

**Year 1 Unit 4: SPECIAL DAYS : EASTER Week 1**  
**Title: Lent and Shrove Tuesday**

**Learning Intentions:**

**AT1:** To know that Shrove Tuesday is the day before the beginning of Lent, which is a time of preparation for Easter.

**AT1:** To know that Lent lasts for 40 days and Christians remember Jesus in the wilderness.

**AT2:** To think about where I like to go to be on my own and why.

**Assessment:**

AT1 L1: I know that Pancake Day is also called Shrove Tuesday.

AT1 L2: I can talk about what Christians remember about Jesus during Lent.

AT2 L1: I can talk about where I like to go on my own and what it feels like.

AT2 L2: I can listen sensitively to what other people have to say about this and ask them questions.

**Key Words:**

Easter  
 Lent  
 purple  
 preparation  
 Shrove Tuesday = (c.1500) is from practice of celebration and merrymaking before going to confession at the beginning of Lent. It comes from the verb **to shrive** which means to go to or make confession.

**Resources:**

Bibles – a good range including *The Lion Storyteller Bible* or *The Big Bible Storybook* or *The Big Picture Story Bible* or other suitable versions for children

**Key passage:** Luke 4:1-13

<http://bibleforchildren.org/languages/english/stories.php>

*A Terrible Time for Jesus*

<http://www.request.org.uk/main/festivals/lent/lent01.htm>

*A good source of information. Some material on Lent suitable for KS1*

Large purple cloth or borrow a purple altar cloth from the church; purple stole

**NB:** This lesson could be taught over 2 weeks, depending on the length of the term(s).

**Activities:**

- Drape a table in the classroom with the purple cloth and ask pupils what the colour helps them to think of and how the purple colour makes them feel. (AT2)

- In the Anglican Church, purple is used to help Christians to prepare. The church uses purple for Lent (preparing for Easter) and Advent (preparing for Christmas). Show the purple stole – a special scarf the Vicar might wear during Lent. Why do Christians prepare carefully for Easter? Discuss Easter being a very special time for Christians. (AT1)
- Talk about Lent. Use the RE:Quest pages. Lent lasts for 40 days. This is when Christians remember Jesus in the wilderness, all by himself. He went out into the wilderness to be alone with God to help him to prepare for all the things he was going to do for God. Lent ends at Easter when Christians remember Jesus died and rose again. (AT1)
- Read the story of Jesus in the wilderness in Luke 4: 1-13. Jesus wanted to be alone with God. Jesus had to be very strong even though he was very tired and hungry. Discuss how Jesus must have felt. (AT1)
- Encourage pupils to think about when they like to be alone and where they go to be on their own. Perhaps they have hiding places or special places in the garden or in their bedroom. Pupils can write and/or draw about their special places to be alone and share these with each other. (AT2)
- Talk about Shrove Tuesday. This marks the beginning of Lent. This is when many people eat pancakes – it's sometimes called Pancake Day. Long ago, pancakes were made of all the rich, tasty foods like flour, butter, eggs and milk that people gave up for Lent. Lent for Christians is a time of remembering and preparing. Many Christians do this by giving up certain foods in Lent - like Jesus did in the wilderness. This is to help them focus on God, just like Jesus did. Christians go to church before Lent starts or on the first day to say sorry to God for the wrong things they have done. (AT1)
- Make some pancakes and have a pancake race. (AT2)

**Year 1 Unit 4: SPECIAL DAYS : EASTER Week 2**  
**Title: Lent and Ash Wednesday**

**Learning Intentions:**

**ATI:** To know that Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent – a time of preparation for Easter.

**ATI:** To know that the cross is a special sign for Christians.

**AT2:** To think about what the symbol of the cross means to me.

**Assessment:**

ATI L1: I can recognise the cross as a Christian symbol.

ATI L2: I can suggest reasons why the priest puts a cross of ashes on people's foreheads.

AT2 L1: I can talk about what a cross helps me to think about.

AT2 L2: I can ask questions about the meaning of the cross for others.

**Key Words:**

Ash Wednesday  
Easter  
Lent  
purple  
preparation

**Resources:**

<http://www.request.org.uk/main/festivals/lent/lent05.htm>

*A good source of information. Some material on Ash Wednesday including Ashing ceremony- suitable for KS1*

Palm crosses

A selection of different types of crosses e.g. a Celtic cross, a crucifix, an olive wood holding cross, a cross made from nails, El Salvadorean cross etc.

***A-cross the World*** - An exploration of forty representations of the cross from the worldwide Christian Church. Pack available from BRF or CMS. ISBN:9781841012643

Ask the Vicar to bring in some ashes and talk to pupils about the Ash Wednesday service or tradition of ashing.

