

Jesus Dies and Lives Again

Lesson 28

Bible Story

Matthew 26:1-4,47-50; 27:11-66;
John 18:1—20:20

Teacher Challenge

It looked as if death had triumphed: Jesus had died and been buried. Jesus' friends were terrified and brokenhearted. But they only saw part of the picture. Jesus was not rotting in a tomb—He was triumphing over it! Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension to God's right hand in heaven converge as the pinnacle of history. Jesus did exactly what He had said He would do, completing the task that His Father had given Him to do. It is finished—He has done it!

- ➔ How has the truth of Jesus' death and resurrection changed your life? How has it changed the lives of people around you?
- ➔ In light of Jesus' victory over death, what concerns or fears in your life can you trust God more with?

Because most young children have not yet had a firsthand experience with death, they may not comprehend what death and resurrection are all about. But let them share the joy and wonder that Jesus' victory over death has wrought in you! They'll respond gladly to the good news that Jesus is alive!

God's Word
"It is true! The Lord has risen."
Luke 24:34

God's Word and Me
I'm glad Jesus is alive and
shows His love for me.

Teacher's Planning

1. Choose which centers you will provide and the order in which children will participate in them. For tips on schedule planning, see page 9.
2. Plan who will lead each center, making sure to have one adult for approximately every six children. For staffing tips and ideas, see page 12.



Play to Learn

Lesson 28

Active Game Center: Plate Turnover

Collect

Bible, paper plates, marker, beanbag.

Prepare

Draw a happy face on several paper plates. Place these plates and several blank ones facedown on floor. (Note: If you have a large class, prepare one setup for every six to eight children.)

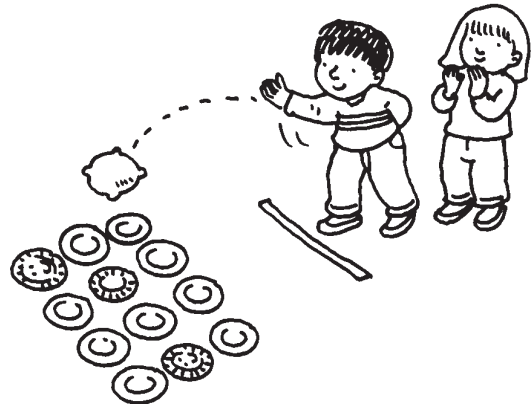
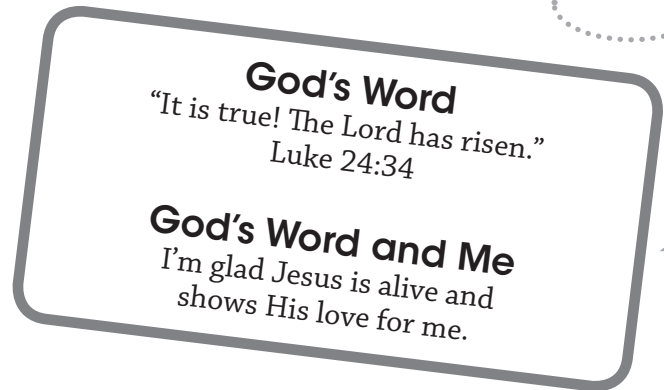
Do

1. Children stand several feet from paper plates. Taking turns, each child tosses a beanbag at the paper plates. Child turns over plate beanbag lands on or near to see if there is a happy face drawn on it.
2. Continue play until all paper plates are turned over. To play another round, mix up plates, turn them facedown and repeat as time and interest allow.

Talk About

➔ **In today's Bible story, Jesus' friends found out that He is alive! Emma, how do you think Jesus' friends felt to know Jesus was alive? We're happy Jesus is living, too! Let's play a game to find some happy faces.**

➔ **The Bible says, "It is true! The Lord has risen." "Lord" is another name for Jesus. Jesus is alive! Jesus shows His love for us. Matt, what are some of the good things Jesus helps you to have?** (Parents to care for us. Friends to play with. Food to eat.)



For Younger Children

Prepare one happy-face plate for each child. Place plates facedown in different places around the room. Children search for plates and turn them over to find happy faces.

For Older Children

On each of five plates print one letter of the word "Jesus." Use these plates along with the ones you prepared. When all plates have been turned over, children put the letter plates in order to spell "Jesus."

Play to Learn

Lesson 28

Art Center: Easter Badges

Collect

Bible, Lesson 28 Easter Badge Pattern from *Discovering God's Love* CD-ROM, scissors, yarn, markers, tape.

