

Easter activities.

Please do not feel that you have to complete all the activities. These are just suggestions for you.

Literacy

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practise writing the alphabet sounds each day. Click on the link to hear how we pronounce the sounds in school. This is how we pronounce the alphabet sounds in School. This is how we blend the alphabet sounds we have been taught to read words. 	<p>Encourage children to write with the Easter Bunny's pen. Dip the end of a carrot in orange paint and write letters or create patterns.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Egg starts with the letter e. What else can you think of that starts with the letter e. Write a list of other things that start with the letter e. How many things can you think of? Count them? Write the number next to your list.
<p>Rhyme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can you match the rhyming words on the Easter eggs? <i>This document is uploaded underneath this planning grid.</i> 	<p>Words that we are learning how to read and write in Class (Reception children)</p> <p>all am and are at away big can come for he in is it like look me my no of said see she this to we</p> <p>Messy writing ideas: You could use chalk, shaving foam, gloop to write your sounds and words in.</p>	<p>Play a listening and attention game with the children. Place a number of Easter related items on a tray and cover with a blanket. Try using a small world chick, a soft toy bunny, a plastic egg, a basket and an Easter bonnet. Remove one of the objects, can they say which one has been removed?</p>
<p>Place three letters that create a CVC word inside a plastic egg. Children can open the egg and create the CVC word.</p>	<p>Fill a shallow tray with Easter-coloured rice for children to make marks and write their names. For the older children in my class, they could write their surname too.</p>	<p>Look in magazines or a newspaper and ask your child to look for the words which we are learning to read and write. Can they use a highlighter to find them? Can they read the word to you?</p>
<p>Play the Easter egg description game. Display the selection of Easter egg pictures and take turns to describe the Easter eggs for the rest of the group to identify. Try describing the colours and patterns shown on the eggs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Egg pictures uploaded next to the planning.</i> 	<p>Make an Easter card.</p>	<p>Think about outdoor spaces you like going to such as a park or woods. Where's your favourite place? Maybe it is somewhere local, or somewhere further away. Why do you like going there? Talk to someone at home about what makes it special and how people can look after it.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cut out egg-shapes from coloured paper for the children to use to explore writing, drawing and mark making. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make a cosy book corner. Have a selection of Easter-themed books available for the children to use. 	<p>Write an Easter poem.</p> <p>E A S T E R</p>

Role-play		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage children to learn and explore new language related to Easter, such as young animal names and vocabulary related to growth. 	<p>Invite children to follow a set of instructions when creating a simple Easter recipe, such as Easter crispy cakes or Easter biscuits.</p> <p>BBC - Easter recipes for children</p>	<p>Open a hot cross bun bakery role-play shop where children can sing the song as they sell salt dough hot cross buns. Provide the children with plenty of mark-making opportunities, such as order pads, receipts and menus.</p>
<p>Create an Easter small world scene, using artificial grass, small world rabbit toys, miniature Easter eggs, plant pots, logs and plants. Children can use this to inspire and create their own Easter stories.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>		

Maths

- Encourage children to use positional language by going on an Easter egg hunt. Hide plastic eggs for the children to find and describe where they are hidden.

Vocabulary you could use:

over, under, above, below, top, bottom, side, on, in, outside, inside, around, in front, behind, front, back, before, after, next to, opposite, apart

2D shape chick.

Encourage children to arrange the shapes to make a picture of a chick using 2D paper shapes. Talk about the shape names and their properties. You could also make a rabbit.



Place varying amounts of sand or rice inside plastic eggs and seal these closed with tape. Children can explore, compare and order the eggs by weight.

Vocabulary to be used:

weigh, weighs, balances, heavy/light, heavier/lighter, heaviest/lightest, balance, weight, scales

Using chalk, draw a row of ten numbered Easter eggs on the ground. Encourage children to jump along the eggs to reach the Easter Bunny and count the eggs/jumps as they move.

- Draw the outlines of some Easter eggs on the ground outside using chalk. Draw some details on to the eggs, such as different 2D shapes. Provide chalks for your child to use to decorate the eggs.