Ojo de Dios, or God's Eye Cross activity (search on internet or Google search)

## Activities:

- What do pupils remember about Shrove Tuesday? Remind them that Shrove Tuesday is the day before Lent starts. (AT1)
- Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. It is six and a half weeks before Easter (ie 40 days + Sundays). Find out about Ash Wednesday on RE:Quest. Watch the video of the ashing or ask the Vicar to talk to pupils about the Ash Wednesday service. (AT1)
- Why does the Vicar make the sign of the cross? What do the ashes help Christians to remember? What does the cross help Christians to remember? (AT1)
- Talk about how we use the sign of the cross. It is used to mark something wrong, or used to denote a kiss in a card or letter. It is used on a map to mark a particular place - 'X marks the spot', or it is used when we vote – you put a cross next to the person you want to win. Look at a selection of different types of crosses, or use some carefully chosen examples from the **A-cross the World** photo pack to talk about the many different types of crosses that Christians have to remind them of the Easter story. (AT1)
- Give each pupil a small cross cut-out. Encourage them to express what the symbol of the cross reminds them of. (AT2)
- Pupils can make an Ojo de Dios, or God's Eye Cross. (AT1)

**Year 1 Unit 4:**

**SPECIAL DAYS : EASTER**

**Week 3**

**Title: A Christian family at Easter time**

**Learning Intentions:**

**AT1:** To know what Christians do to celebrate Lent and Easter.

**AT2:** To think about what I do to celebrate Easter time.

**Assessment:**

AT1 L1: I can talk about what Christians like Samuel do at Easter time.

AT1 L2: I can choose something that I think is very important for Christians like Samuel to do at Easter time.

AT2 L1: I can talk about what special thing I would give up for someone I love and how it might feel.

AT2 L2: I can discuss this sensitively with others.

**Key Words:**

Ash Wednesday

crucify

Easter

Lent

Resurrection

Shrove Tuesday

**Resources:**

Bibles – a good range including *The Lion Storyteller Bible* or *The Big Bible Storybook* or *The Big Picture Story Bible* or other suitable versions for children

**Key passage:** The Easter Story in Luke 19:28-48 and 22-24

*Exploring Celebrations* (RE Today 2008)

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/christianity/easter/easter.htm> or

[http://www.refuel.org.uk/curric/infant\\_topics/easter/index.html](http://www.refuel.org.uk/curric/infant_topics/easter/index.html)

*The Easter Story for the Big Screen*

PowerPoint presentation: *Christian Family Easter*

*What does Samuel do at Easter?* sorting cards (photocopied and laminated – one set per pair or small group)

**Activities**

- Read the Easter story in paraphrase, using a good children's version of the Bible, or follow it on the screen (see selection of resources above). (AT1)

- Discuss the story with pupils to ensure sound knowledge of key events. (AT1)
- Introduce the pupils to Samuel by following the PowerPoint presentation *Christian Family Easter*. (AT1)
- Pupils may like to think about some questions they would ask Samuel if they met him. (AT1)
- Give out sets of the cards: *What does Samuel do at Easter?* In pairs or groups, pupils can sort the cards into activities that they might do in their family and those that they don't do. (AT1)
- Pupils can sequence the cards to tell Samuel's story. (AT1) Focus on Samuel giving up something he loves for Lent and discuss why Christians might do this. Encourage the pupils to 'pair and share' how they would feel giving up something special for someone they loved for 40 days. (AT2)
- Pick out one thing that Samuel does at Easter time which they think is very important to him as a Christian. Draw a picture to show this and write 3 sentences about why they picked this. (AT1)
- Pupils can then add picture/sentence about what they do at Easter time. (AT2)

I send Easter cards



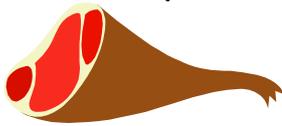
I make an Easter garden



I wave a palm cross and shout 'Hosanna!'



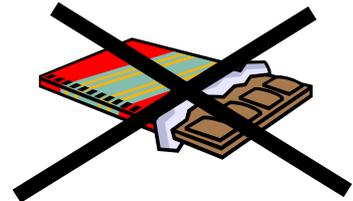
We have a special dinner on Easter Day



I eat chocolate eggs!



I give something up for Lent



I go to church on Easter Day



I read about Jesus in my Bible



I think about Jesus on the cross



We wash one another's feet



At church we share the bread and the wine



I eat hot cross buns



**Year 1 Unit 4: SPECIAL DAYS : EASTER Week 4**  
**Title: A Christian family at Easter**

**Learning Intentions:**

**AT1:** To know what Christians do to celebrate Easter.

**AT2:** To think about what I do to celebrate happy times.

**Assessment:**

AT1 L1: I can talk about 3 things a Christian might do at Easter.

AT1 L2: I can say why Easter is a happy time for Christians.

AT2 L1: I can talk about how I feel at times of celebration.

AT2 L1: I can ask questions about how other people celebrate and respond sensitively to their ideas.

**Key Words:**

ashing  
Holy Communion  
new life  
palm cross  
Resurrection  
Wine

**Resources:**

Bibles – a good range including *The Lion Storyteller Bible* or *The Big Bible Storybook* or *The Big Picture Story Bible* or other suitable versions for children

**Key passage:** The Easter Story in Luke 19:28-48 and 22-24

PowerPoint presentation: *Christian Family Easter*

*Sam's Easter Photos* – one set per table

A selection of Easter cards eg. available from a Christian bookshop or church bookstall.

