

Adventures with GOD!

THE RESURRECTION (B.1.SPRING.9)

Biblical Reference	Matthew 28:1-15
Key Verse	Matthew 28:6, John 11:25
Key Concept	Jesus lives! And because he lives I can live too, accepting his gift of forgiveness and salvation.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Celebrate the fact that Jesus rose from the grave, explaining that it was a miracle 2. Tell the order of how things happened in Jesus' last week on earth 3. Name the disciples that went to the tomb.

Life Application

Today is a celebration. The children are going to celebrate because the tomb is empty! Jesus defeated death and sin. This is something that was only possible because Jesus was and is God. And Jesus is alive today. We should celebrate because we too can live because of the gift Jesus gave so many years ago.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Decoration	balloons, streamers, banners, etc.	5 minutes
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure w/God materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Craft	Paper, crayons, scissors, glue	10 minutes
Bible Story	Bible, illustration	10 minutes
Party/celebration	Snack, songs, games	20 minutes
Craft	Scrolls, pens, markers	5 minutes
Craft	Various materials	15 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

Adventures with GOD!

INSTRUCTIONS

Decoration: Today is a day of celebration. Let's have a party. Decorate your space with balloons, streamers, banners, etc. We want to emphasize that when Jesus rose from the dead, he changed the history of the world and our personal history as well. Jesus suffered on the cross, yes; but he also rose from the dead and conquered death. He is alive. Last week we talked about Jesus' suffering. This week we will focus on the fact that Jesus is alive. Jesus is king, who because of his love for us won the victory over sin and death. Now we too can have eternal life with God. Jesus gives us freedom, life, hope. That is why we are going to celebrate. It would be great to have a cake or cupcakes and celebrate with a party. In a way it's like celebrating Jesus' birthday, because it's when he came to life again.

My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review: As children enter take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials on the Covchurch.org website in the same place as the Adventures with God sessions.

Opening Prayer: Gather children around a candle. Light the candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

Prayer Example: Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen

Craft: The symbol the children will make today is that of the empty tomb. The children can color while they wait for their classmates to arrive.

Bible Story: The disciple Andrew who will present the story today wasn't present at the place where the resurrection occurred. Still, his brother Peter was there and told him the story. Andrew heard from Peter all that he saw and felt. If Andrew could begin by saying, "I was sleeping. You have no idea how tired we were after all we lived through the past week. Even though it was morning I couldn't get up the energy to get out of bed. I had thought about going fishing, but decided not to. Then, suddenly I heard someone arrive at my house. Peter spoke for a while with the woman and then he left quickly. I had no idea where he went. It's too bad I wasn't ready to go or I would have gone with him. Where? To Jesus' tomb, of course. Peter told

Adventures with GOD!

me later what happened. Mary Magdalene had gone very early to the tomb. I think of all of us she was the one who was the saddest about Jesus' death..." Andrew can tell all of the details of the story. It's important that the person who plays this role knows the story of the resurrection well so they can tell it in their own words. End the story by putting the symbol of the empty tomb on the tree.

Party/celebration: When Andrew finishes the story, invite him to stay for the party. He can continue to talk with the children during the party, asking them what they think about the fact that Jesus rose from the dead. During the party you can sing songs about Jesus' love and resurrection. Serve a special snack. Continue to talk about the reason why you are celebrating – Jesus lives!

Craft: Add the following phrase to the scroll: "I am the resurrection and the life."

Craft: Choose your activity. In the lesson there are multiple activities to choose from. Choose one or two to offer the children. Make sure you have all of the materials that are needed. Each craft is very significant and will help the children to articulate to others what they've learned.

Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:

G: God's Word: What is the story? (give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story).

R: Relationships: Is there anything in today's bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others and give them a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead).

O: Outward Action: Is there anything in the bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week).

W: Worship: Is there anything in the bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? How would you like to respond to God? What would you like to say to God?

Adventures with GOD!

