

EASTER SUNDAY CLASS PLAN

Large Group (approx. 50); Extended Class Time (approx. 2½ hours)

9:30-10:15 a.m.

Supplies:

Attendance lists (1st grade boys & girls)

Paper lunch sacks

Colored pencils (100+)

Christian Easter stickers (100+)

“Go Fish Showtime” DVD

As buses arrive, greet kids and take attendance.

Direct kids to chairs (girls in middle).

Have them work on decorating Easter paper sacks (have sacks already sitting on chairs with a couple of colored pencils and some stickers at each place). Kids can sit/kneel by chairs and use chairs as “tables.” Remind them to write their names on the sacks

At about 9:45 start playing DVD (approx. 26 min. long). The kids can watch while/after they decorate their bags, but they must stay at their chairs.

10:15-10:30 a.m.

Supplies:

Poster board with rules

Prize baskets (prizes, Easter grass, baskets)

Small stuffed bunny

Small stuffed chick

Plastic egg

Girl’s Easter hat/bonnet

Easter candy

Small cross

Bag(?) to hold some of the above items

Student to assist (prepared beforehand)

Go over rules. Explain there are prizes for games and good behavior. Explain that everyone will receive eggs with candy in them (to put in their decorated bags) at the end of class—unless their behavior shows that they choose not to. If a student gets his/her name on the board and then two checkmarks, he/she will not get any candy.

Skit—Teacher mentions that today is Easter and asks if anyone knows what Easter is all about. She asks her student helper to come to the front. He comes up and begins pulling various things out of his pockets or bag (leaving the cross for last) as they discuss whether or not that particular item represents the true meaning of Easter. When he pulls out the cross, they discuss that Jesus died for our sins, but three days later he rose from the dead. Easter is really a celebration of His resurrection!

10:30-10:35 a.m.

Supplies:

“Go Fish Splash” CD

Poster board with “The B-I-B-L-E” words

Where do we find the story of Jesus’ Resurrection—His rising from the dead?

Stand and sing—#2—“The B-I-B-L-E”

10:35-10:50 a.m.

Supplies:

Veggie Tales “An Easter Carol” DVD

Watch DVD until counter reaches 13:47. Pause DVD.

Say: Answer a question to play a game.

What does Mr. Nezzar think Easter is all about? (*making eggs to “keep his grandma alive”*)

Why does Mr. Nezzar want to tear down the church? (*to build Easterland; to have Easter all year around*)

Each person who answers correctly gets to choose another person to play the game with him/her.

10:50-11:05 a.m.

Supplies:

Five large eggs (including one sparkly) for game
First four Resurrection Eggs to place inside the four nonsparkly eggs
Easter basket prize (1)
Small candy prizes (3)

Bible

Poster board with Luke 22:44: “And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.”

Easter Egg Rolling Game

(Place first four Resurrection Eggs inside larger eggs beforehand.)

Set large sparkly egg on the floor. Student who rolls his/her egg closest to sparkly egg gets large prize (Easter basket); others get small prizes (candy).

Then have students open Resurrection Eggs one at a time and ask them if they know what the item inside has to do with the Easter story. If not, let them pick someone from the audience to help. (Use the booklet that came with eggs to guide discussion.)

Blue—Donkey
Light pink—Coins
Light purple—Cup
Orange—Praying hands

Show Bible verse poster board: Luke 22:44, and have a student read it.

11:05-11:20 a.m.

Supplies:

Veggie Tales “An Easter Carol” DVD
Small candy prizes

Say: We were watching a DVD. What do you think is going to happen next?

Watch DVD until counter reaches 27:36. Pause DVD.

Say: Answer a question for a candy prize.

What is the name of the angel in Mr. Nezzler’s dream? (*Hope*)

What is she showing Mr. Nezzler? (*Easter past*)

11:20-11:25 a.m.

Supplies:

“Go Fish Splash” CD
Poster board with “I’ve Got the Joy” words

Mr. Nezzler is being reminded about the true joy of Easter. Stand and sing #1—“I’ve Got the Joy” (lots of action).

11:25-11:40 a.m.

Supplies:

Veggie Tales “An Easter Carol” DVD

PASS OUT TREATS DURING THIS SEGMENT: Rice krispie bars and bottled water

Continue watching DVD until counter reads 38:06.

Say: Answer a question to play a game.

What is Hope’s song about? (*Jesus’ life—He was born, He died to give us life, and He rose to give us hope*)

What was the future like in Mr. Nezzler’s town? (*the church was gone; the orphanage was closed; the policeman was not brave*)

Each person who answers correctly gets to pick three people to help play the game.

11:40-11:50 a.m.

Supplies:

Four Easter baskets with Easter grass
Easter grass
Next four Resurrection Eggs
Eight plastic spoons
Small Easter baskets (prizes) (4)
Small candy prizes (4)

Pass-the-Egg Game:

In the middle of the room, place two Easter baskets with two Resurrection Eggs buried in each. Have teams (of 4 each) stand in a line (at least an arm’s length apart), starting at their team’s basket in the center of the room and going out toward the sides of the room. Place an empty Easter basket at the end of each line.

Bible
Poster board with Luke 23:34: “Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.”

At your signal, the first team member in each line finds an egg in her team’s basket, puts it on the spoon, and passes it to the next team member’s spoon. This continues down the line with the last player placing the egg in the empty basket. Continue until one team successfully transfers both their eggs. First team to finish—each member wins a small Easter basket. Other team—each member gets candy.

Losing team sits down. Winning team members each get a Resurrection Egg to open. Ask them if they know what the item inside has to do with the Easter story. If not, let them pick someone from the audience to help. (Use the booklet that came with eggs to guide discussion.)

Green—Leather (whip)

Light yellow—Crown

Yellow—Nails

Light green—Dice

Show Bible verse poster board: Luke 23:34, and have a student read it.

11:50 a.m.-12:00 noon

Supplies:

Veggie Tales “An Easter Carol” DVD
Small candy prizes

Say: Mr. Nezzar has awakened from his dream and it is Easter morning. What do you think will happen next?

Resume DVD and play to finish.

Answer a question for a candy prize:

Why does Mr. Nezzar say, “I’ll see you later” at his grandmother’s grave? (*Because Jesus rose from the dead, we know death is not final. The Resurrection gives us hope, and that’s what Easter is all about.*)

12:00-12:10 p.m.

Supplies:

Last four Resurrection Eggs (**tape them under four chairs before class**)

Poster board with John 14:19(b): “Because I live, ye shall live also.”

Say: Look under your chairs to find the last four Resurrection Eggs.

Ask each person who finds one to come forward.

Ask them if they know what the item inside has to do with the Easter story. If not, let them pick someone from the audience to help. (Use the booklet that came with eggs to guide discussion.)

Purple—Spear

Cream—Linen

Pink—Stone

Light Blue—Empty

Show Bible verse: John 14:19(b), and have a student read it.

Say: Jesus died, was buried, and rose again. And because Jesus rose from the dead we have hope! If we die to our sins (repent), are buried (baptized) in Jesus’ name, and receive His Spirit (resurrection), we too will rise one day.

Pray.

End of Class

Extra ideas:

Distribute candy-filled eggs to students.

Review by randomly passing out the Resurrection Eggs. See if the student can tell you what his/her item means.

Replay "Go Fish Showtime" DVD and sing/dance along.

Play "hangman" with Easter words.