Springtime Traditions: The Story of Easter

Learning objective: I can identify key facts about Easter traditions and interpret their significance within British culture.

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Discuss what traditions your family has during the spring season to help connect the text to real life.

Read the passage carefully. For retrieval questions, scan the text for specific words. For inference, look for clues about how people feel or why things happen. Example: If the text says 'the robin sang as the sun rose', and the question asks about the mood, you might infer it is a peaceful morning.

Easter is a significant festival in the Christian calendar, marking the end of Lent. It is a time often associated with the arrival of spring in the UK, where daffodils bloom and nature begins to awaken after the cold winter. While the religious observance focuses on the resurrection, many families also celebrate the season with various cultural traditions.

Historically, the date of Easter changes each year because it is linked to the lunar cycle and the spring equinox. It always falls on a Sunday. Many people attend church services, while others participate in customs that have evolved over centuries. For instance, the giving of chocolate eggs has become a staple of the holiday. These represent new life and the joy of the changing season. In many villages, children enjoy egg hunts in the garden, searching for treasures hidden behind oak trees or near garden sheds.

Across the UK, communities come together to share hot cross buns, which are spiced, sweet buns marked with a cross. These have been enjoyed for generations as a sign of reflection and hope. Whether spending time at the seaside or visiting family, Easter serves as a period for people to pause, appreciate the lengthening days, and look forward to the summer months ahead.

Word bank: resurrection · symbolism · tradition · equinox · observance

1. Identify two signs of spring mentioned in the text that suggest the season is changing. (2 marks)

2. Explain why the date of Easter is different every year according to the passage. (2 marks)

3. Why might chocolate eggs be considered a fitting symbol for the Easter season? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (3 marks)

4. Based on the text, how does the author's view of Easter shift from a religious perspective to a cultural one? (3 marks)

5. Do you think traditions like egg hunts are important for communities? Give a reason for your opinion. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing how you would decorate a garden for a traditional spring celebration.

Extension challenge: Research why hot cross buns have a cross on them and write a short paragraph explaining their historical significance.

I did it! **Name:** _____ **Date:** _____

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