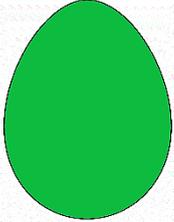




Search for the Easter Story

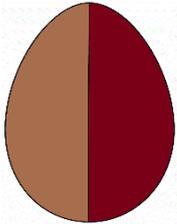
Today we're going to explore the Easter Story Together.

You will need to print or make your own eggs to hide in the different colours shown. Collect the eggs in the correct order to tell the Easter Story, why not put them in different rooms of the house and travel from room to room together to find them. Alternatively find all the eggs first and then lay them out in order to tell the story.



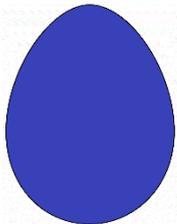
1. Palm Sunday – Matthew 21 v 1–11

Our Easter story begins on Palm Sunday, it's the day when we remember Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. People waved palm branches and shouted out Hosanna. They recognised that Jesus was the special Messiah they had been waiting for.



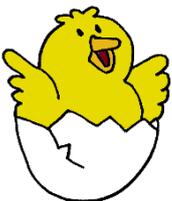
2. The Last Supper – Matthew 26 v 17– 30

The night before he died Jesus had a special meal with his disciples. Jesus took the bread from the table and broke it; he shared it with his disciples and told them it represented his body that would be broken for them. Next Jesus took a cup of wine and shared it with his disciples, he said that it represented his blood that would be spilt for them. When we share communion, we remember the sacrifice that Jesus made for us and the promise he made that he would return.



3. Gethsemane – Matthew 26 v 36–56

After their meal together, Jesus and his disciples went to the garden of Gethsemane. Jesus took time to pray asking God to help him with the challenge he was about to face. While Jesus prayed his disciples fell asleep. Jesus was disappointed that his friends could not stay awake with him while he prayed. The disciples did not really understand what was going to happen. Then Judas who had betrayed Jesus arrived with soldiers who arrested him.

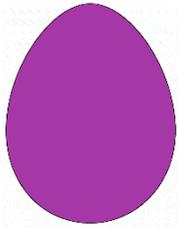


4. Peter's denial – Matthew 26 v 31–35 and v 69–75

This egg...is a chicken!

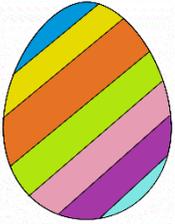
While Jesus had been eating with his disciples, he had warned them that one of them would betray him. Peter, one of Jesus' disciples was horrified, "Not me," he cried, "I would never betray you." "It is not you," Jesus explained, "but before the rooster crows tomorrow morning you will deny me three times.

After Jesus was arrested, Peter was waiting in a courtyard to hear what was happening. Somebody recognised him as one of Jesus' followers, but Peter denied that he had ever known Jesus because he was scared. Then somebody else asked him, and somebody else. Each time, Peter denied that he had known Jesus. After Peter had denied Jesus three times a rooster crows, and Peter remembered what Jesus had told him would happen.



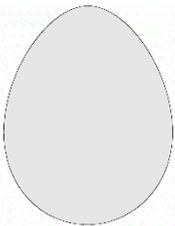
5. Pontius Pilate – Matthew 27 v 11–37

Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate to be judged. Pilate asked Jesus if he was the “King of the Jews”. The soldiers mocked Jesus, they gave him a crown made of thorns and a robe to wear. Over the cross they put a sign saying “Jesus, King of the Jews”. The purple egg reminds us of the truth, that Jesus is royalty, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.



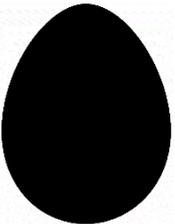
6. By his stripes... Isaiah 53 v 5

Jesus was beaten by the soldiers; we refer to his beating as receiving “stripes”. The Bible teaches us that ‘by his stripes we are healed’. Jesus suffered so that we wouldn’t have to, we can know healing because of Jesus’ suffering.



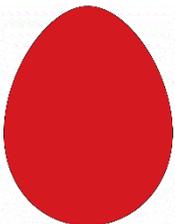
7. Our sins are wiped away – Matthew 27 v 45 – 55

When Jesus was killed on the cross the sky went dark, there was an earthquake, people came to life who were dead and the curtain in the temple was torn in two! Jesus died as a sacrifice for us so that all our sins might be forgiven. The colourless egg reminds us that all our sins are wiped away and we can be forgiven because of Jesus’ death on the cross.



