

## Teacher notes







Revisit reflection area activity this week.  
Have a set of scales.  
Books - Tuesday: prayer

### Introduction to Lent and Easter



Lent is a season of forty days beginning with Ash Wednesday and ending on Holy Saturday. It is a time of reflection, repentance and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. The period of forty days reflects the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness before he began his ministry. (The six Sundays during Lent are excluded from the 40 days) The colour for Lent is purple.



Easter Sunday is the day Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. The season of Easter lasts for 50 days (7 Sundays) until Pentecost. The colours of Easter are white and gold.



Reflection Area activity idea:












   **Fruits from the Roots**   

**SEEING ALL SIDES**

 Place a multi faceted sculpture on display on a table so that it can be viewed from all sides. 

 Place sheets of paper on four sides of the sculpture and invite children to draw what they see from their 'perspective'. Then compare all the drawings. 

 Reinforce the message from previous worship on the importance of understanding the full picture. 



Pieces of blank paper with boxes on. Each time a child visits the area, they draw the object and write their name.

Week 6 - show the piece of paper and talk about the message of why it's important to 'see the whole picture'.


Monday 4th April



This half term's Christian value is:



# JUSTICE



**'Learn to do right.  
Seek justice.'**

Isaiah 1.17

## QUOTES & QUESTIONS

Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need, but not every man's greed.  
*(Mahatma Gandhi)*

Justice cannot be for one side alone, but must be for both.  
*(Eleanor Roosevelt)*

? How much of what you want is what you actually need?

? Do you think about what is fair for others as well as what is fair for yourself?

Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity; it is an act of justice.  
*(Nelson Mandela)*

If you want peace, work for justice.  
*(Pope Paul VI)*

? Can you rewrite these words spoken by Nelson Mandela in your own words?

? Why do you think Pope Paul VI believed justice was essential to having peace?

Monday 4th April

Greeting

*Light your class worship candle.*



We have gathered in the name of  
God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
to worship together,  
and think about our value

*Justice*



## Engage



Why do you think the symbol for justice is a set of scales?

What do you think each side represents?

The symbol for the value **justice** is a set of pan scales (*hold up scales from the worship table*)

Why do you think this object has been chosen?

Show photo of *Lady Justice*.

At a trial in a court of law the judge and jury consider the crime that a person has committed (*tip one side of the scales*) and decide on a punishment that is right for that crime (*tip the other side of the scales to make the scales balance*).

This is how **justice** is done.

# Engage



## Learning

Jesus spent his life on earth helping and healing those in need. He taught people about God and told them how much God cared for them. Jesus welcomed those that no one else liked. Poor people and outcasts loved him. But not *everyone* wanted him around.

The religious leaders were worried by the hundreds and hundreds of people who followed Jesus and believed in Him and his teaching. Some leaders were angry, some were even jealous. Jesus had done nothing wrong, but these people wanted him out of the way!

The storyteller Bob Hartman has written a story called *That's not fair. That's not justice.*

*For children who have been rehearsed, read the story ask everyone to*

## DRAMA THAT'S NOT FAIR

**That's not fair. (wave hands) That's not justice. (point a finger in the air)**

They didn't like that he disagreed with them. They didn't like that he challenged what they did and what they taught. They didn't like that he said he was God's son. So they decided to get rid of him.

**That's not fair. That's not justice.**

They bribed Judas, one of his friends, to betray him and tell them where he was.

**That's not fair. That's not justice.**

Then they sent a gang in the middle of the night to arrest him.

**That's not fair. That's not justice.**

They dragged him before a religious court, where he was beaten and where people told lies about him.

**That's not fair. That's not justice.**

Then they took him before the Roman Governor, Pilate, and demanded that Jesus be sentenced to death.

**That's not fair. That's not justice.**

And even though Pilate decided that Jesus had done nothing wrong, and offered to execute a thief instead, the religious leaders stirred up the crowd, who shouted and shouted until Pilate agreed to put Jesus to death.

**That's not fair. That's not justice.**

The Roman soldiers whipped Jesus and jammed a crown made out of thorns on his head. Then they laid a wooden beam on his back and marched him up a hill called The Skull.

**That's not fair. That's not justice.**

When they reached the top of the hill, they nailed the beam to another beam, to make the shape of a cross. Then they nailed Jesus' hands and feet to the cross and stood it upright, so everyone could watch him die.

**That's not fair. That's not justice.**

And while he was dying, the religious leaders laughed at Jesus and made fun of him. "You saved other people," they mocked. "Why can't you save yourself?"

**That's not fair. That's not justice.**

Still he would not stop helping people. A thief on a cross next to him was sad and scared, so Jesus made him feel better. He made sure that his mum was taken care of. And he even asked God to forgive the people who had put him to death. And when he had suffered enough, Jesus closed his eyes and said "It's finished."

And the man who had done so much good for so many people died a criminal's death.

**That's not fair. That's not justice.**

But what did he mean? What was finished? Christians believe that he was talking about the work God sent him to do. Christians believe that his death was part of that plan. Christians believe that Jesus died to take the punishment for all the bad things anyone has ever done - so that we wouldn't have to be punished and be apart from God forever. Christians believe Jesus chose to die - to die for all of us.

**But that's not fair. That's not justice.**

And, no, no it's not.

## Respond

### Reflecting

On Good Friday Christians remember that what happened to Jesus was not fair or just. Jesus was not a criminal, he was God's precious Son.

But out of what appeared to be the darkest day, God brought hope for the world. Three days after Good Friday, on Easter Day, Christians celebrate the greatest miracle that ever happened. Jesus rose from the dead and he appeared again to his friends to show them that all he had taught them was true!

Listen to Archbishop Desmond Tutu's poem about the power of God's love and the victory shown in the rising of Jesus over all that is dark and evil in the world. Some children have been creating abstract artwork to illustrate the spirit of his words.

*Hold up their art as the poem is read or ideally have the art projected on to the*

### **VICTORY**

Goodness is stronger than evil,  
Love is stronger than hate,  
Light is stronger than darkness,  
Life is stronger than death.  
Victory is ours  
Through Him who loved us.

*Archbishop Desmond Tutu*



## Sending

### **PRAYER FOR JUSTICE AND LOVE**



Father God,

your Son Jesus Christ suffered and died for us.

In his resurrection he restores life and peace in all creation.

In a world of sadness and tears, show us your joy.

In a world of hatred, show us your love.

In a world of despair, give us hope.

In a world of disbelief, give us faith.

Give us power in your world to make a difference  
and stand up for **justice**.

Amen.



Tuesday 5th April



Children will need  
spiritual journals

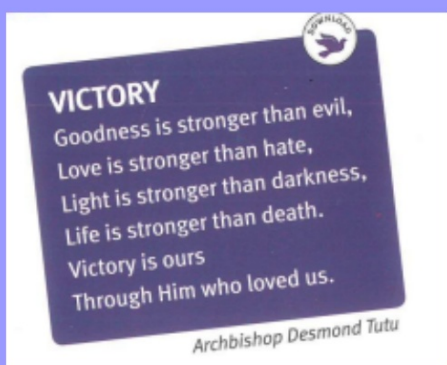
## Engage

Remind me: how does the Easter story show our value, Justice?

Can you think of any examples where someone/a group of people have been treated unjustly?

## Respond

Write a prayer inspired by those people who have been treated unjustly.



## Sending

*Share prayers..*

