

## KS2 Unit 4, Lesson 9: Holy week and Easter.

### LEARNING OUTCOME:

- Children will understand the importance of Easter as a Christian festival
- Children will recap the biblical accounts of Jesus' death and resurrection and know the order of events: Children will have learned this in Key Stage 1, and part of the purpose of this lesson is to ensure that their recall of these facts is secure, before going on to further learning about Easter.
- Children will know the structure of 'Holy Week' and how different parts of the Easter story are celebrated by Christians at different points in the week.

**Essential Core:** Recall the story of Jesus death on the cross. Understand that Christians believe that because Jesus died they can be forgiven by God.

**Previously:** Pupils will have learned about the events of the last eight days of Jesus' life, know that these stories are from the Bible and be able to order them.

**Vocabulary:** Holy week, Palm Sunday, triumphal entry, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday

### INTRODUCTION:

Ask children to think about the question: Will you be celebrating Easter? If so how? How do you think Christians celebrate Easter? Allow time to think, then share in pairs (if they want to, they can keep their question private if they prefer), then share with class if they would like to. Allow time for discussion of the fact that not everyone celebrates Easter - there may be children in the class who don't, and that Easter, although a Christian festival, is celebrated by many who wouldn't call themselves Christians. If there are Christian children within the class, they might like to share how their family celebrates Easter. You will find a helpful printable resource and summary of the Easter story on this page of RE:quest: <http://request.org.uk/restart/2016/03/14/holy-week-and-easter>

### ACTIVITY:

Explain that you are going to recap the events surrounding the last 8 days of Jesus' life, and give pairs of children the picture resource, cut up into tiles. Can they identify what is happening in each picture, and order the pictures? They could be stuck in order down one side of an A3 piece of paper. Early finishers could find a bible verse to go next to each picture. Go through the order with the class, to ensure that everyone has understood the pictures and ordered them correctly.

### RESEARCH:

Explain that you are going to find out about how Christians remember these events in the week leading up to Easter Sunday which is called 'Holy Week'.

Give pairs or groups of children a day to research: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Sunday. Give them fact sheets, objects, laptops and web addresses, and objects associated with that day (e.g. palm crosses, communion cups etc.) and ask them to research how Christians celebrate that part of Holy week, and how it relates to the pictures that they ordered earlier.

### PLENARY:

Take a 'walk through holy week' - Each pair or group of children presents to the class what they have found out about the day they researched.

Children can add to their ordered pictures, the names of the days when those events are remembered, and some details about how Christians remember or celebrate them, using the researchers as 'experts' to help them complete their work.