- Write numbers to 20. Fill in a blank number line to 20 and beyond
- Matching numbers to correct amount (use any suitable items)
- Counting forwards and backwards from any number up to 20

Learning the number bonds to ten can really help children with their mental maths skills and help them to understand how numbers relate to each other. This activity is a simple way to get some practice with number bonds in a fun and hands on way. This game only requires one item and does not need any set up time, so you can easily fit it in when you have a few spare minutes in the day.

If you're not familiar with the term "number bonds" these are simply pairs of numbers that add up to make a number. So the number bonds to 10 are: 0+10, 1 + 9, 2+8, 3+7, 4+6, 5+5, 6+4, 7+3, 8+2, 9+1, 10+0

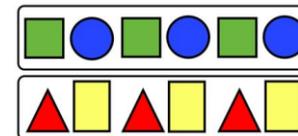
How to play

Each player takes turns to roll the dice and then shouts out the number needed to complete the number bond. For example, if you rolled 4 then you will call out 4+6=10. If the next person rolls a 5 then they will shout out 5+5=10 and so on.

Patterns:

- Start off a pattern and see if your child can follow. You can use anything: blocks, bottle tops, stickers, fridge magnets.
- If your child likes patterns they might enjoy these games just for the satisfaction of making a pattern. You can also sneak them into other creative play too:
- You don't have to just use colour to form the pattern – try different shapes, number groups or sizes.
- Try clapping patterns, going slow, slow, fast, fast, fast – and seeing if you can copy each others rhythm.
- Make yourself some mathematical jewellery, by threading a repeating pattern of beads or coloured pasta tubes onto a string.

- Look at repeating patterns including 2D shapes (triangle, square, rectangle, circle)



You could try and make a 2D shape complex pattern.

Go on a pattern hunt when you're out in the garden - you might be surprised at just how many repeating patterns are out there and how good your child is at spotting them.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do a full body workout, making repeating patterns of jumping, skipping, clapping and hopping. 	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share the Easter story with the children and talk about why Easter is an important time for Christians. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk with the children about kind hands in relation to holding baby chicks and other baby animals. Create a 'kind hands' picture your child's painted handprints alongside the children's words about the importance of kind hands. 	<p>Discuss with your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes me happy and unhappy? What made Jesus' friends happy and unhappy at Easter time? Which things do Christians eat at Easter to remind them of the story?

