The JOY Tourney

Christ-Centered Activities for the Easter season

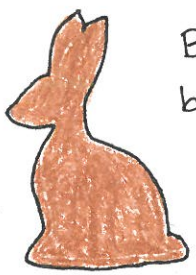
Praise Poster-

Decorate a poster for Easter with a Bible verse or phrase like, "He is risen!" or "My Redeemer Lives!" Hang in your front window.

Cross Suncatcher-

Cut some contact paper in the shape of a large cross and tape it sticky side out on the window. Invite your kids to stick various colored tissue paper squares to the cross. 1 Peter 2:24

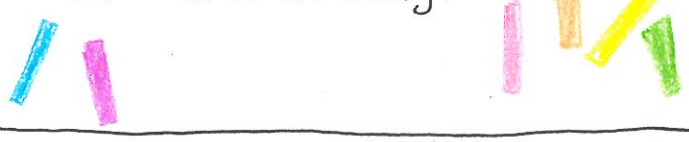
Chocolate Bunny-



Buy a large chocolate bunny and deliver it to someone special with a note that says, "NoBUNNY loves you like Jesus!"

Chalk Messages-

Write phrases like "Jesus thinks you are EGG-ceptional!" or "You are EGG-stra special!" with colorful chalk on someone's sidewalk or driveway.



Science Experiment-

Place a white carnation in a vase with water. Add a dozen drops of red food coloring to the water. Wait. The carnation will gradually take on the color of the dye. Read 1 Peter 1:18-19 and discuss how Jesus took our sins upon Himself when He died on the cross.

Mail Eggs-

Buy jumbo-sized plastic eggs. Fill with Easter treats and encouraging messages. Use packing tape to seal the eggs.

Tape on an address. Go to post office to weigh and get stamped. Send them off!

E-A-S-T-E-R Song-

To the tune of "Jesus Loves Me"

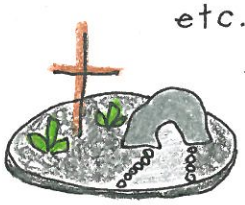
E is for Easter, coming again soon,
A is for angels near the tomb,
S is for stone which was rolled away,
T is for tomb found empty that day.

Yes, He is risen! (x3)
The Bible tells me so.

E is for early morning, all are glad,
R is for risen, don't be sad.
He'll come back for us some day,
Until then we'll watch and pray.

Resurrection Garden-

Fill a round cookie sheet with dirt. Add a rock tomb, twig cross, plants, Lego Jesus and soldiers, etc. Remove Jesus from the tomb on Easter morning. "He is not here! He has risen!" Matthew 28:6



'Tis So Sweet-

Put a marshmallow PEEP on a microwave safe plate and place in microwave. Turn on for 1 minute (you won't need all that time). Observe how the Peep grows. Read 2 Peter 3:18, "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

Egg-ing-

Fill a dozen plastic eggs with treats, but leave 1 egg empty. Hide them all over a neighbor's front yard and leave a note saying that the empty egg is a reminder of the EMPTY TOMB!

Dye Eggs-

Before you dye the hard-boiled eggs, write one letter of Jesus' name on each of 5 eggs in white crayon. Dye eggs. The letters will magically appear!

Jesus 'Dyed' for you!

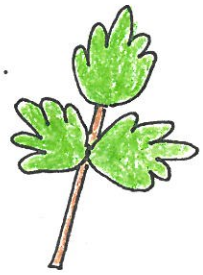
Tape-Resist Cross-

Lay some painter's tape down firmly on a canvas. Have your child fingerpaint the entire canvas. Let dry and remove the tape.

Colossians 2:14

Palm Sunday -

Trace your child's hands on green paper. Cut out and tape 3-4 hands to a long stick. Wave the 'palm branches' around and read John 12:12-13.



The Garden Prayer -

Read Luke 22:39-46. Visit a garden or park and pray there. "Dear Lord, thank you that we can pray to you about everything. Help us to pray for your will in every situation. Amen."

Light of the World -

Have cupcakes for dessert with one candle on each.* Use trick candles.* Light the candles and together blow them out. When the candles relight themselves, talk about how everyone thought Jesus' light had disappeared, but it hadn't. He was and still is ALIVE!

Good Friday -

Read about Jesus' death in your favorite children's Bible. Ask your child, "Why did Jesus die?" Remind him - Jesus was nailed to the cross because He loves (insert-child's name). Draw a red dot on your child's palm to symbolize the nail mark on Jesus's hands. Write your child's name above it.

Maundy Thursday -

(The Last Supper)

Have a time of breaking bread and drinking juice together. Read Matthew 26:17-30 and reflect on the importance of remembering Christ and His sacrifice.

Saturday -

Drop an Easter lily on someone's doorstep with a note that says,

"Joy comes in the morning..."
Psalm 30:5

A Servant's Heart -

Fill a bucket with water. Grab a few towels, gather your family, and share the story found in John 13:1-17. Then take turns washing each other's feet and praying for one another.

Happy Easter!

Greet everyone with a joyful, "He is Risen!"

Bake Resurrection Rolls for breakfast.

Sing praise songs.

Have a family dance party.