

## Warmer

What do you know about Easter and the history of Easter? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

## Activity 1: The history of Easter

Read through the questions below and see if you know any of the answers. Then, visit [www.abc.net.au/news/2017-04-15/the-origins-of-easter-from-pagan-roots-to-chocolate-eggs/8440134](http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-04-15/the-origins-of-easter-from-pagan-roots-to-chocolate-eggs/8440134) to find out if you were right. Compare your answers with your partner.

1. What festival did Easter begin as?
2. When does Easter fall, and what determines its date?
3. What does the name 'Easter' come from?
4. What still happens in many European countries on Easter Sunday?
5. What animals were symbolically linked to the goddess Eostre?
6. What were the first edible Easter bunnies made from?

## Activity 2: The Easter bunny and other Easter symbols

Go to [www.goodhousekeeping.com/holidays/easter-ideas/g191/history-easter-traditions](http://www.goodhousekeeping.com/holidays/easter-ideas/g191/history-easter-traditions). Scroll through the gallery. Decide whether the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). Correct the sentences that are false.

### Easter bunny

1. The Easter bunny traditions came from the Bible.
2. The Easter bunny symbolizes fertility and new life.
3. It is derived from an old Danish tradition.

### Easter eggs

1. Easter eggs are related to ancient traditions.
2. For early Christians, Easter eggs represented the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
3. The Easter colours of the Christian church are yellow, red and green.



## Activity 4: Things you didn't know about Easter!

a. How much more do you know about Easter? Complete the sentences below if you know the answers.

b. Visit the weblink [content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,1889922\\_1890008\\_1889927,00.html](https://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,1889922_1890008_1889927,00.html), and read the ten sections of the article to complete the sentences. You will have to click on the arrow to move to the next section.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ appears in several ancient traditions as a symbol for \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The traditional pastries eaten on Good Friday in the UK are known as \_\_\_\_\_.
3. In Ethiopia, Easter is known as \_\_\_\_\_, and people fast from meat and dairy for \_\_\_\_\_ before celebrating.
4. In Sweden and areas of Finland, \_\_\_\_\_ wear shawls and old skirts that are too big for them, and visit people's houses to ask for \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Beginning in the mid-1800s, \_\_\_\_\_ New Yorkers would parade their riches after leaving church.
6. The first Sunrise Service in America was arranged by \_\_\_\_\_. The purpose of the Mass is to remember \_\_\_\_\_ that Mary found on Easter morning.

Compare your answers with your partner.

## Activity 5: Optional fun task

Now that you know so much about Easter, you could organize your own Easter party. Here are some ideas for things you could do. Visit [www.ehow.com/list\\_6465113\\_fun-easter-games-kids-adults.html](http://www.ehow.com/list_6465113_fun-easter-games-kids-adults.html).

Have a lovely Easter, but don't eat too much chocolate!