

CREATIVE COOKERY STATION

STATION FOCUS

The lives of Jesus' friends were changed on the day of resurrection. Our lives are changed as we become Easter people through God's grace.

SCRIPTURES

John 20

STATION OBJECTIVES

Children will learn the Easter story as it is found in John's Gospel.

Children will recognize that we can also experience change through God's grace.

STATION SETUP

You will need access to a sink, microwave, and stove with oven.

Cover tables or work surfaces with paper or plastic.

Collect the supplies and ingredients necessary for the chosen projects.

Photocopy the Main Idea, Objectives, Bible Background for Leaders, and Check Your Facts for each leader and shepherd (see pages 3–7).

WANT TO DO MORE?

Cut the construction paper into Easter egg shapes. Decorate the Easter eggs with markers. Tape the Easter eggs to the station entrance.

Resources

pages 3–7

Supplies

construction paper
markers
scissors
tape

SAFETY CHECK

- ❑ Shepherds should know the whereabouts of every child in the shepherd's group, and they should know where to reach parents in case of an emergency.
- ❑ If you use the stove or oven, take precautions that will ensure the children's safety. (However, let the children work with the ingredients as much as possible.) Invite extra adult help, if necessary.
- ❑ Know your children's allergies before selecting the foods you will prepare in this station.
- ❑ Be sure children and adults wash their hands thoroughly before working with the food, and be sure that all foods and equipment are kept clean and sanitary.

BIBLE STORY (10 minutes)

For Younger Children

Help the children find the Bible story in John and then read the verses to the children.

Read John 20:31 aloud and have the children repeat the verse.

Say: Jesus' friends changed when they learned he was alive. They were sad—and then very happy. They told others the wonderful news. We too can tell the good news—Jesus is alive!

For Older Children

Ask the children to look up the Bible story in John. Ask a volunteer to read the story.

Read John 20:31 in unison.

Say: Jesus' friends changed when they learned he was alive. They were sad—and then very happy. They told others the wonderful news. We too can tell the good news—Jesus is alive!

For All Ages

Read "Jesus Is Alive!" (page 44).

Teacher Tip: Do the Bible story activity while the children are eating their snacks.

Resources

Bible
page 44

But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.
(John 20:31)

ACTIVITY OPTIONS

(45 minutes)

Choose from the suggested activities as your time and the children's interest allow.

Let the children prepare the special Easter foods as part of an Easter Breakfast Bake. Invite parents or the whole congregation to sample the tasty treats.

For All Ages

Lemonade Surprise

Prepare

Prepare the secret ice cubes before the activity. Chop a head of red cabbage and put it in a pan with enough water to cover. Simmer approximately twenty minutes. Let the mixture cool, then strain the juice into ice cube trays. The liquid will be blue! Freeze the ice cubes. Be sure to make at least one ice cube for each child.

Mix the lemonade concentrate in the pitcher.

Say: On that first Easter morning, Jesus' friends were sad. Jesus was dead, lying in a tomb.

Give each child a cup. Pour, or let the children pour, lemonade into the cups. Help the children add ice cubes to their cups.

Ask: What happened to the lemonade in your cup? (*It changed.*)
What changed Jesus' friends at Easter time?

For All Ages

Easter Bread Crosses

Ingredients

(makes four bread crosses)

2¼ cups all-purpose flour
1 cup warm water
1 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon butter
½ package (2 level teaspoons) active dried yeast
2 tablespoons cooking oil
optional: poppy seeds (for decoration)

Say: Jesus' friends were changed on Easter morning. They were excited and filled with joy because Jesus was alive! They were so happy. They couldn't wait to tell others what had happened. We are going to make Easter bread crosses to help us remember that special day. The crosses you will make will be eaten by next week's class. You will eat crosses made by the children last week!

Note

Resources and websites are constantly changing. Check www.powerxpress.com for updates that may help you in planning.

Supplies

ingredients
cutting knife
pan
strainer
ice cube trays
pitcher
paper cups

Talk Tips

What difference does the Easter story make to us?

Supplies

ingredients
mixing bowl
strainer
sharp knife
measuring cup
two baking sheets
wooden spoon
clean scissors
pastry brush
plastic wrap

Note: For children using this station for the first time, prepare bread crosses ahead of time.

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees. Grease and flour two baking sheets.

Sift flour, salt, and yeast into a bowl. Rub in the butter.

Make a well in the mixture and stir in the warm water to make a soft dough. Add more flour if it's too sticky, more water if it's too dry.

Place the dough on a floured work surface. Fold the dough from top to bottom and firmly push your knuckles into the center.

Give the dough a quarter turn and knead it as before. Repeat the process for about 5 to 10 minutes.

Cut the dough into four equal pieces.

Roll each piece of dough into an 11-inch long roll. From one end cut off a short piece about four inches long.

Use the scissors to snip a small wedge out of each piece. Place the pieces together on a baking sheet in the shape of a cross.

Brush each cross with oil.

Optional: Sprinkle with poppy seeds.

Cover with plastic wrap and let the dough rise in a warm place for about 15 minutes.

Bake the crosses for 15 minutes. Test for doneness by tapping—the bread should sound hollow.

For All Ages Fancy Egg Bread

Ingredients

- 1 loaf frozen bread dough
- 2 raw decorated eggs
- 1 raw egg
- 1 tablespoon milk

Prepare

Thaw the bread dough in a bread pan.

Note: Each class will make a loaf to be eaten by next week's class. Prepare bread crosses ahead of time for children using this station for the first time.

Ask: Why are eggs used as Easter symbols?

Say: Eggs are a symbol of Easter. Baby chicks come out of eggs alive, just like Jesus came out of the tomb alive.