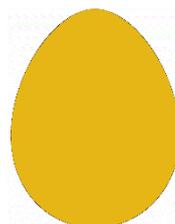
8. The empty tomb – Matthew 28 v 1–10

Three days after Jesus had died Mary went to visit the tomb where Jesus had been buried; when she arrived, the tomb was empty. An angel appeared to Mary and told her that Jesus was no longer in the tomb, he had risen from the dead! Then Jesus appeared to Mary, at first, she thought it was the gardener but when she realised who it was she was amazed.



9. A visit to the disciples – Matthew 28 v 16–20

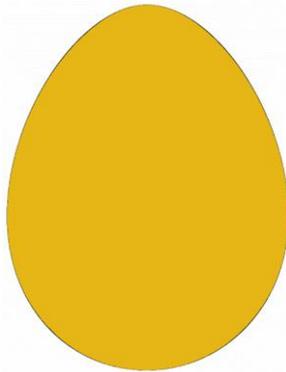
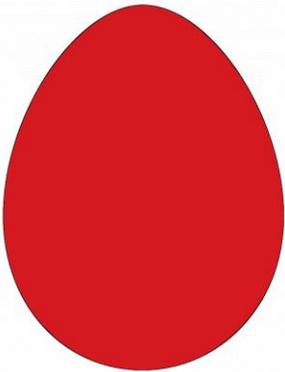
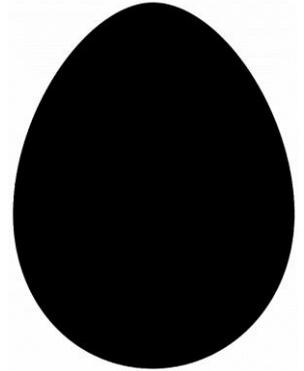
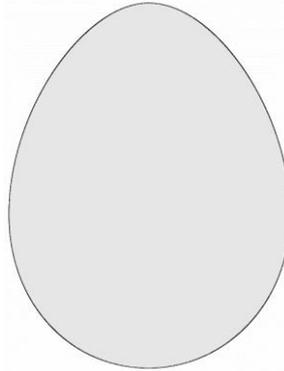
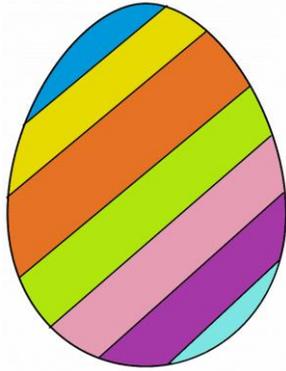
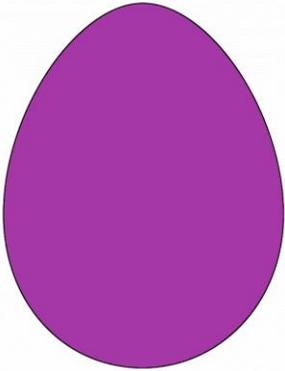
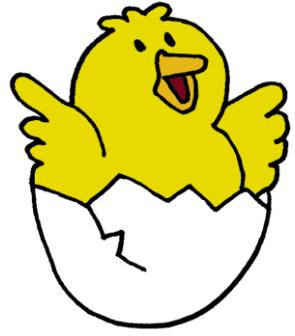
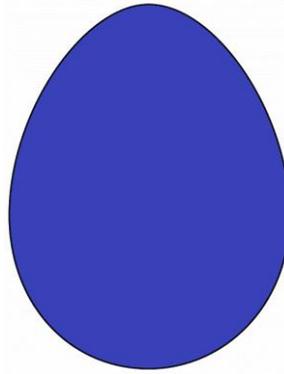
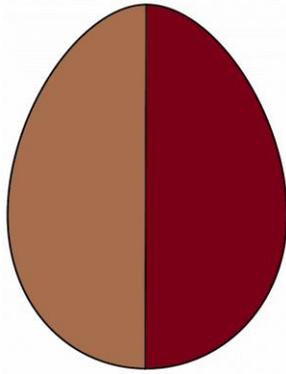
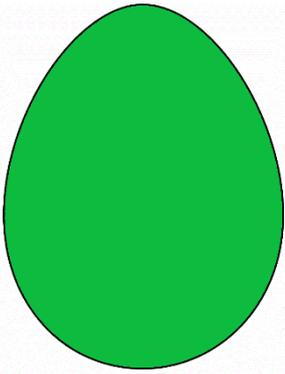
After Jesus had risen from the dead, he appeared to many people including his disciples. He showed them the wounds in his hands and feet and reminded them of how much he loved them. Jesus commissioned his disciples to go into all the world and teach everybody about how much he loved them.



