

Make an Easter Garden

You will need:

Large, shallow container

Potting soil

Variety of bedding plants and moss

Small terracotta pot

Small stones from your garden

Sticks from your garden

Twine

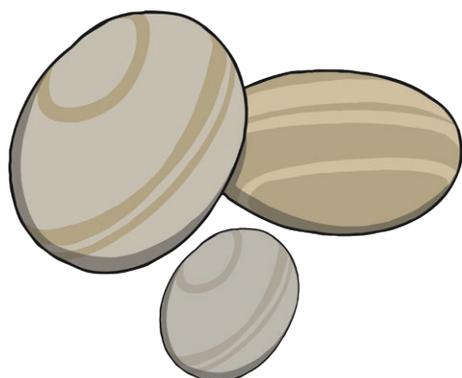
Spray bottle

Trowel or small shovel

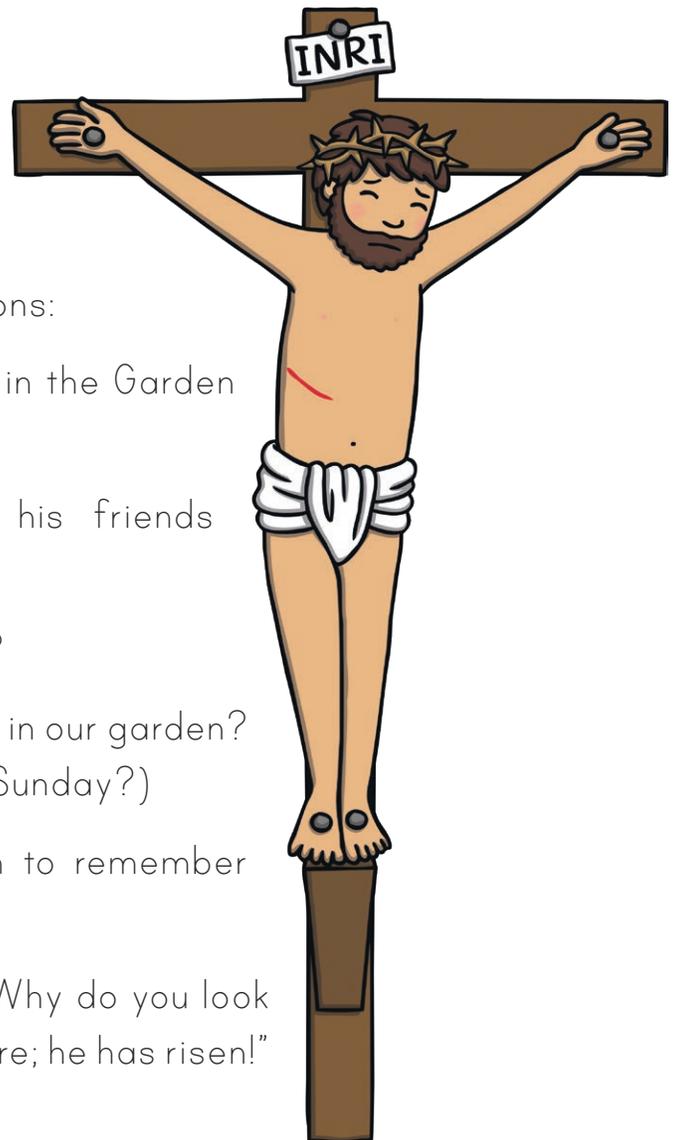
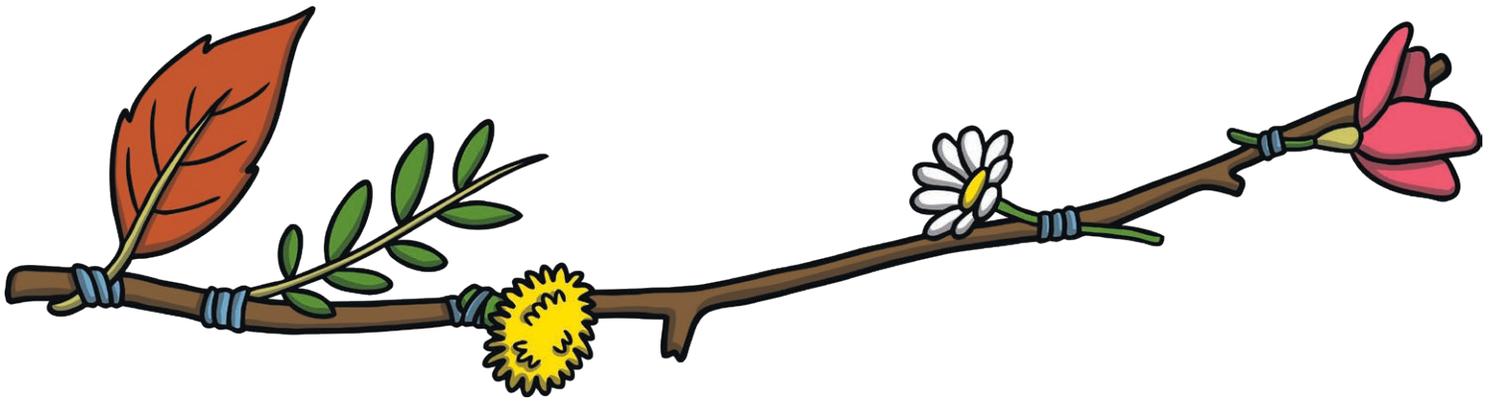
Gardening gloves

Instructions

1. Read together the stories of Jesus' last day in Matthew chapters 26-27. Explain that you are going to make an Easter scene using some of the places in the stories.
2. Go on a nature walk to find small stones, sticks (for making crosses), and a large stone about the same circumference as the terracotta pot.



3. Create your garden scene in the large container with the bedding plants and items you found, using the pot as your tomb and sticks twined together to make the three crosses. Spray the plants with water to keep them fresh as you display your Easter garden. Seal the "tomb" with the large stone – you can roll it away on Easter Sunday!



1. As you work, discuss the following questions:
 - Why do you think Jesus prayed to God in the Garden of Gethsemane?
 - How do you think Jesus felt when his friends betrayed him?
 - What happened to Jesus on the cross?
 - Why aren't we putting Jesus in the tomb in our garden? (e.g. What will we celebrate on Easter Sunday?)
 - Why do you think we take communion to remember Jesus' sacrifice on the cross?
2. Finish with Luke chapter 24 verses 5-6: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!"