Supplies

ingredients
knife
cutting board
whisk or fork
bread pan
small bowls
pastry brush

Cut two slits in the thawed dough. The slits should be the size of the eggs.

Put one decorated egg in each slit. Allow at least half of the egg to show.

Crack open the raw egg and separate the egg.

Mix the egg yolk and milk together.

Brush the top of the loaf with the egg yolk and milk mixture.

Place the bread in the oven and bake according to package directions, usually 30 minutes at 350 degrees.

Bake until the loaf is brown and sounds hollow when tapped.

Serve by tearing pieces off the loaf. The eggs will be baked thoroughly and can be eaten like hard-boiled eggs.

For All Ages

Cinnamon Angels

Ingredients

(serves eight children)

1 pan refrigerated pie crust dough

¼ cup sugar

½ teaspoon cinnamon

Remove the pie crust from the pan and place it carefully on a piece of waxed paper. Cut the circle into eight equal pie wedges.

Prepare

Ask: In today's story, who saw an angel?

Why was the angel there?

What did the angel do or say?

Make angels to help the children remember the Easter story.

Give each child a piece of aluminum foil and a wedge of pie dough.

Help the children use plastic knives or hands as desired to shape their pie wedges into angels.

Help the children measure and mix the cinnamon and sugar in a bowl. Then they can sprinkle the mixture over their angels.

Place the angels and aluminum foil on a baking sheet. Bake according to the instructions recommended on the pie dough package.

Talk Tips

What comes out of eggs that have been fertilized? (*chicks; birds; snakes; turtles; crocodiles*)

Supplies

ingredients
wax paper
paper plates
plastic knives
paper towels
small bowl
aluminum foil
measuring spoons
baking sheet
mixing spoon

Supplies

pita bread
jam
plastic knives
plastic sandwich
bags
paper
pens/pencils
scissors
markers/crayons

COOKERY

Supplies

ingredients
plastic knives
egg-shaped cookie
cutters
serving plate or
tray

For All Ages

Pita Pocket Messages

Set out pita bread, jam, and plastic knives.

Say: Jesus' friends were so excited, they told their good news to everyone around them. We too can tell the Good News to others.

Set out markers, crayons, and paper.

Ask the children to write (or draw) invitations asking someone to come to worship or to **PowerXpress!** with them.

Cut the pitas in half. Children can place jam on one half and eat it. They can place their invitation in the other half.

Place pitas with the messages in sandwich bags. Ask the children to give the message to someone they wish to invite.

For Younger Children

Eggstra Special Sandwiches

Ingredients

bread
softened cream cheese
banana slices
raisins
shredded carrots

Help the children use egg-shaped cookie cutters to cut slices of bread into oval egg shapes. Spread softened cream cheese on the bread slices.

Encourage the children to decorate the bread slices with banana slices, raisins, and shredded carrots to look like Easter eggs.

Say: Eggs are a symbol of Easter. Baby chicks come out of eggs alive, just like Jesus came out of the tomb alive.

For Older Children

New Life Eggs

Ingredients

hard-boiled eggs
 mayonnaise
 raisins
 carrot bits

Slice hard-boiled eggs in half lengthwise.

Let the children use plastic forks to scoop the yolks out of the eggs and into a mixing bowl. Add two tablespoons of mayonnaise for every two eggs. Mash the yolks into the mayonnaise and mix well.

Spoon the yellow mixture back into the white egg halves to form baby chicks. Make eyes out of raisins and beaks out of carrot bits.

Say: Eggs are a symbol of Easter and new life. Baby chicks come out of eggs alive, just like Jesus came out of the tomb alive. That's how eggs became a symbol of the Resurrection.

Supplies

ingredients
 plastic forks
 plastic spoons
 mixing bowl
 measuring spoons

Talk Tips

What are some other symbols of new life we see at Easter?
(chicks, bunnies, flowers)

CLOSING (5 minutes)

Ask the children to write or draw the answers to these questions in their journals:

Ask: What was your favorite thing we did today?
 What did you learn about the Easter story today?

Close with a prayer thanking God for the gift of Jesus and for new life.

Supplies

journals
 pens/pencils

BIBLE STORY TO TELL

Jesus Is Alive

by Daphna Flegal

Teacher's Note: Show the children how to rub their palms together to make a whishing sound. Have the children practice making the sound. Tell the children to make that sound each time it appears in the story. Begin by talking in a whisper. Get louder as the story progresses.

COOKERY

It was early in the morning. Everything was quiet in the garden. At one end of the garden was a tomb. A tomb is a place where they bury people.

Whish, whish. Whish, whish. (*Rub palms together to make whishing sound.*)

It was so quiet, Mary Magdalene could hear her footsteps as she walked slowly across the grass to the tomb. She was very sad. Her friend, Jesus, was dead. He was buried in the tomb.

Whish, whish. Whish, whish. (*Louder. Rub palms together to make whishing sound.*)

Suddenly Mary Magdalene stopped. (*Stop rubbing hands.*) The huge rock in front of the tomb was gone! She looked into the tomb. It was empty!

“Jesus is not in the tomb,” said Mary Magdalene. “I don’t know where he is.” She began to cry.

“Why are you crying?” asked a voice.

“I don’t know where my friend Jesus is,” answered Mary Magdalene.

“Mary,” said the voice.

Mary Magdalene stopped crying and turned around. It was Jesus! Jesus was alive!

Whish, whish. Whish, whish. (*Rub palms together to make whishing sound.*)

Mary Magdalene ran quickly out of the garden back to the city. She wanted to tell Jesus’ friends the good news.

“Jesus is alive!” Mary Magdalene shouted excitedly with joy. “Jesus is alive!”

Based on John 20:1-18.

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