

# Easter



## Activities for ages 5-12

## Palm Sunday

### 1. Triumphant entry collage

Make a collage showing the triumphant entry. Draw the road leading to Jerusalem. Glue colourful pieces of fabric along the road to represent coats, and pieces of fern to represent palm branches. The people can be made from pre-cut fabric shapes and spot stickers for the heads. Cut out the donkey from brown paper.



## 2. Using prints.

You will need:

- Plastic containers, lids off and sponges to cover bottom of the containers. These will be a kind of stamp pad.
- Apply a blob of paint to the stamp pad. (The sponge should be slightly wet.) Use a different colour for each container. Objects can now be pressed into the 'stamp pad' and stamped on to paper.
- Collect small off-cuts of wood (rough block shapes). Use the flat surfaces for block prints. Use the thin corner edges for straight lines.
- Use the sides of match boxes as stamps for making palm tree trunks.
- Use small bottle caps as stamps for the heads of people.
- Find pieces of fern and use them as stamps for the palm branches. These print best by applying paint to one side, place fern in position on paper. Cover with paper towel and apply pressure.



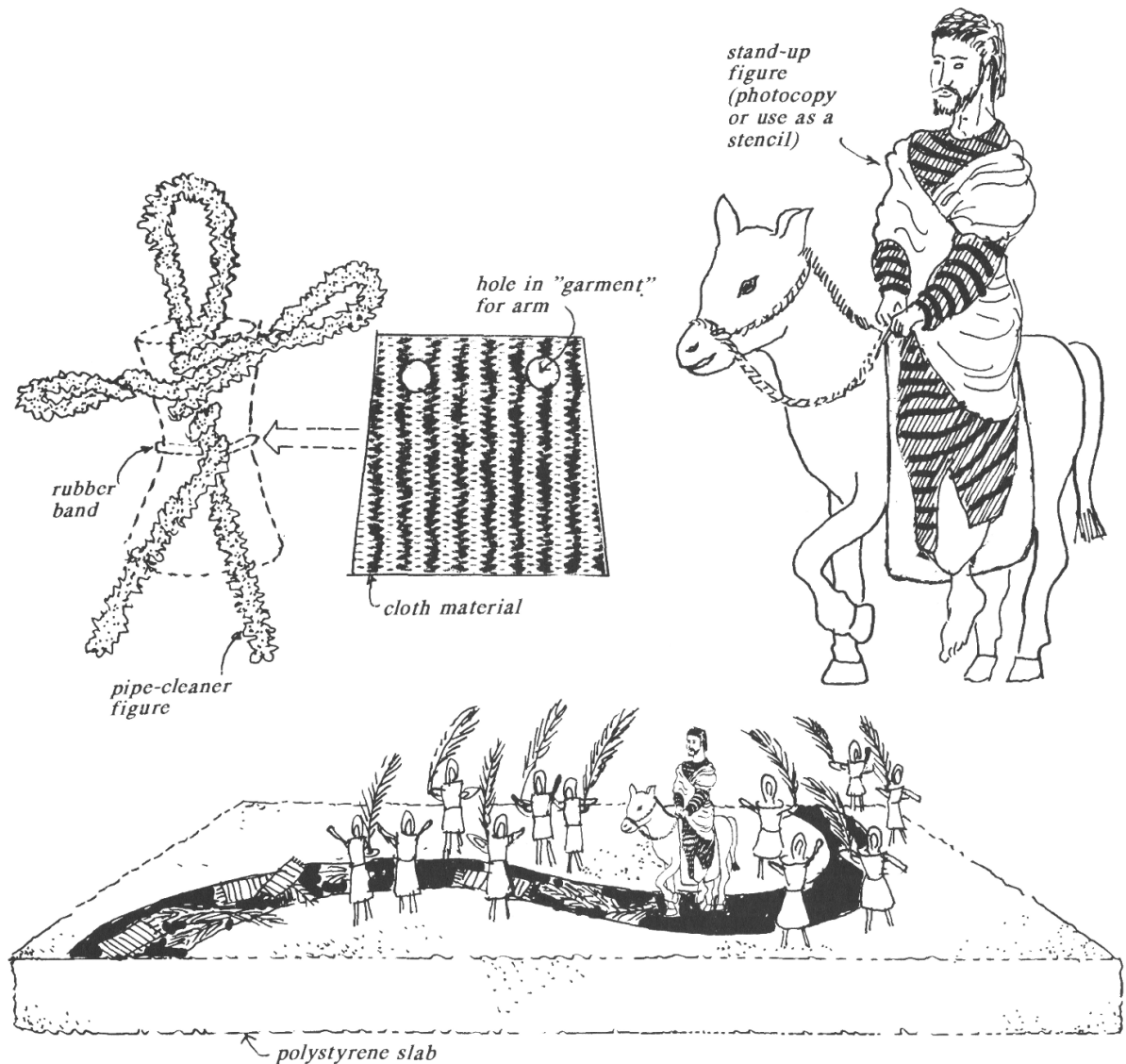