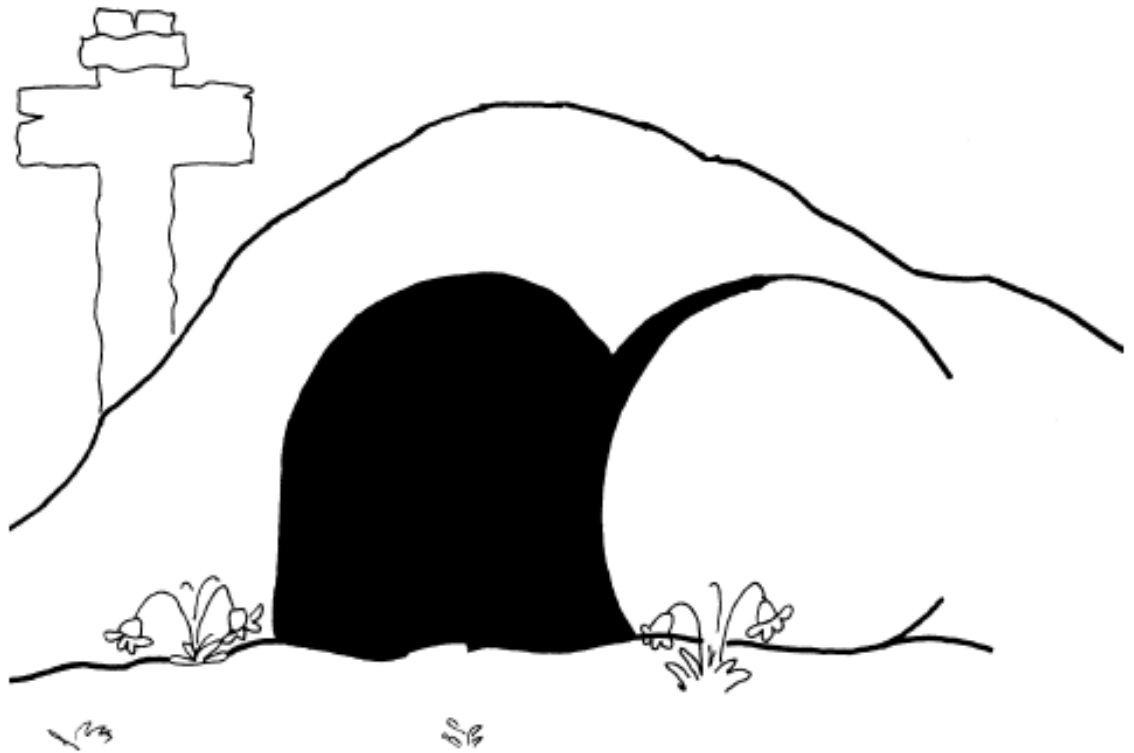
Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Today the children can give thanks to God for the guidance and directions that we have been given in the Bible, by our leaders and our parents. Before praying, reflect for a few minutes on the advantage that we have today to have the word of God which gives us direction. Remind them that we are all given the decision to choose the path that follows God. We each have to choose. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

Prayer Example: Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen

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SYMBOL

Empty tomb



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CRAFT

Jesus' resurrection

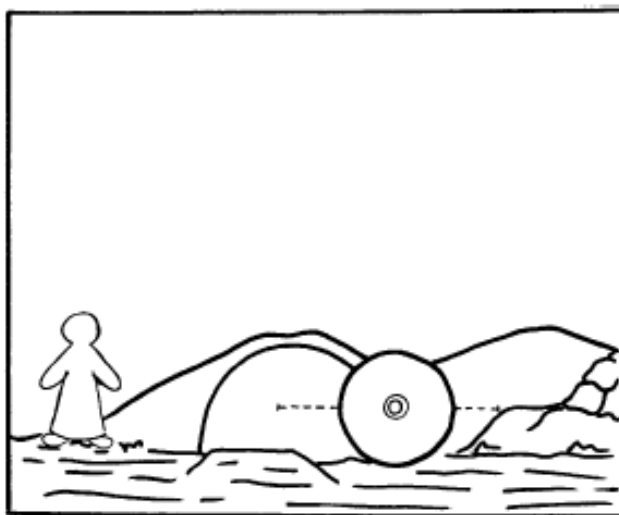
Each time we help the children to visualize the resurrection we are helping them to understand the power of God. You can make the following visual reminder before class.

