



**Theme Overview**

In this unit of Religious Education, the children will understand the main events of the Easter story and focus specifically on Palm Sunday. They will explore the different symbols of Easter and understand their significance.

**Unit Outcomes**

By the end of this unit, the children will know the Easter story and why Palm Sunday was important. They will be able to explain the significance of some of the symbols of Easter.

**Skills Focus**

**Main Skills Focus:**

- Explore key questions through enquiry-based learning into Christianity whilst also drawing from at least one of Hinduism, Sikhism, Islam or Judaism, as well as non-religious world views as appropriate.
- Teachers should take the children's own background, experiences and questions into consideration.
- Learn about different beliefs about God and the world around them.
- Encounter and respond to a range of stories, artefacts and other religious materials.
- Learn to recognise that beliefs are expressed in a variety of ways and begin to use specialist vocabulary.
- Begin to understand the importance and value of religion and belief, especially for other children and their families.

**Key Religion**

Christianity

**Key Question**

Why was Palm Sunday important?

**Sequence of Learning**

**Lesson 1**

**LI: To understand the basic story of Easter.**

**\*\*\*\*Food tasting form/order food for lesson 2\*\***

*\*\*Introduce the learning intention after your lesson recap. At the end use a thumbs up/down/middle for the children to self-evaluate their achievement. \*\**

- What do the children know about Easter?
- Read a basic version of the Easter Story.
- Why is Easter the most important of all Christian celebrations?
- Break the story into the main parts and give a brief overview of each:
  - Palm Sunday
  - Last supper
  - Crucifixion and burial
  - Resurrection

**Lesson 2**

**LI: To discuss the symbols of Easter.**

*\*\*Introduce the learning intention after your lesson recap. At the end use a thumbs up/down/middle for the children to self-evaluate their achievement. \*\**

- Read the Easter Story.
- Remind the children what the key question? Can they recall anything about Palm Sunday.
- Show the children a selection of pictures. Some which are symbols of Easter and some that aren't. Can't they sort them?
- Discuss the ones which are symbols of Easter:
- Cross, hot cross buns, cards, easter eggs, chicks, Easter Egg hunt etc

**Lesson 3**

**LI: To understand the importance of Palm Sunday.**

*\*\*Introduce the learning intention after your lesson recap. At the end use a thumbs up/down/middle for the children to self-evaluate their achievement. \*\**

- Recap the key question for the unit.
- Read the Palm Sunday part of the Easter Story.
- Why was this such an important day for the people? How did the people feel when Jesus rode in on the donkey.
- Watch an age-appropriate clip showing the celebration.
- Children to act out the scene waving and laying out the 'palm leaves. Stand in two rows while one person walks down the middle. Can they shout Hosanna?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask relevant questions and develop a sense of wonder about the world using their imaginations.</li> <li>• Talk about what is important to them and others, valuing themselves, reflecting on their own feelings and experiences and developing a sense of belonging.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can the children retell the story.</li> <li>• Introduce key question?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do each of these represent?</li> <li>• Activities: Food tasting Easter Egg hunt</li> </ul>	<p>...continued in lesson 4.</p>
<p><b>RE at Bland's Infant School:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is vital for all our children to learn from and about religion, so that they can understand the world around them.</li> <li>• RE promotes respect and open-mindedness towards others with different faiths and beliefs and encourages children to develop their sense of identity and belonging through self-awareness and reflection.</li> <li>• We encourage children to ask questions to promote enquiry-based learning.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lesson 4</b> <b>LI: To understand the importance of Palm Sunday.</b></p> <p><i>**Introduce the learning intention after your lesson recap. At the end use a thumbs up/down/middle for the children to self-evaluate their achievement. **</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Briefly discuss what RE is and why we study it. (Religious Education is learning about different religions and how people celebrate them. It helps us understand why some people do things that might be different to others).</i></li> <li>• Recap the key question for the unit.</li> <li>• Read the Easter story bring attention back to Palm Sunday.</li> <li>• What can they recall about Palm Sunday.</li> <li>• What did the reactions of the crowd tell them about how they felt? (People were very excited as because they thought He was going to rescue them from the Romans who had taken over their country.</li> <li>• Remind the children that Jesus the baby they heard about in the Nativity – he was now 32/33 years old.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lesson 5 &amp; 6</b> <b>LI: Consolidate knowledge to create an Easter card.</b></p> <p><i>**Introduce the learning intention after your lesson recap. At the end use a thumbs up/down/middle for the children to self-evaluate their achievement. **</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Briefly discuss what RE is and why we study it. (Religious Education is learning about different religions and how people celebrate them. It helps us understand why some people do things that might be different to others).</i></li> <li>• Read the Easter story.</li> <li>• Recap the key question for the unit.</li> <li>• Refer back the main parts of the Easter Story. What happened after Palm Sunday - link resurrection to new life.</li> <li>• Explain to the children they will learn about the other parts of the story in year 1 and 2.</li> </ul>	

- Show pictures of Palm Sunday crosses (show real ones if available).
- What are they made of? What is the significance of using a palm leaf? What does the cross signify (The palm branch is a symbol of victory, triumph, peace and eternal life. It is a symbol of hope for the Christian people.)

*Interesting fact for fun:  
Show the children different pictures take of the donkeys back. What do they spot?  
(Every donkey has a cross shape marking on its back.)*

- Thinking about the symbols of Easter, how can they use these to make a card.  
The children who follow another religion can make a card to celebrate spring and the new life it brings.