10. A heavenly promise – John 3 v 16

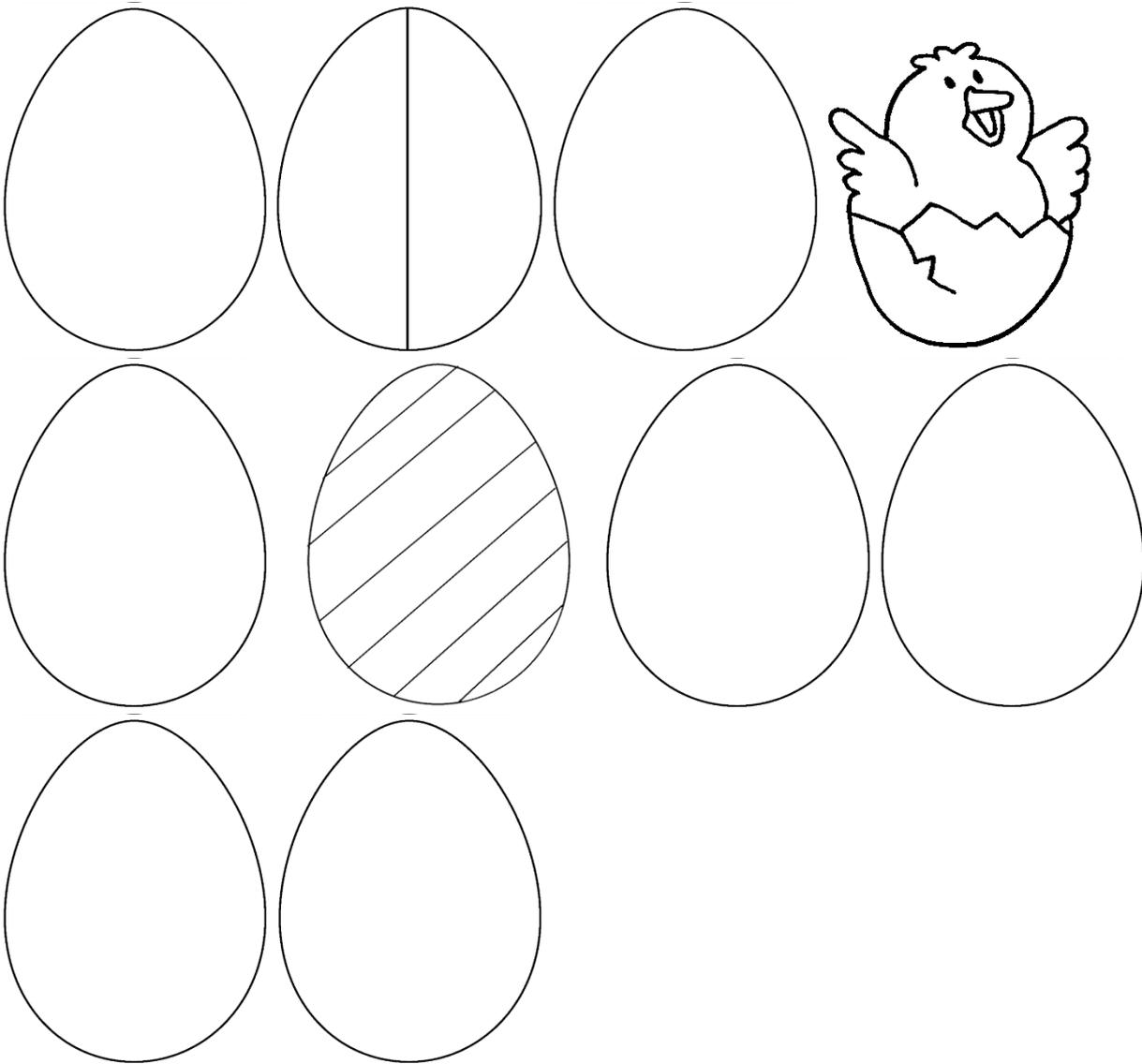
Finally, Jesus returned to heaven. Because of the Easter story we know that we too can go to heaven and spend eternity with Jesus.

Print your own set of eggs to hide



- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | Green Egg | Palm Sunday |
| 2. | Red and Brown Egg | The Last Supper |
| 3. | Blue Egg | Gethsemane |
| 4. | Chicken | Peter's Denial |
| 5. | Purple Egg | Pontius Pilate |
| 6. | Stripes Egg | By his stripes... |
| 7. | Plain Egg | Our Sins are wiped away... |
| 8. | Black Egg | The empty tomb |
| 9. | Red Egg | A visit to the disciples |
| 10. | Gold Egg | A heavenly promise |

Save on coloured ink by printing and colouring your own or just drawing them by hand on any paper you have available.



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