

Unit Question 1.10	Religion(s) Covered
Why does Easter Matter To Christians? (Salvation)	Christianity

Year Group: 2

Suggested Hours: 6

Key Vocabulary	RE Skills	Points to Note
New Life Last Supper Palm Sunday Crucifixion Good Friday Resurrection Easter Sunday Holy Week Life Cycle	Talk about what Christians do at Easter. Make links between the Easter story and Christian practise Describe what is important	The Miracle Maker is a brilliant resource to show the events of Holy Week. These activities are from 'Understanding Christianity' published by RE Today and used by permission

Key Question 1: In what way is Easter about New Life?	Go on a walk looking for signs of Spring. Look out for blossom, buds, new leaves appearing on trees etc. Talk about how these are all signs of new life. Have an incubator in the classroom and see baby chicks/ducks hatching. Talk about the seasons and the life cycles of plants and animals. Keep a class New Life book of examples spotted. Ask the children what they know about Easter and if they can think what it might have to do with new life.
Key Question 2: What's so important about Palm Sunday?	Ask the children to work with a partner to plan a visit to Oldham by the Queen. What would the Queen eat, where would she be taken in Oldham, how would they decorate the streets etc? Discuss why there is a lot of preparation for the visit of important people. Read the story of Jesus arriving in Jerusalem from the Storytellers Bible. Hot seat someone from the crowd to talk about why Jesus is so special and his arrival so important. Make comparisons between the crowds in Oldham if the Queen came and when Jesus arrived in Jerusalem.
Key Question 3: What's so special about The Last Supper?	Share the story of this last meal of Jesus with his friends. Highlight the washing of feet and talk about why Jesus did it for his friends before the meal. Have some pitta bread and grapes and think about the words that Jesus said as he shared the food and wine. Discuss how his friends would have felt when they heard that this was the last time they would see Jesus. How would the children have felt if they were at that meal?
Key Question 4: What's so good about Good Friday?	Share the story of the events of Good Friday. Ask the children why they think that such a sad day might be called Good Friday. Think about the two men who were crucified with Jesus – one laughed at Jesus and one said sorry. What did Jesus say to him and where did he promise they would go? What is good about this promise? Talk sensitively about their experience of loss. Share some hot cross buns and talk about why the symbol of the cross is so important to Christians and why it is a symbol of new life and a promise of hope.
Key Question 5: What's so amazing about Easter Sunday?	Listen to the final part of the Easter story/watch The Miracle Maker Resurrection scene. What is so amazing about Jesus coming back to life (Resurrection) and why is it so important for Christians? In what way is Easter a new beginning? Create an Easter Garden showing each part of the Easter Story. Plant some seeds to signify new life. What else might they include in their garden to show that Easter is all about New Life?
Unit Assessment: What's so important about Easter?	Have a tray of items linked to Easter and the Easter story – hot cross buns, chocolate eggs, bunnies, a cross, etc. Play Kim's Game https://www.wikihow.com/Play-Kims-Game – how many items can they remember? Ask the children to think about each item on the tray and to say if they could still have Easter without it? Which item/items could we not do without and why? What is the most important thing about Easter?