



Easter at home

Excitement: Jesus enters Jerusalem

Session plan

Please use this session in the most helpful way for you. You can make it an afternoon together or a 5-10 minute reflection before bed or whatever works for you. Do it all in one go or little bits over time. You can choose one response you most want to do or do a few over the week.

The choice is yours, so use it to add to your Lent and Easter time together for enjoyment not as an added burden!

We have provided:

1. Introduction
2. Story
3. Thought
4. Questions
5. Response ideas
 - Song
 - Playdough
 - Craft
 - Baking
 - Outside
6. Prayer



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Introduction

We often start the Easter story when Jesus headed into Jerusalem for the last time. He came as a King but instead of coming with a lots of servants and expensive clothes, he came on a simple donkey. He may not have looked like a king but people knew that he was.

Story

The story is from a book of the Bible called Luke (19:30-40)

- [Click to read](#)
- [Click to watch](#)

In the story you will hear the word 'colt'. This another name for a young donkey. How many times do you hear it?

Thought

As more people realised Jesus was coming or heard the excitement of other people, they came out to welcome him and celebrate! Some knew how important Jesus was, they might have heard him talking or seen one of his miracles. Others might not have realised who Jesus was but they knew he was special and didn't want to miss out.

We can celebrate and get excited too. God has given us many wonderful things, people and times that we can look forward to, we can be excited to see and surprised when we get excited by something new. Even today we can get excited about Jesus as we hear more about his story and the amazing things he did for everyone.



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Questions

Take a moment to pause and think about these questions. You might talk about them sat on the sofa, while doing one of the response ideas or over lunch. Make sure everyone has the chance to share their thoughts and remember there are no wrong answers.

- What do you get excited about?
- What do you do when you are excited?
- Would you have recognised Jesus the king?
- How would you welcome Jesus?

Response ideas

There are five ideas of how you might respond as a family. If you are doing the whole series you may follow the same type of response or different ones. You can just choose one or a couple.

Do have a look in advance at what you might need, but be creative and use what you have.

Song

Click for [King of Me](#) by Rend co. kids.

Playdough: Happy faces

Using something tactile can be a great way of thinking and talking about the story. Use your playdough to create happy faces.

If you have a printer, you might like to print out this playdough mat to create your own scene of today's story.

[Click here](#) to download the playdough mat.



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Craft: Party hats

You will need:

- A4 paper or thin card
- Tape/stapler
- String
- Pens/paint to decorate
- Plate
- Scissors



Step 1. Take your sheet of card or thick paper and place the plate on top so the curved edge makes a semicircle on your paper. Draw around the plate. (You can also google 'Cone Party Hat Template' if you'd prefer to print one or copy a shape!)

Step 2. Cut along the line you've drawn. This should give you a semicircle.

Step 3. Bring the two corners of the semicircle together. This should give you a nice cone shape. Hold one edge under the other and move it around until you are happy your cone shape. Draw a line down along the straight edge to show you where you will be securing your hat together. This will show you where to decorate up to!

Step 4. It's decoration time! Using your felt tips, add the word 'HOSANNA' to your hat. (Don't forget which way up your hat will sit!) Using your green paint, make some thumb prints on your hat. These will become your palm leaves! When your thumb prints are dry, you can add an outline in black pen if you would like to. Add any other decorations you like!

Step 5. When your hat is dry, bend your hat so that the straight line meets up with the pencil line you drew in step 3. Secure the hat with sticky tape.

Step 6. If you are using ribbon or string, you will need two 45cm pieces. Attach one end of the ribbon or string to your hat, roughly where your ears will sit. Then pop your hat on your head and tie under your chin!



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Baking: Fruity palm trees

Ingredients:

- Banana
- Kiwi/green apple
- Cereal (e.g. rice krispies, branflakes)

You will also need:

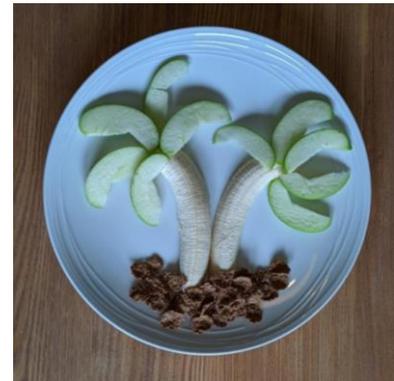
- Chopping board
- Knife
- Plate

Step 1. Cut the banana length ways to make the tree trunk.

Step 2. Cut the green fruit into wedges for palm leaves.

Step 3. Lay it out to look like a palm tree on your plate.

Step 4. Sprinkle the cereal to make the sand.



Outside: Look closer.

Winter can sometimes look dull and dreary and not exciting at all...unless we look closely. Go for a walk looking for things that are exciting, beautiful or different. You might take photos or even cut out a shape from cardboard to make a frame for the things you see.



Prayer

King Jesus, Thank you for giving us things to be excited about. Help us to notice the fun and lovely things that we can celebrate.

Is there anything else you want to tell God or ask him for?

Amen.