

Easter Traditions and Symbolism: A Creative Exploration

Learning objective: To identify and illustrate the symbolic meanings associated with Easter traditions and reflect on their significance within Christian history and seasonal celebrations.

Follow the drawing prompt below to create a detailed scene representing Easter. Use your knowledge of religious and seasonal symbolism to label your artwork accurately using the provided word bank. Ensure your labels are clear and reflect the historical or symbolic importance of each item.

Draw: Create a split-scene illustration on your page. On the left side, draw a quiet, reflective scene representing the Lenten period, using muted tones and symbols of introspection. On the right side, draw a vibrant, colourful scene representing Easter Sunday, including spring flowers, a bright sunrise, and a decorated Paschal candle. Use a detailed, illustrative style similar to a historical manuscript. Ensure you incorporate at least four terms from the word bank into your drawing as labels.



Label words: Paschal candle · Crucifixion · Resurrection · New life · Spring equinox · Symbolism · Sacrifice · Lent

Steps:

1. Explain why the egg is considered a universal symbol of 'new life' during the Easter period. How does this

link to the natural world?

2. Compare and contrast the focus of the Lenten period with the focus of Easter Sunday. What is the shift in mood and meaning?
3. Justify your choice of colours in your drawing. Why might specific colours, such as white or gold, be used to represent the Resurrection?
4. What might happen if all traditional religious symbols were removed from Easter celebrations? Would the season still hold the same meaning for communities? Explain your reasoning.
5. Label your drawing to show where you have placed the 'Paschal candle'. Why is this object significant in a church service during Eastertide?
6. Creative Extension: Write a short, four-line poem in the style of Leo the Lion that describes the transition from the sadness of Good Friday to the joy of Easter Sunday.