### 3. Hosanna tube puppets

Puppets can be made from cardboard tubes as shown. Draw faces on the tubes. Attach pieces of fleece or cotton wool for hair. Dress the tubes with fabric. To make arms, push a long pipe cleaner through prepared holes. (An adult will need to cut the holes with a Stanley knife.) Place a small piece of fern in one hand to represent a palm branch.



#### 4. 3D model: The road to Jerusalem

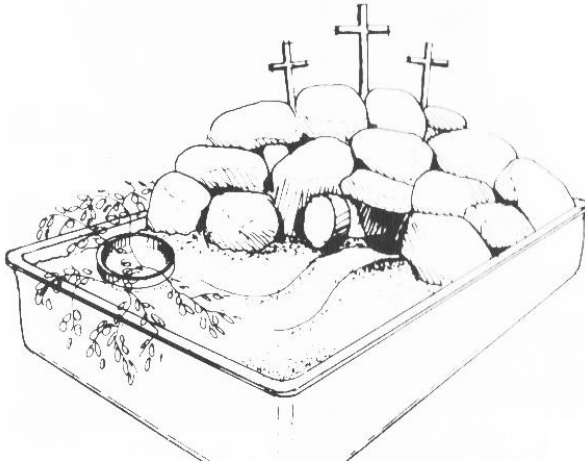
- Find a very large piece of strong cardboard or large polystyrene slab, e.g. the base of a fruit box). Use this as a base for the model.
- Use small cardboard boxes to make the city of Jerusalem.
- Draw or paint the road to the city and along it, show the procession of figures. Include some palm trees and palm branches in the model.
- Make people from pipe cleaners and stick them into the base so that they stand up.
- Make them stand along the road in a crowd scene. Place little pieces of fern or branch in their hands. Pieces of fabric can be placed along the road to represent coats.
- Make a cut-out of Jesus riding a donkey. Make it stand up on the base.



## The death and resurrection of Jesus

### 1. Easter garden

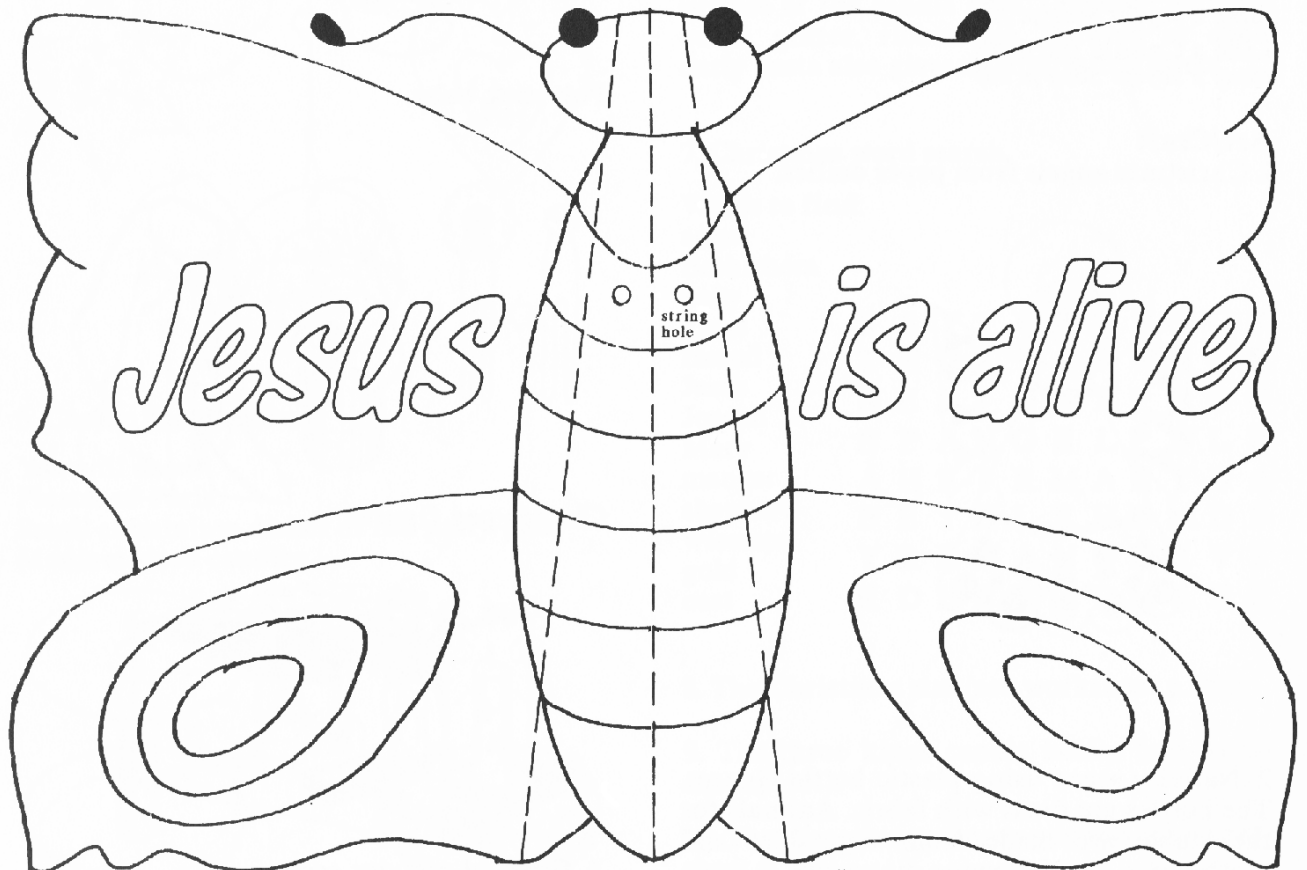
Make an Easter garden using a sand tray.



