

# RESURRECTION EGGS ESL ACTIVITY

—Mary Cummins



## Instructions

1. Buy 12 coloured plastic eggs that open up.
2. Below are 12 symbols with a story—one for each egg.
3. Print and cut out story strips for the students to read later.
4. Use the symbol explanation to find small items to represent the symbols.
5. Put one item (symbol) in each egg.
6. Have the students open the eggs and then match the symbols to the story strips.
7. Take turns reading each story.
8. Return the symbols to the eggs.

## Symbol

A crouton *to* represent the Last Supper Jesus had with His disciples in the Upper Room where He washed their feet and served them.

## The Story

One night, near the end of Jesus' life on earth, He gathered together His disciples (the men closest to Him) for a special meal called Passover. Jesus explained that He would die for everyone's sins. Jesus took bread, gave thanks, and said, "Take, eat, this is my body." He took a cup of wine and gave it *to* them, "This is my blood which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins" (Matt. 26: 17-28).

## Symbol

A poker chip representing the gambling the Roman soldiers did to see who would get Jesus' robe and clothing.

## The Story

Once Jesus was crucified, the soldiers gambled for His clothing by throwing dice (Matthew 27 :35).

## **Symbol**

Pennies wrapped in foil representing the thirty pieces of silver Judas received when he betrayed Jesus. And a piece of twine representing Judas going out and hanging himself after Jesus had been captured.

## **The Story**

The Roman officials did not like the fact that Jesus was claiming to be the Savior of all. They wanted to stop Jesus from teaching. One of the disciples, Judas, went to the chief priests and asked, "What will you give me if I turn Jesus over to you?" They counted out thirty pieces of silver. Judas betrayed Jesus and the soldiers arrested Him and took Him away. Afterwards, Judas felt so guilty, he hanged himself. (Luke 22:1-6; 47-54).

## **Symbol**

Two small crosses made of pipe cleaners representing the two thieves who were crucified on either side of Jesus. One mocked Him and the other asked to be taken to Heaven with Him.

## **The Story**

Death on a cross was common for criminals. Two thieves were crucified next to Jesus (Matt. 27:38).

## **Symbol**

Toothpick with rubber band attached purple cloth and a crown of garland to represent what happened to Jesus when He was questioned and put on trial before Pilate.

## **The Story**

Pilate, the ruler, brought Jesus before a crowd of people to see how they felt about His future. They demanded that Jesus be put to death on a cross, so Pilate had Jesus whipped. The soldiers wrapped a purple robe around His body, placed a crown of thorns on His head, and then made fun of Him (Mark 15:12-20).

## **Symbol**

A small piece of sponge stuck on the end of a toothpick representing the vineyard water the soldiers gave to Jesus when He was thirsty hanging on the cross.

## **The Story**

The soldiers lifted a sponge soaked in wine vinegar to Jesus. Jesus drank it and said, "It is finished." Then he bowed His head and died (John 19:29-30).

## **Symbol**

Cross made of pipe cleaners representing the cross Jesus died on.

## **The Story**

Jesus had to carry the cross through town. On the way, the soldiers forced Simon of Cyrene to carry the cross for Jesus (Luke 23:26).

## **Symbol**

White gauze representing the cloth they wrapped Jesus' body in. A stone representing the huge rock that sealed the entrance to the tomb. And a spear-pointed stick (toothpick) representing the Roman soldiers whose job was to guard the tomb against any attempts by the disciples to steal Jesus' body.

## **The Story**

Joseph, a disciple of Jesus, took Jesus' body, wrapped it in a linen sheet and placed it in a tomb. A huge stone sealed the entrance and Roman soldiers guarded it (Matthew 27:57-66).

## **Symbol**

Nail representing the nails the soldiers used to crucify Jesus.

## **The Story**

They walked through the town to the hill where Jesus would be crucified. The soldiers used nails to fasten Jesus to the cross (Mark 15:22).

## **Symbol**

This egg is empty to represent the empty tomb, showing that Jesus was not in bondage to death.

## **The Story**

On the first day of the week, there was an earthquake. An angel of the Lord rolled the stone away. The angel spoke to the women who came to see where Jesus' body was laid. He said, "Don't be afraid. He is not here! He has come back to life just as He said He would (Matthew 28:2-8).

## **Symbol**

A piece of paper with "King of Jews" written on it, representing what Pilate commanded be written and placed above Jesus' head on the cross.

## **The Story**

The soldiers put a sign above Jesus' head. The sign mocked Jesus. It read: "This is Jesus, King of the Jews" (Matthew 27:37).

## **Symbol**

Cotton balls for clouds, representing when Jesus was taken back up into Heaven.

## **The Story**

For many days after, Jesus appeared to the disciples and many others, explaining to them why He suffered, died, and rose again from the dead. He led them out along the road to Bethany and blessed them. As He blessed them, Jesus was taken back into Heaven (Luke 24:44-53).