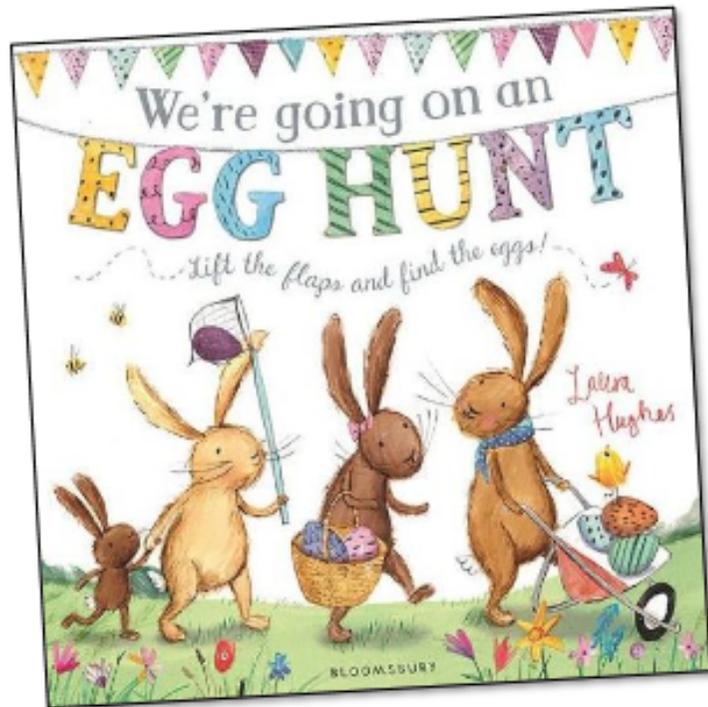
Gross Motor Skills		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play a movement game based on different Easter animals. Children should perform different actions based on the type of animal called out by an adult. For example, if the adult says 'rabbit', the children should jump around with their feet together, 'chick' means that the strut around and move their arms like wings, 'lamb' means the children skip and prance around and 'Easter Bunny' means the children run around pretending to hide Easter eggs around the space. 	<p>Have an egg rolling competition! Hard boil some eggs (or use plastic ones) and encourage children to explore how they roll down a hill! Which one comes first/second/third?</p>	<p>Obstacle Course Create an exciting obstacle course to enhance the children's development in numerous areas for balance, coordination, alertness, body awareness, strength and endurance. Try using obstacles such as balance beams, hurdles, cones, ladders, hoops, space hoppers, tunnels, balls and climbing frames to build the ultimate children's obstacle course!</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide some plastic eggs along with some spoons and encourage children to have egg and spoon races! 	<p>Use a timer. How many hop/skip/jumps can you do in a minute?</p>	<p>Throwing Throwing activities help to improve a child's hand-eye coordination, motor skills and timing. There are countless throwing games that you can try with the children, such as throwing balls through hoops, shooting in basketball and netball games, hitting a target with bean bags in a throwing game or aiming an object at a large target board or set of cans.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw some zigzag shapes on to paper Easter egg templates. Encourage children to practise using scissors to cut along the lines and open the egg. 	<p>Provide large chalks for children to use in the outside area and encourage children to add decorations and patterns to chalk outlines of Easter eggs.</p>	<p>Dancing If you play a child's favourite song, it is guaranteed to make their body move! Dancing promotes cooperation and increases flexibility and stamina. Encourage the children to invent their own dances and give them props such as colourful dance rings, scarves, pom poms or wands to inspire their creativity even further!</p>
<u>Weekly activities:</u>		
Practise cutting with scissors	Practise threading with buttons, beads and pasta	Play simple board games and complete jigsaw puzzles

Fine Motor skills		
<p>Make your own playdough: Recipe is on last weeks planning: Provide yellow playdough, yellow feathers, pipe cleaners and googly eyes for the children to make their own Easter chicks.</p>	<p>Make a nest for an Easter chick using small sticks, moss, and feathers. Place some plastic eggs in the finished nests.</p>	<p>Encourage children to explore printing using a variety of materials to decorate paper Easter eggs. Children could use sponges, bubble wrap, pom-poms held by clothes pegs or foam shapes stuck on to bottle tops.</p>
<p>Cut out some egg shapes from filter paper and encourage the children to decorate them with washable, water-based felt-tip pens. Once they have finished decorating, provide some small bowls of water and pipettes and encourage children to drip water over their Easter egg and watch as the colours mix spread across the paper.</p>		
Messy play ideas recipes: Warning – These are messy but lots of fun:		
<p>Gloop: You need: A box of cornflour, Water Talk to the children about the activity and ask them questions about what might happen when the ingredients are mixed together. Give children plenty of time to explore and investigate. This activity will create many discussions and will allow the children to see firsthand what happens when they get mixing.</p>	<p>Make salt-dough Easter decorations with the children Air Dry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 cup flour • 1/2 cup salt • 1/2 cup water <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mix together the dry ingredients. Mix constantly while adding the water slowly. You may not need all the water. The mixture should not be sticky. 2. Knead 10 minutes until the dough is firm. 3. Roll out the dough to about 1/2 inch thickness and cut with cookie cutters (just like you would cookies). 4. Store extra in a plastic bag for up to 3 weeks. You can let air dry for 48 hours (in a dry location) 	<p>FAIRY DOUGH INGREDIENTS: The ratio for this recipe is 1 part hair conditioner to two parts cornflour. We used one cup and two cups, but you can adjust the recipe as desired. Inexpensive hair conditioner works perfectly. You can easily add food colouring as desired or leave plain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 cup of hair conditioner • 2 cups of cornflour • mixing bowl and spoon • Food colouring • Glitter (optional) <p>Turn your playdough into a counting activity by adding dice! Roll and place the correct amount of items on a piece of rolled out playdough! Use buttons, beads, or small toys for counting. Make it a game and the first one to 20, wins!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add number playdough stamps and pair with the items to practice numbers 1-10 or 1-20. • Simply using cookie cutters to cut out shapes is great for little fingers!

