

A Truly Egg-Citing Egg Hunt



This is a fun way to teach children about Jesus' death and resurrection. To have a more meaningful egg hunt with children, read a condensed story about Jesus' death and resurrection, or even just John 3:16 and discuss why Jesus had to die.

You can purchase Resurrection Eggs online or in Christian bookstores in North America. But it's easy to make your own set as I did years ago. Once it's put together, it's a great resource to use for many years.



Using plastic eggs that separate into two pieces and fill them with items such as those listed below. But don't feel you have to use all of the ideas! Just use those that are readily available.

I would recommend printing out the attached verse cards to tuck into the egg with each item or, if you prefer, just pass out the verses after the hunt and let the children hold up their item when it is mentioned in the verse being read.

- One egg should be **empty**, representing the empty tomb, with Matthew 28:6: "He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay."
- A small **cube of bread** along with Matthew 26:26: written out on a small paper: "Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."
- A **silver coin**, along with Matthew 26: 14-15: "Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests and asked, 'What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?' So they counted out for him thirty silver coins. From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over." If you don't have a silver coin, wrap some coins in foil.
- A **piece of purple fabric**, with Mark 15:17: "They put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him." I cut the fabric into a simple robe/dress shape.
- A **thorn** from a rose bush, with Matthew 27:19: They "twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said." If you find some young thorn branches, you may even be able to twist them into a crown shape.
- A **small cross** (this can be from a piece of jewelry, or make one from cardboard), with John 19:17-18: "Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). Here they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle." Use a small piece of jewelry, tie two small sticks together or cut a cross shape from brown paper.

- A **nail**, with John 20:25b: "But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.'"
- A **small printed "sign"**, along with Luke 23:38: "There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS." Just write the text on a small piece of paper.
- A small **piece of sponge dipped in vinegar** and squeezed out, with Matthew 27:48: "Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink."
- A small **spear-like object** with John 19:34: "Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water." A Lego spear works well, or even a toothpick can be used.
- A **small rock** representing the stone put in front of the tomb, with Matthew 27:59-60: "Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away."
- A Playmobile or Lego **soldier** with Matthew 27:65-66: "Take a guard," Pilate answered. "Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how." So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard."
- A **small angel** along with Matthew 28:5,6: "The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay." I used one from our Christmas decorations.
- Other items could include:
 - a plastic **lamb**, or a picture of one (John 1:29)
 - a **Communion cup or Lego goblet** (Matthew 26:27,28)
 - **Reed/staff** or piece of dried marsh grass (Matthew 27:29)
 - **Bag of spices or potpourri** (Mark 16:1)
 - **Olive** – to represent the Mount of Olives (Matthew 26:30)
 - Piece of paper with a **lipstick kiss** on it (Matthew 26:49)
 - **Dice** (John 19:24)
 - **Rooster**—I used one from a Fisher-Price Barnyard (Matthew 26:75)

Keep this time fun, and don't get bogged down with the details. After hunting for the Truly Egg-Citing Eggs, let the children enjoy some holiday treats, or a piece of the Empty Tomb Cake. If you have a favorite children's Bible story book, read the Easter story together. Here are several good ones: [An Easter Gift for Me](#) (for small children), [Read and Share: The Story of Easter](#) (pre-kindergarten), or [The Very First Easter](#) (elementary school).