



Easter: Religious Education Support Materials

These materials support the religious education enquiry process advocated in the local agreed syllabi in Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. The following activities are suggestions that may be used to support a learning enquiry based on Easter, particularly the concept of the resurrection and new starts as a lead into the GenR8 presentation or as follow up.

Engaging and Enquiring		
Focus	Suggested questions to challenge and inspire	Suggested activities to deepen understanding
New starts	<p>When have you made a new start? Can you think of times when you began something again or for the first time?</p>	<p>Talk about different occasions when people might make a new start e.g. starting a new school or club, moving house Talk about starting something again e.g. beginning a new piece of work, reading a book again or for the first time... Talk about feelings associated with these occasions- both positive and negative.</p>
Making mistakes	<p>How do we feel when we make mistakes?</p> <p>What happened when Peter denied Jesus three times?</p>	<p>Link back to the sketch with the puppets. Why did one of the puppets want to go to Timbuktu? Ask the children to think about a time they felt like this.</p> <p>Then read the story of Peter's betrayal e.g. Luke 22 v 54-62 (you may need to give some background if the children are unfamiliar with the role of Peter) and compare how Peter may have felt with the puppet in the sketch.</p> <p>This is a good clip focusing on Peter's denial: http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zwb9jxs (Key Stage 2)</p>
The Easter Story	<p>What do Christians remember at Easter? What happens in the Easter story? What can we learn about Jesus from the Easter story? What can we learn about the Christian idea of God? What does the Easter story tell us about forgiveness?</p>	<p>Read the story! Make sure you read the Easter story with the children, ideally from a Bible.</p> <p>You might use a reflective storytelling approach or Godly Play to introduce the story. There are also some very good videos available, for example: http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/stories/lets-celebrate-easterperformance This is a wonderful sand art version for young children.</p>

Engage

Explore

Express

Exploring

Focus	Suggested questions to challenge and inspire	Suggested activities to deepen understanding
Concept of forgiveness (1)	<p>What do Christians believe about forgiveness?</p> <p>Why do Christians call it 'Good Friday'?</p>	<p>Explore the meaning behind the cross for Christians. The idea of Jesus' death being the 'price paid' for sin and providing forgiveness for all.</p> <p>See the following: http://request.org.uk/restart/2015/11/24/the-cross/ (Key Stage 2) http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zqr87ty About the meaning of Good Friday (Key Stage 2)</p>
Concept of forgiveness (2)	<p>What did Jesus teach about forgiveness?</p> <p>How many times should you forgive someone?</p> <p>Should we forgive everyone?</p>	<p>Use other bible stories about forgiveness to deepen the children's understanding of the concept. For example you might use: the Parable of the Lost Sheep, the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant - Forgiving 70 x 7 (Luke 17 v 3-4), the Parable of the Prodigal Son. You might explore these stories through Godly Play, drama, textual analysis or through art.</p> <p>See http://request.org.uk/restart/2015/11/23/the-lost-son/</p>
Fresh starts	<p>What does it mean to 'wipe a slate clean'?</p> <p>What do we learn about Peter and Jesus from the John chapter 21 narrative?</p>	<p>Explore the idea of 'wiping the slate clean' as referred to in the GenR8 sketch.</p> <p>Link to the narratives of Peter's betrayal Luke 22 v 54-62 and then John chapter 21 referred to in the GenR8 presentation. These accounts could be acted out or read together as a class.</p> <p>Children could create thought bubbles for Peter immediately after the denial, and then after Jesus restores him and gives him a special job.</p>
Song about God's love	<p>What does it mean for Christians to believe in a loving God?</p> <p>If Christians believe God is all loving, what questions might this raise about the world we live in?</p>	<p>Explore the words of the song 'How Broad, How long': Words and Music: John Hardwick © 1997 www.youtube.com/watch?v=7DKbePAXsKg www.youtube.com/watch?v=xqcJ2WdwdCc</p> <p>Discuss the meaning of the song for Christians. What does this tell Christians about God's love? What might Christians compare God's love to?</p> <p>In addition: The following clip focuses on how Christians believe the resurrection shows God's power of love is stronger than death. http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zwb9jxs</p>

Evaluating and Expressing

Focus	Suggested questions to challenge and inspire	Suggested activities to deepen understanding
Creating story cubes	What does the Easter narrative mean to Christians?	Link back to the poem story cube used in the GenR8 sketch. Ask children to write or draw a summary of the Easter narrative on the 6 sides of the cube. Inside they could write on slips of paper what they think the meaning of the Easter narrative is for Christians; e.g. about forgiveness, making fresh starts, redemption, salvation and so on.
Forgiveness in the news	<p>How do Christians put their beliefs into practice?</p> <p>What would Jesus do if he was on earth now?</p> <p>Would a Christian forgive this person?</p>	Use newspapers or online articles carefully selected and ask the children to say what a Christian might say or do about the issue e.g. would they forgive/give people a fresh start? How might a Christian respond? You might use local as well as national or global issues and create a class collage of ideas and thoughts based on Christian teachings.
Easter Poetry	<p>What does Easter mean to Christians?</p> <p>What difference does Easter make to Christians?</p>	<p>Ask the children to take the words 'Fresh Start' and create an acrostic poem about the meaning of Easter for Christians.</p> <p>Alternatively, children could be asked to create a different type of poem of their choice which reflects the meaning of Easter for Christians. They might also link this to how Christians celebrate the festival today.</p>