Materials: poster board (20 x 30 cm), black paper (12 x 12 cm), colored paper (5 x 10 cm), metal round head fasteners, crayons

Instructions:

1. On the top part of the poster board write, "Jesus is alive!"
2. Draw an empty tomb in the center of the bottom portion of the poster board. The diameter should be about 10 cm. Around the tomb you can put some rocks, plants.
3. Make a cut (see illustration) in the right part of the tomb...approximately 7 cm long.
4. Make a rock out of black paper. Line the center of the rock up with the slit you made in the tomb. Stick the round head fastener through the middle of the rock and the slit in the tomb. Open up the prongs. This will allow the rock to roll back and forth along the slit.
5. With colored paper make a silhouette of a person – Jesus, and glue it to the left side of the tomb.

JESUS IS ALIVE!



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CRAFT

Empty tomb

When Jesus died, his body was placed in a tomb. The roman soldiers put a big, heavy rock in front of the tomb. Three days later Jesus came back to life. He rose from the dead and came out of the tomb. When his friends arrived at the tomb he wasn't there. Jesus wasn't dead any more.

Color the tomb where Jesus was, then make a rock out of paper and fasten it to the tomb with a round head fastener.



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CRAFT

Holy Week

Materials: One picture for each child, crayons, glue, colored paper, scissors

Instructions:

1. Color the picture below.
2. Cut out the circle.
3. Cut out another circle the same size out of colored paper. In the circle made out of colored paper, cut out a triangle that will act as a window so you only see one illustration at a time.
4. Fasten the colored circle (with the triangle window) to the circle with the illustrations. Use a round head fastener which will allow the circle on top to rotate.

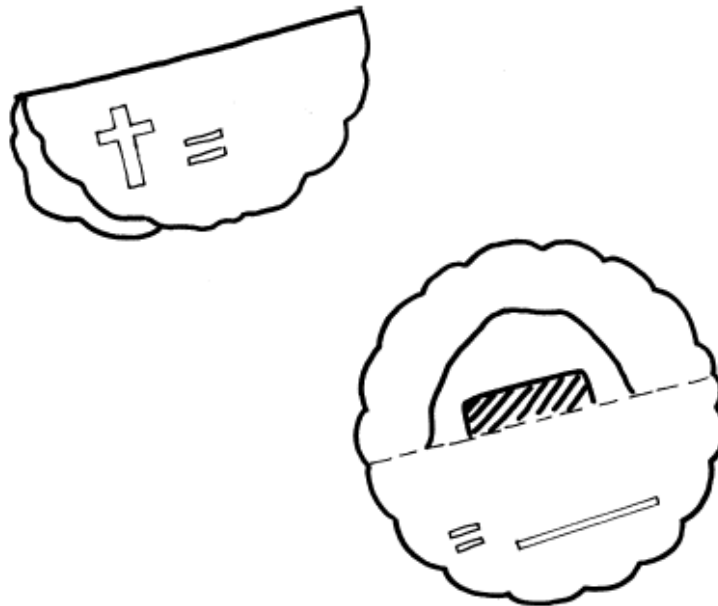


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CRAFT

From the crucifixion to the resurrection

Some of the women found the empty tomb when they went to anoint Jesus' body on the third day. This craft will help them remember the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. These two events give us life and hope.



