLY, PINCH THE END OF EACH BLACK PIPE CLEANER, AND CURL IT DOWN INTO A LOOSE SPIRAL TO MAKE THE ANTENNAE.

CLICK ON THE ARROW TO THE RIGHT TO VIEW A "HOW TO" FILM



# CHALLENGE



## MINUTE TO WIN IT

### Easter - Style



### WHAT:

A MINUTE-2-WIN-IT EASTER CHALLENGE

PLAY THE EASTER MINUTE-2-WIN-IT GAMES IN FAMILY TEAMS

### WHO:

MESSY CHURCH KIDS, YOUTH AND PARENTS

### WHEN:

SATURDAY, APRIL 18 BEGINNING AT 4:00 P.M.

### WHERE:

THROUGH YOUR COMPUTER OR IPHONE-ON ZOOM

GATHER YOUR TEAM AND ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE! SIGN UP BY CLICKING THE ZOOM BUTTON ABOVE. A ZOOM INVITATION WITH A LINK TO THE GATHERING WILL BE SENT TO YOUR INBOX. ON THE DAY OF THE CHALLENGE CLICK ON THE LINK TO JOIN THE GAME.

### SUPPLIES YOU WILL NEED TO COLLECT FOR THE GAMES:

PLASTIC EGGS (AT LEAST 2 DOZEN)

LARGE MARSHMALLOWS

BLINDFOLD

BASKET OR BUCKET

WOODEN YARD STICK



BIRD PEEPS + BUNNY PEEPS

JELLY BEANS

STRAWES + SPOONS

BOWL + PLATES

CANDY COATED MINI EGGS