### 2. Easter banners

Children can add colourful lettering, e.g. Jesus is alive; He is risen. Decorate with flowers and butterflies. (Butterflies are a symbol of the resurrection.)

Or make a banner showing the empty tomb.



Fold on dotted lines to form stiffening rib.





### 3. Illustrated sequence of events

Make a large illustrated wall display showing the events leading up to Jesus' death, including the triumphal entry, washing the disciples' feet, last supper, praying in the Garden of Gethsemane, through to the resurrection.

### 4. The empty tomb

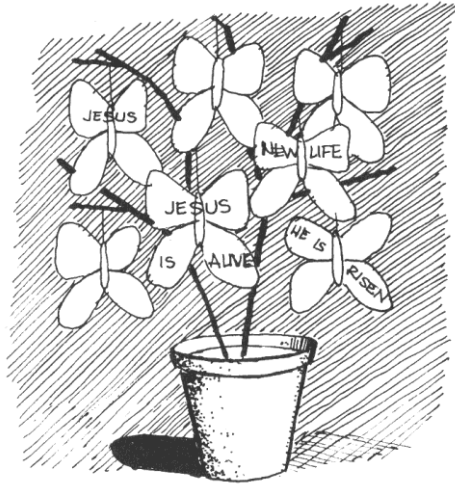
Tell what happened to the women who came to the tomb. Use words and pictures. Include speech bubbles.

### 5. Balloons

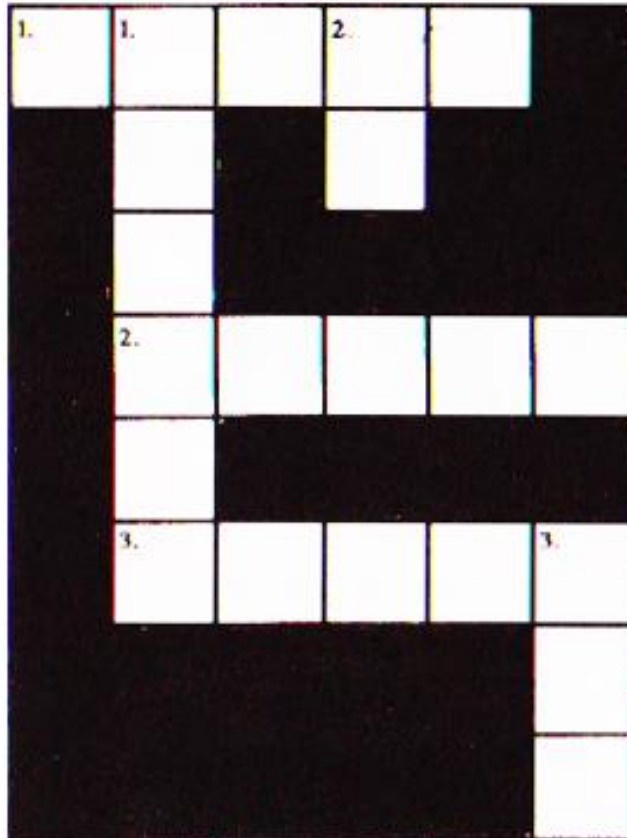
Write some Easter messages on colourful balloons.