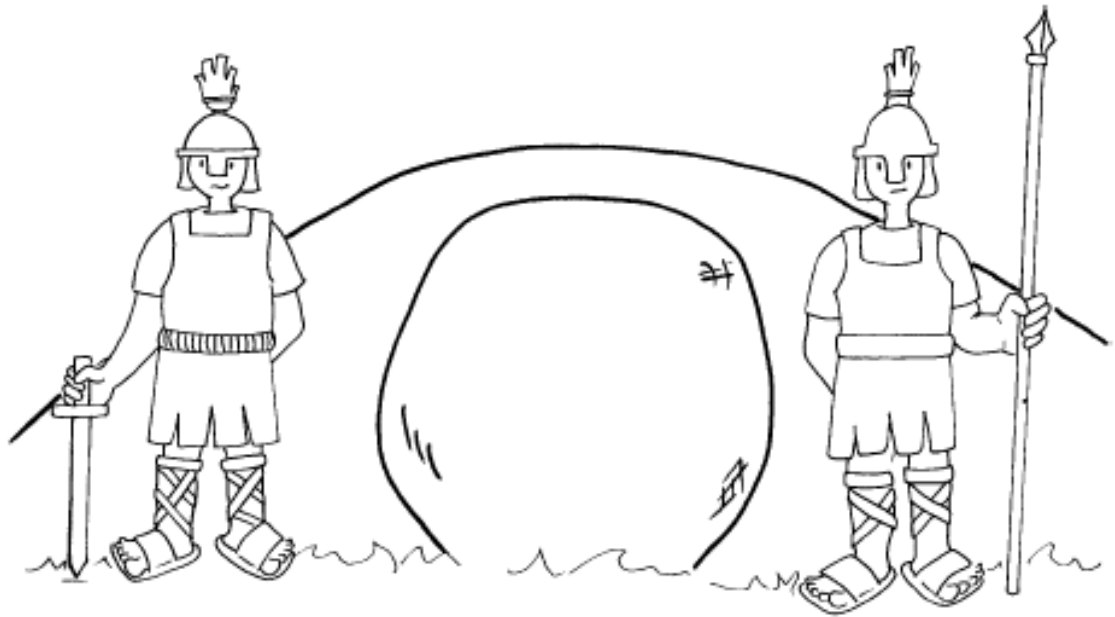
Materials: paper plate, 2 wooden popsicle sticks or tooth picks, crayons, glue

Instructions:

1. Fold the paper plate in half.
2. Color the outside part grey.
3. Using the two popsicle sticks or tooth picks make a cross and glue it to the left side of the plate (outside of the plate).
4. With a crayon or marker make the symbol = then write the word "death"
5. Open the plate and draw an empty tomb in the center. In the part below write "Empty tomb = life"

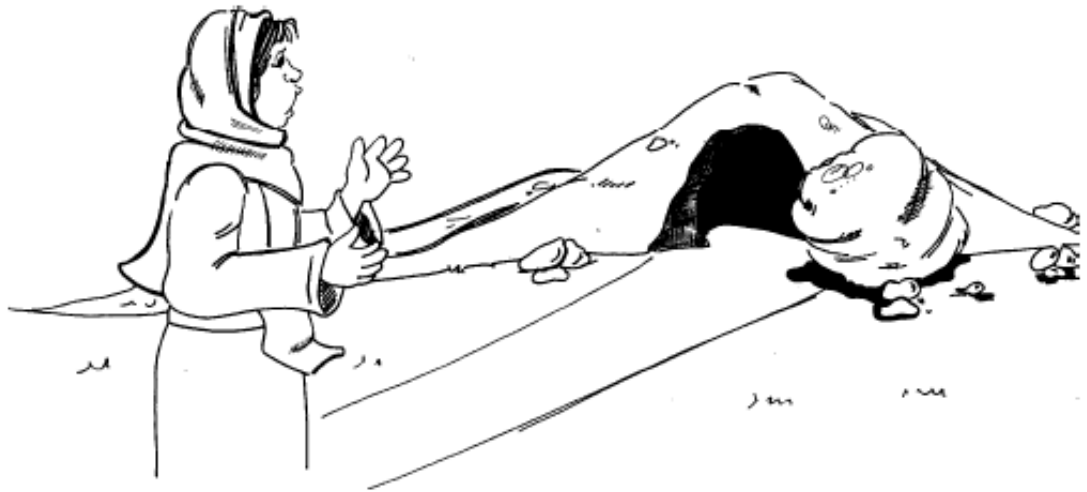
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ILLUSTRATION



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