



Easter Garden of Hope and Service

Leader's guide

Aim of session: to create an Easter garden that represents the resurrection of Jesus, while also inspiring the children to think about how they can serve others in their community.

You will need:

- Small tray or shallow container
- Potting soil
- Rocks or pebbles
- Small branches (to create a cross)
- Moss or grass (optional, for greenery)
- Paper or small cards with Bible verses or words of encouragement (e.g., "He is Risen!")
- Small toy figures (optional: representing Jesus and others from the Easter story)
- Felt tips, coloured pencils, or crayons for decoration

Introduction(5 minutes):

Start by talking briefly about the meaning of Easter and how it celebrates the resurrection of Jesus. Explain that the garden will be a special place to remember Jesus' love, sacrifice, and victory over death.

Building the Garden(15 minutes):

- Have the children help set up the base by filling the tray or container with soil.
- Guide them in placing rocks or pebbles around the edge to form a border, representing the tomb's stone that was rolled away.
- Create a small hill using soil in the centre and place a stick or branch upright to form a cross. This can symbolise Jesus' sacrifice.
- Add moss or grass to represent new life and hope, symbolising Jesus' resurrection and the new life he offers.



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Personalisation(5 minutes):

- Encourage the children to decorate small cards with Bible verses or words of hope, such as “He is Risen!” or “New Life in Christ.”
- They can place these cards in the garden to remind them of the joy and hope Easter brings.

Service Reflection(5 minutes):

- Once the garden is complete, gather the children and discuss how Jesus’ resurrection inspires us to love and help others. You can tie this into the mission aspect by saying something like:

“Just like Jesus brought hope and life to us, we can bring hope and life to others in our community by helping those who need it. How can we use what we’ve made today to share God’s love with others?”

- Give them simple ideas: They could take the Easter garden to a neighbour, share a card with a kind message, or help with something at church or in their community to spread Easter joy.

Closing(5 minutes):

Close with a short prayer, thanking God for the resurrection of Jesus and asking for help to be loving and helpful in the community.

This activity allows the children to not only create a beautiful representation of Easter, but also reflect on how they can live out the message of Easter by serving others in their community. It’s hands-on, meaningful, and aligns with the mission of helping others.



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