Prepare

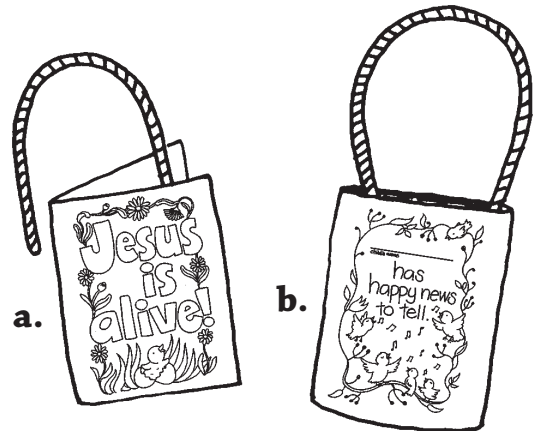
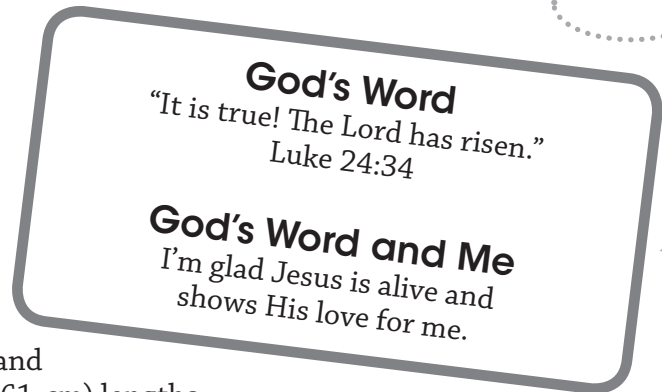
Make one copy of Easter Badge Pattern for yourself and each child and prefold pages. Cut yarn into 24-inch (61-cm) lengths.

Do

1. Give each child an Easter Badge Pattern. Children use markers to color badges. Print each child's name on badge where indicated. Children tape yarn to back of badge as shown in sketch a. Children fold badge over and tape closed as shown in sketch b.
2. Children wear badges around neck, turning badges over to show the good news.

Talk About

- ➔ **The Bible says, "It is true! The Lord has risen." "Lord" is another name for Jesus. I'm glad Jesus is alive and shows His love for me. Let's make badges to tell others that Jesus is living.**
- ➔ **Rachel, what happy news do you have to tell? We can be glad that Jesus is alive! Who will you tell this good news?**
- ➔ **Pray briefly, Thank You, Jesus, for loving us. We are glad You are alive!**



For Younger Children

Teacher attaches yarn to back of page.

For Older Children

Children form pairs. Partners face each other and take turns turning their badges over as they say "Jesus is alive!"

Play to Learn

Lesson 28

Block Center: Block Garden

Collect

Bible, brown paper, blocks, real or artificial nature objects (twigs, leaves, flowers, gravel, etc.), toy people.

Prepare

Tear brown paper into one or more round rock shapes.

Do

1. Children use blocks to outline a garden and make hills. Children arrange nature objects in garden. Assist children to make a tomb by building a cave and taping paper rock over the opening.
2. Children play with toy people in the garden.

Talk About

- ➔ **Our Bible story today tells about a time when Jesus' friends were very sad. Then came the happy day when they knew Jesus was not in the tomb. Jesus is alive! Let's make a garden like the one where Jesus' friends found out Jesus was not in the tomb.**
- ➔ **This paper is like the rock that covered Jesus' tomb. His tomb was a little room made in the side of a hill. Mary, one of Jesus' friends, went to the garden to visit Jesus' tomb. When she got there, the tomb was empty. Jesus is alive!**
- ➔ **The Bible says, "It is true! The Lord has risen." "Lord" is another name for Jesus. I'm glad Jesus is alive. I'm glad that Jesus loves us. Pray briefly, Thank You, Jesus, for loving us.**



For Younger Children

Make an outline of the garden using masking tape. Children place blocks along the outline to form the garden. (Note: Remove masking tape immediately after activity.)

For Older Children

Children act out the Bible story with toy people as you briefly tell story events. Expect to repeat the Bible story several times during the Block Center.

Play to Learn

Lesson 28

Science Center: What's That Smell?

Collect

Bible, variety of plant parts (flowers, leaves, seeds, cones, twigs, etc.) from different plants (include some strongly-scented plants like pine, cedar, alder, etc.), paper bags.

Do

1. Children explore plant parts. Children crush or roll plant parts to release its scent.
2. Help children place a crushed part from each plant in a separate bag, close the bag and leave a matching plant part out on a table. Children take turns to close eyes, open a bag and then sniff. Children then find the plant on the table that matches the smell of the plant in the bag.