**Activities**

- Read the Easter story in paraphrase, using a good children's version of the Bible, or follow it on the screen (see selection of resources above). (AT1)
- Discuss with pupils the events of the Easter story and sort them into *Happy Times* and *Sad Times*. Discuss why Easter is a very happy time for Christians. (AT1)
- Pupils can share times when they have felt very happy like the crowds on Palm Sunday and the disciples on Easter Day. When have they felt so happy they have

wanted to run and shout? Pupils can record this on post-it notes for display or evidence in books. (AT2)

- Remind the pupils of Samuel. What can they remember about what he does at Easter time? (AT1)
- Ask the children to look carefully at the pictures: *Sam's Easter Photos*. With a partner, talk about each picture:
  - What is Sam doing?
  - How do you think Sam is feeling?
  - What other feelings does Sam have as he celebrates the different aspects of Easter? (AT1)
- Explain to pupils that Easter is very special to Christians like Samuel because it celebrates Jesus dying and coming back to new life. Christians like Sam and his family follow Jesus' teachings and rules and try to be like him. They believe Jesus is God's Son. Together, talk about what pupils know about Jesus eg. from Bible stories they have heard in Collective Worship – and write up a list. (AT1)
- Ask the pupils to pick out any of the special things Samuel does which help him remember Jesus at Easter time. They can record their ideas. (AT1)
- Children could create their own Easter card or poster. The card/poster should celebrate the Christian beliefs about Easter and show what the church does to celebrate. It should invite someone to a service at church and make people want to come and join in. (AT1)

**Year 1 Unit 4: SPECIAL DAYS : EASTER Week 5**  
**Title: A Christian family at Easter**

**Learning Intentions:**

**AT1:** To know that the cross helps Christians to remember that Jesus died and rose again.

**AT2:** To think about new life at Easter time.

**Assessment:**

AT1 L1: I know that crosses, like the palm cross, are Christian symbols.

AT1 L2: I can use religious words to talk about the cross and why it is special to Christians.

AT2 L1: I can talk about new life at Easter time and how I feel when I see new life.

AT2 L2: I can listen carefully to what other people have to say about this and ask them questions.

**Key Words:**

Cross  
Easter  
palm cross

**Resources:**

Bibles – a good range including *The Lion Storyteller Bible* or *The Big Bible Storybook* or *The Big Picture Story Bible* or other suitable versions for children

**Key passage:** The Easter Story in Luke 19:28-48 & 22-24

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/easter/>

<http://www.request.org.uk/infants/festivals/easter/easter01.htm>  
*Story and activity resources*

<http://www.ngfl-cymru.org.uk/vtc/ngfl/re/b-dag/ngfl-container/re-unit2-en.html>

*Good KSI information and activity resource*

PowerPoint presentation: *Christian Family Easter*

Materials for Easter Garden: Large shallow tray; soil; small rocks/stones; moss; small plants; foil/water for pond; sticks or lolly sticks for crosses;

Palm Crosses available from your local church or order from [Biblelands.org.uk](http://Biblelands.org.uk)

## Activities:

- Read the Easter story in paraphrase, using a good children's version of the Bible, or follow it on the screen (see selection of resources above). (AT1)
- Discussion: What can pupils remember about how Christians like Samuel celebrate the Easter story? (AT1)
- Show a large picture of Samuel holding his palm cross. Palm crosses are made from palm leaves, like the ones the excited crowds would have waved on Palm Sunday. The palm leaves are soaked to make the leaves soft and supple, then they are cut and folded to make the crosses. (AT1)
- One of the artefacts Sam has at home and at church is a Palm Cross. Encourage the children to:
  - Think about what it is made of
  - How and where it might be used
  - What the palm cross helps Sam to think about. (AT1)
- Give each of the children a palm cross to hold and have some quiet time thinking about all the new life around them at this time of the year. What is it about springtime that is so exciting? What do the children love best about springtime? (AT2)
- Easter celebrates sad times (Jesus dying on the cross on Good Friday) and happy times (Jesus rising to new life on Easter Day). Christians believe Jesus gives them new life too. Sam knows that eggs are a sign of new life, and that is why he eats chocolate ones – to remember Jesus' new life at Easter. The spring flowers and bunnies also help him to remember this. His palm cross helps him to remember Jesus' new life at Easter. (AT1)
- Make an Easter Garden. The Garden will have a hillside with the crosses where Jesus and the 2 robbers died, as well as the empty tomb. You can plant small plants and flowers, and even add a pond. (AT1)
- Write an Easter acrostic poem, like this one. (AT1)

**E** is for Easter, with us again,

**A** is for angels, near the tomb.

**S** is for the stone, which was rolled away,

**T** is for the tomb, found empty that day.

**E** is for the early morning, the women were glad,

**R** is for the risen Lord, no need to be sad!