

A Springtime Discovery with Ellie

Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension skills through the exploration of historical and cultural traditions surrounding the Easter story.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions below in full sentences. Pay close attention to the details provided by Ellie.

Ellie the elephant, who loves history and stories, spent the morning sharing the origins of Easter with her friends. She explained that for many, Easter is a significant time of reflection and renewal. The story, which has been told for centuries, centres on themes of hope and new beginnings. Ellie noted that many traditions associated with this time, such as the giving of eggs, represent the arrival of spring and the promise of life returning to nature after the cold winter months. In the UK, families often gather to share meals and exchange small tokens of affection. Ellie showed the group a beautiful, hand-painted egg, explaining that decorating them is an ancient practice that allows people to express their creativity. She also spoke about the importance of community, as the season encourages people to be kind and look out for one another. As the sun shone brightly, the friends felt inspired by the idea that even after the darkest days, there is always a chance for a fresh start. They agreed that kindness and hope are the most important things to celebrate.

Word bank: tradition · commemorate · reflection · symbolism · resilience

1. According to Ellie, what do eggs symbolise during the Easter season? (2 marks)

2. What are two activities that Ellie mentions families in the UK often do during this time? (2 marks)

3. Why might Ellie describe the Easter story as a 'time of renewal'? (2 marks)

4. How does the passage suggest that the change in seasons impacts how people feel? (2 marks)

5. Do you think it is important for communities to share traditions together? Explain your answer using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing Ellie the elephant sitting in a meadow with her friends, sharing a beautifully decorated egg and talking about the arrival of spring.



Extension challenge: Research one other cultural or historical festival that celebrates the arrival of spring. Write a short paragraph explaining how it is similar to the themes Ellie discussed.