Talk About

- ➔ **Jesus' friends were in a garden when they heard the happy news that Jesus is alive. There would have been good smells in the garden. Let's smell some plants.**
- ➔ **Which plants are soft? Spiky? Does this plant smell sweet? Spicy? God gave us fingers to feel and noses to smell.**
- ➔ **The Bible says, "It is true! The Lord has risen." "Lord" is another name for Jesus.**
- ➔ **We're glad Jesus is alive and shows His love for us. Jesus shows His love by listening when we pray. Pray briefly, Dear Jesus, thank You for loving us. We're glad that You are alive!**



God's Word
"It is true! The Lord has risen."
Luke 24:34

God's Word and Me
I'm glad Jesus is alive and
shows His love for me.

For Younger Children

Bring a variety of flowers for children to touch. Encourage children to smell flowers and compare colors.

For Older Children

Children group plant items according to the kind of scent (sweet, spicy, etc.).

Listen to Learn

Matthew 26:1-4,47-50; 27:11-66; John 18:1—20:20

Lesson 28

Collect

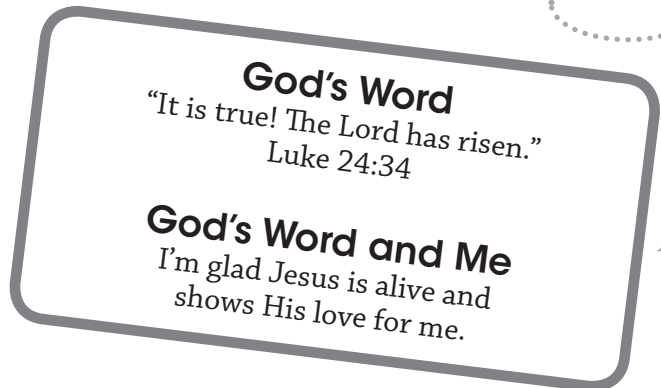
Bible, Bible Story 41 pictures from *God's Story for Me Poster Pack #1*, *Preschool Music #1* CD and player, variety of rhythm instruments.

Greet Each Other

Provide a variety of rhythm instruments. Volunteer chooses an instrument to play while you say the following words, inserting the child's and the instrument's names as shown. Repeat until each child has had a turn.

Jesus is alive! Yes, Jesus is alive!

(Rory) (shakes his shaker) because Jesus is alive.



Tell the Story

Open your Bible to Matthew 26. Tell the story using the pictured motions (keywords in bold) or show Bible Story 41 pictures.

Show me how people look when they feel sad. How do they look when they feel happy?
Listen to hear about a time when Jesus' friends were sad and then happy.



One day, Jesus told His friends, "In a few days, some people are going to take Me away. I'm going to be killed." Jesus' friends were very **sad**. But Jesus knew this was part of God's good plan. Jesus knew He wouldn't **STAY** dead!



When the people who wanted to kill Jesus came to get Him, Jesus let them take Him. And Jesus let them kill Him on a cross. Jesus' friends were very sad to see Him dead. They took Jesus' body and put it into a **tomb**. (This tomb was a little room made in the side of a hill.) Later, a **HUGE** rock was rolled in front of the doorway of the tomb so that no one could go in or out.



On the third day after Jesus was killed, one of Jesus' friends named Mary **came to the tomb**. It was still a little dark, but she could see that the big rock was **NOT** in front of the door. Mary looked into the tomb and saw two angels. One angel asked her why she was crying. Mary said, "Because Jesus' body is gone and I don't know where He is."



She turned around and almost bumped into someone. "Mary!" the person said. Mary knew that voice—it was **JESUS!** Mary was so happy to know that Jesus is alive!

Jesus said to her, "Go and tell the others." And Mary did! She must have **run** very fast!

"Jesus is **ALIVE!** I saw Him!" she said. Jesus' other friends were so surprised, some of them did not believe her. But that night, Jesus came to the place where His friends were. Now Jesus' friends saw that Jesus is alive and knew that He loved them! The very **SAD** day had been turned into a very **GLAD** day—because Jesus is alive!

Talk About the Story

What did Mary do when she saw that Jesus is alive? (Ran and told Jesus' other friends.) **Jesus' friends were glad to know Jesus is alive! We are glad Jesus is alive and shows His love for us!**

Sing to God

Let's sing a song together about a very happy time.

Lead children in singing "Jesus Is Alive!" (track 8 on CD).