Music	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create some musical Easter eggs by filling plastic eggs (You can also use clean plastic bottles) with different materials, such as pasta, rice, metal bolts and sand. Children can explore the different sounds they produce. 	<p>Learn a new song Create actions to go with it. Can you perform your song to your family?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Easter Farm song Sing to the tune of Old MacDonald. Old Macdonald's Easter Farm</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 80%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Old MacDonald's Easter Farm, Babies being born. And on that farm he had a (blank), That's a baby (blank).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">With a (insert sound) here and a (insert sound) there. Here a (insert sound), there a (insert sound), Everywhere a (insert sound) (insert sound).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Old MacDonald's Easter Farm, Babies being born.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Examples of animal babies and parents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foal and horse • Chick and hen • Calf and cow • Lamb and sheep </div> <div style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">  </div> </div>
Internet safety	
<p>Use the story from last weeks planning and answer the questions about Internet safety. <i>Questions are uploaded next to the planning.</i></p>	

Creative Development		
Design your own Easter Egg. <i>The template is uploaded next to the grid.</i> Can you make a repeating pattern on your egg? Can you make a complex pattern on your egg?	Try making a model basket for your sweet treats. You could use a clean empty cardboard box and decorate it or paint it.	Draw or paint an Easter picture. You could include some chicks, flowers or chicks on it.
Create a miniature Easter egg hunt in a large activity tray. Create an outdoor scene using artificial grass, real plants, logs, plant pots and watering cans. Hide small eggs in the scene for children to search for and describe their location.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create some lovely Easter egg shapes and patterns by printing egg shapes with a potato masher. Make a Collage of a flower from magazine pictures and different types of paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide chalks for children to use to draw Easter pictures on the ground in an outside area. Encourage them to talk about what they have drawn.
Useful websites:		
Nature detectives These can be completed in your garden.	Cbeebies Alphablocks	Just2Easy Use JiT to write about Easter. Use Paint to draw and create an Easter picture. Use Paint draw patterns on the Easter Egg.
NRich Maths Practical ideas	Free Maths resources on Digit Dog.	Twinkl have some free resources on their website during the School Closure period. Click on the home learning hub.

Easter recipes:



Chocolate Nests

Melt a bar of chocolate in the microwave until soft. Help your child stir in cornflakes or shredded wheat until coated. Share into bun cases.

Take a packet of chocolate eggs and share between the nests. Leave to cool before enjoying.

Challenge Grid. How many of the squares can you tick?

Roll two dice and add the numbers together? What can you use to help you?	Can you write each letter of the alphabet saying the rhyme to help you?	Pick a number within 10. What is one more than your number? What is one less than your number?	Finish this sentence. I like Spring because...
Tell your favourite toy your daily routine. What do you do in the morning, afternoon and evening?	How can you order or sort your toys? E.g. size, colour, shape etc.	Draw or write your top tips for washing your hands and keeping those germs away.	he, she, we, me, be, my, was, they, her, all, are, you Rainbow write these tricky words using different coloured pens or pencils.
Can you make up a story? Tell the story to someone in your house.	Collect different types of leaves. What is the same? What is different?	How many times can you hop/skip/jump in one minute?	Draw your favourite character from story book. How many wow words can you use to describe them?
Finish this sentence. I like to eat...	Read one of your books to someone in your house. Each time you read a tricky word say it in a quiet voice.	Can you find any circles in your house?	Collect some natural objects e.g. twigs, grass, leaves, flowers etc. Can you create an art piece.