

Easter Lesson by Andrew Galang

What you need:

Hard boil eggs

colored markers

Plastic eggs

Colored paper with the shapes of triangle, circle, square, heart, rectangle, diamond, oval and star.

Slide Show

1. Say "Happy Easter!" Encourage the children to repeat, "Happy Easter!" Ask the children if they know what Easter is and let them make guesses. Afterwards, tell them, "We are going to learn about Easter today!"
2. Easter is a Spring holiday celebrated all around the world by Catholics. Easter is the most important holiday for Christians.
3. Easter is part of a long Catholic holiday called, "Lent." Easter is the celebration of the end of Lent. Lent is a 40 day holiday used to remember when Jesus was lost in the desert for 40 days. During Lent, Catholics must give up or sacrifice something they love. Catholics give up eating meat or coffee. You have to pick something that you love. This can mean video games, tv, or playing outside with your friends. So for 40 days, Catholics sacrifice something important for Lent. Now, Lent varies every year because Catholics have their own calendar. Just like Japan has a calendar, so do Catholics. Lent is always celebrated in the Spring.

4. The day before Lent is the holiday “Mardi Gras.” This year Mardi Gras is on _____ . (Insert this year’s mardi gras date.) Mardi Gras is a holiday where people celebrate the start of Lent by doing what they are going to sacrifice during Lent. So most people give up meat during Lent. Mardi Gras is last day to eat as much meat as you can...
5. This is why Mardi Gras is also known as “Fat Tuesday.” Because this is the final day to do what you love, people over do what they are going to give up. Eating is the most common thing to do. So many people eat a lot of food during Mardi Gras or Fat tuesday
6. The most popular Mardi Gras celebration is in New Orleans, Louisiana. New Orleans is a city known for having a big Catholic community and the birthplace of Jazz. So Mardi Gras has become the biggest tradition for New Orleans. They have the biggest parades and biggest parties to celebrate the start of Lent.
7. (Use as a visual).
8. Ash Wednesday is the official first day of Lent. This year Ash Wednesday is on _____ (insert date). On Ash Wednesday, Catholics go to church at night and the priest puts the sign of the cross on your forehead. The cross is a symbol for Christianity and it also symbolizes the acceptance of participating in Lent.
9. The next big holiday during lent is Palm Sunday. This year Palm Sunday is on _____(Insert date). Palm Sunday is a day where Catholics go to church and receive palm leaves. They use palm leaves to make crosses. It symbolizes the start of Holy week. Holy week is the last week of Lent.
10. (Use as a visual)

11. Holy Thursday is the last Thursday of Lent. This year Holy Thursday is on _____(Insert date). Holy Thursday is also known as the Last Supper or the Last meal that Jesus had. This is a painting of that day made famous by Leonardo Di Vinci.
12. Good Friday is the day Jesus died. This is an important day for Christians to remember because it teaches Christians about the sacrifice of Jesus. This year Good Friday is on _____(Insert date).
13. Finally Easter is the last day of Lent. Easter is the day Jesus came back from the dead. Jesus' comeback is the most important part of Christianity. This is why so many people around the world have become Christians. On Easter Sunday, Christians celebrate by going to church as a family and celebrate a new beginning.
14. You may think Lent is a troublesome holiday because you have to give something you love up. Actually, a lot of religions around the world celebrate similar sacrifices. Lent is a type of "fasting." For example, during ramadan, Muslims fast and can only eat during the night. Many people believe fasting makes you a better person because you learn so much about yourself afterwards
15. Lent and Easter are conveniently celebrated in Spring because Spring symbolizes a brand new life. Just like how people feel brand new from the challenge of fasting.
16. Spring is a worldwide symbol of new beginnings. Just like how Japan uses Sakuras as the symbol of Spring and new beginnings, Easter is Chrisitans' way of celebrating new beginnings.
17. The symbol for Easter is the Easter bunny.
18. (use as visual)

19. Eggs are also another symbol for Easter. Eggs symbolize birth and new beginnings.
20. Today we're going to learn how to make Easter eggs!
21. First get some eggs
22. Boil them in hot water till they get hard.
23. Get some paint.
24. Finally paint your favorite shapes and colors!
25. Every year around the world, children paint easter eggs. This is how some of them look like.
26. Afterwards, children have a big easter egg hunt!
27. Happy Easter (encourage the children to say it back)

Egg painting

Simply paint hard boiled eggs with markers.

Egg hunt slides (Starts at slide 29)

For the egg hunt slides, simply repeat each color and each shape twice. Each shape and color have 2 slides. For example ask, "What's color/shape is this?" Wait for an answer and then go to the second slide to repeat it again. Then explain the rules of the egg hunt.

Each plastic egg should have a piece of paper with a colored shape. Each color is designated a point. Ex. red is 1. Each shape also has a point. Ex. triangle is 1. $1+1=2$ so a red triangle is two points.

Edit the slides if you don't have enough colors by deleting colors or shapes off the last slide with the point guides.