Jesus is alive! At Eastertime we remember that Jesus is alive. Eastertime is a very happy time!

Option: Older children suggest motions for "Jesus Is Alive!"

Option: Vary the manner in which you and the children speak (loud, soft, whisper, low, high, etc.).

Hear and Say God's Word

Holding your Bible open to Luke 24:34, say verse aloud. **"Lord" is another name for Jesus. This verse tells us that Jesus has risen. Jesus is alive!** Lead children in repeating the verse by echoing phrases after you: "It is true!/The Lord has risen." Point to children when it is their turn to speak. Repeat verse several times in this manner.

Pray to God

Dear God, we love You. And we thank You that Jesus is living today. Thank You for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen.

Praise to God

Lead children in saying the following words. (Optional: Sing words to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It.")

If you're happy and you know it, smile a smile. *(Smile.)*

If you're happy and you know it, smile a smile. *(Smile.)*

If you're happy and you know it, then your face will surely show it—

If you're happy and you know it, smile a smile. *(Smile.)*

Repeat with the following words:

1. If you're sad and you know it, say boo-hoo.

2. If you're excited and you know it, say "hooray!"

The people in our story were first sad, and then they were excited. They were excited because Jesus is alive! We are glad that Jesus is alive.

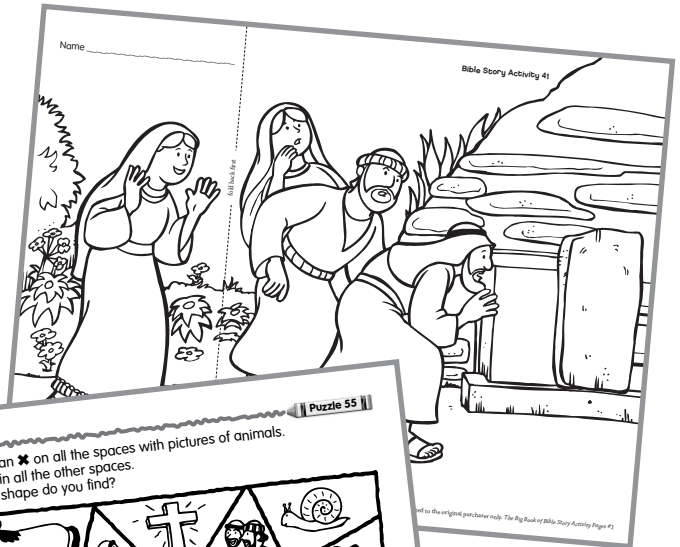
Bible Story Activity Pages Center

Collect

A copy of Activity 41 from *The Big Book of Bible Story Activity Pages #1* for yourself and each child, crayons or markers; optional—small artificial flowers, glue.

Do

Lead children to complete pages following the instructions. (Optional: Children glue artificial flowers to flowers on page.) Use the conversation suggestions as children complete their pages and retell the story.



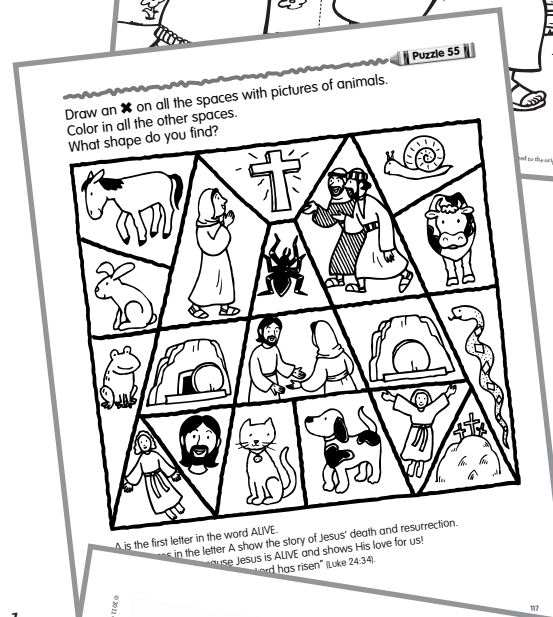
Preschool Puzzle Center

Collect

Copies of Puzzles 55 and 56 (p. 117 and p. 119 from *The Big Book of Kindergarten Puzzles*) for each child; pencils, crayons or markers.

Do

Children complete the puzzles and color pages. Use the conversation suggestions on the pages.



Read-Aloud Story Center

Collect

A copy of Story Picture 28 from *The Big Book of Read-Aloud Stories #1* for yourself and each child, crayons or markers.

Do

Read the story and distribute pictures. Use the conversation suggestions as children complete their pages.

