

April Easter
2s
Hip Hip Hooray

April 2-5

CRAFT EASTER

Jesus is Alive!

SUPPLIES: Clear plastic cups, empty tomb stickers, stone stickers, crayons

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Give each child 2 cups, an empty tomb sticker and a stone sticker.**
 - *“Come make a special Easter craft with me that shows the super happy surprise of our Easter story!”*

- ⇒ **Encourage the children to color the stickers. Then show them how to put the stickers on the cups so that they line up when the cups are stacked. Model for the children how to retell the story using the craft.**
 - *“Look at these pictures, they’re pictures of the stone and the tomb. Color your pictures then we’ll add them to your cups. (Pause.) Take the sticker with picture of Jesus next to the tomb and stick it to the side of your cup like this. (Demonstrate.) Super! Now put that cup inside your other cup.(Demonstrate.) Now take the sticker with the great big and stick that on your cup to cover the tomb like this. (Demonstrate.) Great job!*
 - *“Now let’s use our cups to tell our story! In our Bible Story today, we heard that Jesus died on a cross and His friends put His body in a tomb. (Twist the cups so only the tomb shows.) Then the big stone was rolled in front to cover the tomb. (Twist the cups so the stone covers the tomb and Jesus.) Let’s count to three, 1, 2, 3. On the third day, the stone was rolled away (Twist the cup again to show the empty tomb and Jesus next to it) and the tomb was ... **EMPTY!** Jesus was gone! Jesus is alive! Jesus came back just like He said he would! Hip, hip, hooray! Let’s celebrate! Jesus is alive! Let’s do it again. The tomb was closed with a big stone ... but then it was rolled away! Jesus is alive!”*

- ⇒ **Bring it back to the Bottom Line**
 - *“You can take this home to tell everyone the good news! Jesus is alive, and **Jesus wants to be my friend forever!***
 - ***“Who wants to be your friend forever?”***
 - ***“Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”***

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ACTIVITY #1

Easter Bingo

SUPPLIES: 3 Party Hats, Little Jesus figure

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Gather the children around a table to play a game.**

- *“Come and play a fun game with me! We’re going to play a looking game with these party hats. It’s a very special game because we are going to look for Jesus!”*

⇒ **Show the children the three party hats and the little Jesus, then hide Jesus under one of the hats. Mix the hats around and encourage the children to watch for where the Jesus figure is. Stop and let the children guess where Jesus is. Repeat as time and interest allows.**

- *“I have three party hats. (Show hats.) And I have our friend, Jesus! (Show figurine.) I’m going to hide Jesus under one of these hats. Watch carefully! (Hide Jesus and shuffle the hats.) Okay, where is Jesus? Who has a guess? [Child’s name], which hat do you think Jesus is under? (Let child point.) Let’s see ... (Lift hat.) You found Him! Hip, hip, hooray! Jesus is here! Let’s play again!” (Repeat, allowing different children to guess.)*

⇒ **Bring it back to the Bottom Line.**

- *“You are all such great finders! In our story today, some of Jesus’ friends went to find Him, but He was gone! But 3 days later, Jesus was alive again! **Jesus wants to be me my friend forever!**”*
- ***Who wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**”*

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ACTIVITY #2

Easter Egg Hunt

SUPPLIES: Easter Eggs, basket

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Scatter and hide the eggs throughout the room.**

⇒ **Gather the children around the basket.**

- *"We are going to have an Easter egg hunt! I need you to find all of the eggs around the room and bring them back to the basket as quickly as you can. Just remember to use safe feet and hands when you are searching. Are you ready? On your mark, get set, GO!"*

⇒ **Let the children find all the eggs and bring them back to the basket.**

- *"Great work! Friends, **Who wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"***
- *I wonder if we can do it even faster this time. I am going to scatter the eggs and you are going to find them again!"*

⇒ **Repeat the activity until you have played it a total of 3 times and then Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *"Great job, everyone! That was so much fun! You worked together and gathered all the eggs! Did you notice how many times we played our game? That's right, we collected all the eggs 3 times. One, two, three! What does the number three have to do with our lesson today?"*
- *That's right, Jesus promised He would come back. And after **THREE** days, Jesus **DID** come back. Jesus kept His promise. He's **ALIVE!** God sent Jesus to be my friend and **YOUR** friend forever!*
- ***Who wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"***



Keep Easter
eggs for next
week

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**READ, REVIEW, CONNECT IT, & PRAY
APRIL EASTER**

Here are some ideas to try in a group or one-on-one.

2-year-olds are all at different stages of development! Some are ready to answer big questions and say the memory verse, while others aren't ready to talk yet. Even if they aren't ready to answer, they are listening!

READ A STORY

- *The Easter Story – Keep all month*

ASK A QUESTION

Who wants to be your friend forever?

Jesus wants to be my friend forever!

PRACTICE THE MEMORY VERSE

“I have called you friend.” John 15:15

SAY A PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you for making me.

Thank you for loving me.

Thank you for sending Jesus to be my friend forever.

Amen.

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BONUS Activity

Praise Party

SUPPLIES: Preschool Instruments

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Give each child an instrument to play while they dance.**
 - *“Friends! We are celebrating that Jesus is alive and **Jesus wants to be my friend forever!** God sent Jesus because he loves us so much. That makes me want to party! Everybody grab an instrument and let’s have a Praise Party!*

- ⇒ **Encourage the children to make noise and praise Jesus. Pause them periodically and practice the memory verse.**
 - *“We’re going to make music and make a joyful noise to God with our instruments, but in order to play with our instruments, we need to practice following directions. When I put my hand up, I want you to shake your instruments, but when I put my hand down, we are all going to hold our instruments still so they don’t make any noise. Ready to practice? (Practice starting and stopping playing.)*
 - *“Great job! (Put your hand up.) Now, let’s play! (Put your hand down.) Freeze! Now let’s say our memory verse together: ‘I (point up) **have called you** (point to others) **friends,**’ (hook index fingers twice) **John 15:15.**” (Open hands like a book.)*

- ⇒ **Repeat as long as children are interested.**

- ⇒ **Complete the activity and Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**
 - *“Nice work, my friends!*
 - **Who wants to be your friend forever?**
 - **Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”**