

Ellie the Elephant's History Corner: The Story of Easter

Learning objective: To understand the historical and cultural significance of Easter, and to practise summarising key events in a narrative.

Read the passage below carefully. Use your best handwriting to answer the questions, ensuring you use full sentences where possible.

Ellie the Elephant has been visiting the local library to read about the history of Easter. She explains that for Christians, Easter is the most important festival in the calendar. It is a time that marks the end of Lent, a period of forty days of reflection and fasting. The story centres on the events of Holy Week. It begins with Maundy Thursday, which remembers the Last Supper. This is followed by Good Friday, a day of solemn remembrance. Finally, the story reaches Easter Sunday, a day of great joy celebrating the resurrection. Today, many people celebrate by giving chocolate eggs, which symbolise new life and the arrival of spring. Ellie loves that these traditions help families come together to share stories and enjoy the warmer weather.

Word bank: tradition · significance · celebration · symbolise · resurrection · reflection

1. According to the passage, why is Easter considered the most important festival for Christians? (2 marks)

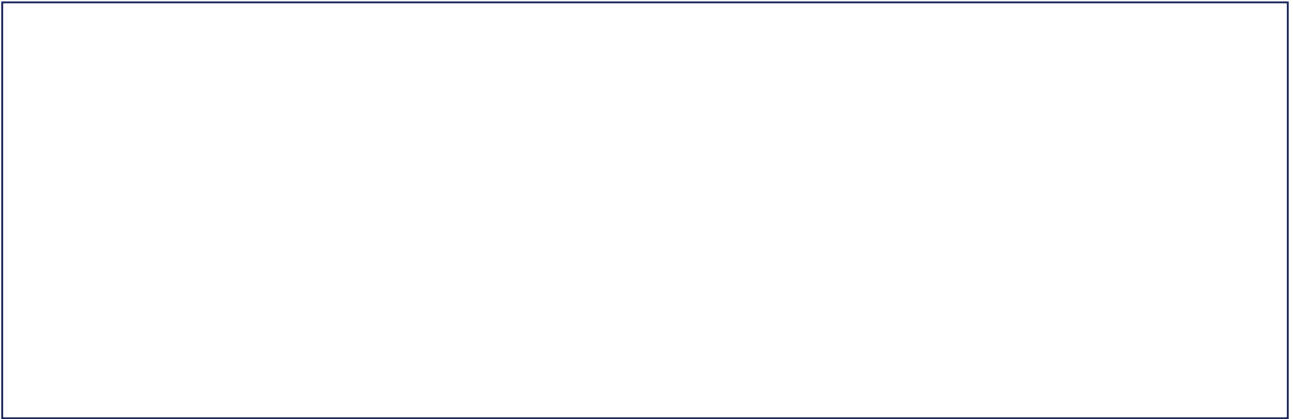
2. What is the name of the forty-day period that comes before Easter, and what do people do during this time? (2 marks)

3. Can you list the three specific days mentioned in the text and explain one thing that happens on each day? (3 marks)

4. Why are chocolate eggs used as a symbol during the Easter celebration? (2 marks)

5. How does Ellie the Elephant feel about the traditions of Easter, and why? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture showing a symbol of spring and explain in one sentence why you chose that particular object.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are an investigative reporter like Kit the Fox. Write a short diary entry (4-6 sentences) from the perspective of someone living in the past, describing how they are preparing for the Easter celebrations.