

Easter Quiz Hunt

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In North America, for most small children the highlight of the Easter celebrations is the Easter Egg Hunt. Children search around the yard or a park area to find hidden Easter eggs, which may be plastic eggs, candy eggs or decorated hard-boiled eggs. It is always great fun, but sadly has nothing to do with the REAL Easter Story! This new quiz game is based on the typical Easter Egg Hunt, but is adapted to be used in developing countries (where providing sufficient candy for a large group of children is a challenge) and it also is a way to teach and remind the children of the true meaning of Easter.

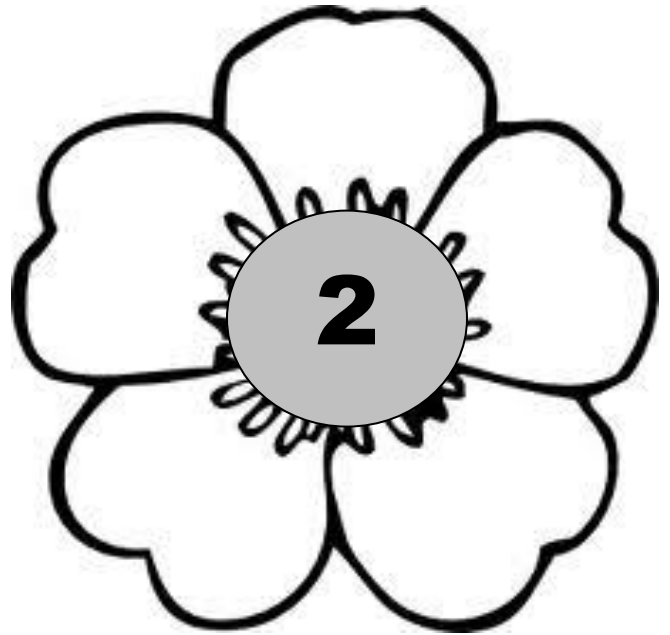
Preparation

1. Consider how many children will participate, and their ages; then adapt our suggestions accordingly. With a fairly small family group of similar ages, you can choose the questions most suitable, adding more if you want, and having all the children bring their finds to one "mother" who has the quiz questions. With a much larger group of children of various ages, we suggest the following ideas to ensure better control of the proceedings and a fairer final outcome!

2. With a large group of children, divide them by age into at least two groups (such as ages 3-7, and 8-12). Prepare a sheet of questions (see below) for each age group and assign a sufficient number of adults to be stationed around the play area for the children to go to once each child has found the correct number of hidden objects.

3. Prepare enough paper flowers (plastic eggs or hidden objects) for each child to find FIVE (or more, depending on the number of questions to be asked). You can use the pattern here to cut out flowers from colored cardstock paper, which is stiffer and more durable. Use either five different colors of cardstock, or write a number from 1-5 clearly in the center of each flower if all are of the same color. Each child will need to find one of each color or number, totaling five.

4. Before the children arrive to start the hunt, hide all the flowers around the playing area, on the ground, in bushes or on fences where they can be reached easily by the smaller children. (If the children are older, the flowers can be placed higher up but should be in plain sight - avoid holes where snakes or spiders may be hiding!)



Hunt

1. If working with two groups, you can begin with the younger group, and have the older group listen to a short teaching of the Easter Story while they are waiting. After the flowers have all been collected, they can be re-hidden for the 2nd group.

2. The children are told to go and hunt the flowers, but they can only collect one flower of each color or number. When they have collected all five, they then go to one of the adults, where they trade in each flower in return for answering the corresponding question. (Younger children can be helped with hints as they answer.) If they answer the question correctly they receive a point. After answering all five questions (regardless if correct or not) they receive a gift of candy. At the end, those who answered most questions correctly are recognized at the final gathering, where it is stressed that no matter if we are rich or poor, big or small, clever or not so clever, Jesus loves us and gave His life for us so we can receive the gift of salvation.

Note: The purpose is not so much to test the children's knowledge of the Easter Story (especially with very young children) but rather to use the opportunity to TEACH them the key story points.

Quiz questions

Younger group -

- 1) Where did Jesus die on the Cross? (Jerusalem)
- 2) What had Jesus done wrong? (nothing)
- 3) Where did they bury his body? (in a tomb closed by a huge rock)
- 4) What did his friends find 3 days later? (the tomb was empty)
- 5) What had happened? (Jesus was raised from the dead and visited with his friends before going up to Heaven)

Older group -

- 1) On which Jewish Festival was Jesus arrested? (Passover)
- 2) After he was beaten, how was he condemned to die? (nailed to a cross)
- 3) What was written on the sign above his head? (This is Jesus the King of the Jews)
- 4) How was the tomb protected after his body was placed in it? (with a sealed stone and a guard)
- 5) What happened on the third day? (The tomb was found empty because Jesus had been resurrected, and then he appeared and spoke with his disciples)