

Collective Worship



Cheeky Pandas®

Collective Worship

Easter

What you will need

- A big cut out Easter egg shape and a way to attach it to a wall
- A Bible
- The Cheeky Pandas video "Easter Eggstravaganza"
- The picture of the chick and a way to show it

How it works

The following are suggestions of what you might wish to include in this collective worship time. Please adapt and change it to ensure it is appropriate for your context. It incorporates a Cheeky Pandas video for you to use. There is the option of a reflection or prayer activity depending on your setting.



Welcome

(Before the collective worship time, prepare a really large card egg with the words 'For God so loved the world...' written on it. Then cut the egg out into 5 or 6 sections like a puzzle.)

Greet the group in the way you usually would in your setting, e.g. Good morning everyone!

Let's find out what we are thinking about today. Today's theme is **Easter! Together we're going to explore why Easter is really important to Christians. First we're going to have a game.**

Explain that around the front of the room there are large pieces of card that when put together make the shape of an Egg. Ask for four volunteers to come and help put the broken egg back together again. With the help of your volunteers stick the egg pieces to a wall or to a flipchart.

Say: There seems to be a message on this egg. Can anyone read what it says?

'For God so loved the world...'

That's an interesting thing to write on an egg. We'll think about that a bit more in a moment. First I wonder:

- **What's do you love most about Easter?**

Think about it and then share your answers with the person next to you.

Today's Theme

In the Christian faith, the special book that explains about God's plans for the world is called the Bible. The Bible tells us the story of the first Easter when Jesus died and then rose to life again. There are some important moments in the Easter story that we'll be looking at today.

- **Which important moments from the Easter story do you remember?**

Think/Pair/Share: Take a moment to think about this and then share it with the person next to you.

[Take some ideas from the children in the way that you usually would do this in your setting.]

CHEEKY PANDAS Collective Worship **Easter** – Sheet 3

For Christians, Easter starts at the beginning of Holy Week, the week leading up to Easter. We reflect on important moments like Palm Sunday, the Last Supper, Good Friday and ofcourse Easter Sunday. The Cheeky Pandas are going to help us think about each of those important moments a little bit more.

The Cheeky Pandas present...

[Show the Cheeky Pandas video clip: **Easter Eggstravaganza**. This video is available at www.cheekypandas.com]

(The 3 follow up questions could be discussed in the collective worship time or in classrooms afterwards as a follow up collective worship)

Watch the animation

Synopsis: The Pandas are getting ready to celebrate Easter together. A special gift has arrived in the Cheeky Pandas treehouse that gets the pandas thinking about the real meaning of Easter. By reflecting on key moments of the Easter story together they learn that the best gift ever given was Jesus Himself and what that means for them.

Questions about the clip:

- Why do we say Happy Easter?
- Which important moment of the Easter story stood out to you?
- How does it feel to know that Easter was God's plan so that we can be friends with Him again?

Let's Reflect

Let's reflect on Easter. For Christians, Easter is a time to celebrate having a new life. Christians believe that Jesus was the best gift ever given and that anyone who believes in him will have a new start. We all make a mess of things sometimes and we all need to say sorry. Then we can have a new start. I wonder if there's anything you feel is a mess at the moment. Maybe you want to say sorry to someone, or maybe you want to forgive someone else. Let's spend a moment thinking about that now.

Pause

CHEEKY PANDAS Collective Worship **Easter** – Sheet 4

Easter is a time of celebration. When you head outside take a look around at any signs of new life you see. Maybe you can spot new flowers or plants, birds or animals. There is always new life when we look for it. We can always have a new start.



Let's Pray

In the Bible it says: **For God loved the world so much that He gave His only son. God gave his son so that whoever believes in Him may not be lost but have eternal life. John 3:16 (ICB)**

This Bible verse says that God loved the world so much. The world includes you and me, our family, friends, people in this country and people all over the world. Christians believe God loves everyone so much that he wants everyone to be his friend. That could only happen by Jesus dying on the cross on Good Friday and rising to life again on Easter Sunday. Jesus took all the wrong things people have done so that we can be friends with God again.

So let's pray, thanking God for Easter and for the greatest gift of Jesus.

**Dear God,
Thank you for Jesus and His gift to us, himself.
Thank you for that great gift.
That if we believe in our friend Jesus you give us
new life. What a happy Easter that is.
Amen**

**Thank you for taking part in
our time of collective
worship.**

**May you know the love of
God this Easter time.**



For more Cheeky Pandas fun, head to [Raiseupfaith.com](https://www.Raiseupfaith.com). You'll find lesson plans (including even more activities and games) for churches to use in children's ministry, as well as collective worship sessions, perfect for primary schools.



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