### 6. Butterfly plant

- a. Butterflies are a symbol of new life. Collect some small twigs with branch-like shapes. Buy some small flower pots or disposable cups.
- b. Mix some Plaster of Paris with water and pour it into the cup/flower pot. You can mix sand with the Plaster of Paris for extra stability.
- c. Make a circular lid with holes in it. The lid should be large enough to fit just inside the cup/flower pot.
- d. Temporarily place your lid on your cup, while the Plaster of Paris is setting. It should fit just below the surface.
- e. Place twigs through the holes of the lid, so that they reach down into the wet Plaster of Paris. Another method of keeping the twigs in place while the plaster is drying is to make a lattice of pop-sticks across the top of the cup.
- f. When the plaster is dry, cut away the cardboard lid. Cut out some colourful cardboard butterflies. Write Easter messages on them if you wish. Tie the butterflies to the twigs with cotton.



## 7. Easter crossword



### ACROSS

1. God's Son
2. Jesus came alive on the \_\_\_\_\_ day.
3. He is \_\_\_\_\_ .

### DOWN

1. The time when we celebrate Jesus death and resurrection
2. Jesus dies for \_\_\_\_\_ .
3. Through His death Jesus could give \_\_\_\_\_ life.

### ANSWERS

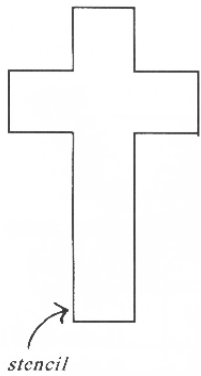
Across: Jesus, third, risen

Down: Easter, us, new



## 8. God's love for the whole world

- At Easter we remember God's love for the whole world. Write out the Bible verse John 3:16.
- Colour the map of the world.
- Cut out a cross from thick paper.
- Cut along the dotted lines in the centre of the map and place the cross through the slots.



## 8. What did they say?

Make a large mural and draw the following. Add a LARGE speech bubble to each to show what they are saying:

### ***On Friday***

- a) The crowd said, “..... Him.”
- b) Pilate said, “I have not found Him ..... of anything!”
- c) Jesus said, “Father ..... them!”
- d) The thief said, “Jesus, please ..... me when you come as King.”

### ***On Sunday:***

- e) The woman said, “..... is the body?”
- f) The angel said, “He is .....”

## 9. Retell the Easter story

Read the story from Luke 22-24

Try to fill in the missing parts of the Easter story in your own words. You can make it into a book and illustrate each scene.

### **Scene 1: The Plot**

It was the time of the year for the special Passover feast, The Pharisees were afraid because so many people were .....

They made a plot to kill Jesus. Judas promised he would help them by .....

### **Scene 2: The Last Supper**

Jesus and the disciples were getting ready for the Passover feast. The disciples didn't know where they could hold the feast but Jesus had a place already chosen. It was an upstairs room. Peter and John found the place and got the feast ready. Then Jesus sat down with the disciples and told them the sad news that.....

They shared the wine and the bread together for the last time. Then all the disciples were surprised by Jesus' words:

"One of you .....

Then Judas left the room to do the thing he had promised to do.

### **Scene 3: Praying in the garden**

Jesus and the disciples went to a garden at night to pray. Jesus was deeply troubled while praying because .....

The disciples were so sad that they .....

While Jesus was speaking to the disciples, Judas and the priests crept up.

Jesus was .....

### **Scene 4: On trial**

The men who arrested Jesus made fun of Him. They took Him to Pilate who asked, ".....

(Luke 23:3)

Jesus said that this was true. Pilate sent Jesus to Herod who dressed Him in .....

(Luke 23:11)

Herod sent Jesus back to Pilate, but Pilate did not find .....

(Luke 23:14)

So Pilate asked the crowd what he should do with Jesus. The crowd cried,

"..... (Luke 23:21)

### **Scene 5: The Crucifixion**

A great crowd followed Jesus as He carries His cross up the hill. Simon helped Him. When they reached Calvary, Jesus was crucified. Two ..... were crucified alongside Jesus.

Jesus said, .....(Luke 23:34)

A sign was put above His head which read, "..... (Luke 23:50-56)

**Scene 6: The Burial**

A good man named Joseph ..... (Luke 23:50-56)

**Scene 7: The Resurrection**

On Sunday, very early in the morning, some women came into the tomb to ..... (Luke 24:1)

They found..... (Luke 24:2)

They saw ..... (Luke 24:4)

The angel said ..... (Luke 24:5-7)

They told ..... (Luke 24:9)