

Bible background

Luke 24:1-35.

Aim of lesson

To show that Jesus rose from the dead.

Preparation required

Get to know the rhyme, and place a copy where you can see it easily while looking at the children. Make one set of puppets from your activity sheet. Stick them on cardboard tubes or upside-down yoghurt pots. Make one 'half house' from next week's activity sheet. The 'house' will need to be reinforced with cardboard. (The puppets and props will be used again next week.) You will need colouring materials, scissors, tape and three cardboard tubes per scholar.

Suggested outline of lesson

1. Bring out the puppets of the two disciples. Introduce them and ask the class if they know why they are sad. In this way, review last week's lesson on the death of Jesus. Then tell briefly the account of the resurrection, and of Peter's visit to the tomb.
2. Tell the story using the puppets and the rhyme. Stop the rhyme to clarify what is happening and to set up the 'house'.
3. Repeat the rhyme allowing the children to move the puppets. Ask how the disciples felt when they walked home, and when they ran back again.
4. You could teach the song 'Two disciples met a stranger'.
5. The class can make their own puppets to act out the story (remember to keep these for next week).

Alternative activities

1. Make a garden in a seed tray, using sand/soil, plant cuttings, stones etc. Make the empty tomb out of modelling clay.
2. Make some bread out of salt dough.
3. Make the house in Emmaus out of Lego, blocks or boxes.
4. Make sad/happy faces on either side of paper plates or card.

(Many of these activities could be used for the following lesson instead)

Now something harder

If your children find this exercise difficult you could provide them with some key words to give them some ideas.

Relevance to the children's lives

This all happened a long time ago. Ask the children where Jesus is now. Is he dead or alive?

Prayer

Ask who would like to thank God that he raised his Son, Jesus, from the grave.

Verse

'It is true! The Lord has risen.' Luke 24:34.

Rhyme

Two sad men walked home one day.
A stranger joined them on the way.
'Why are you sad?' he asked the men.
'Because of what happened in Jerusalem.
They killed the Lord Jesus. Didn't you know?
They put him to death three days ago.'
'How foolish you are,' he told the men.
'Christ had to die and rise again.'
'Come in and stay,' the two men said.
They set the table with some bread.
Then when the stranger said the grace
The two men looked into his face
And as they looked they recognised

It was the Lord! They were surprised.
 Then Jesus disappeared, and they
 Went out and ran back all the way
 To tell the others 'It's really true!
 The Lord's alive! We've seen him too!'

This rhyme begins slowly. The last eight lines should increase in speed and excitement.

Song

Two disciples met a stranger (Tune: She'll be coming round the mountain)

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a G chord and a half note G. The second staff contains a 'Chorus' section. The third staff continues the melody with D7 and C chords. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a G chord and a half note G.

v.1 Two disciples met a stranger on the road
 Two disciples met a stranger on the road
 Then they saw it was Jesus, saw it was Jesus,
 Jesus was the stranger on the road.

Chorus: Singing 'He's not dead, he's alive'
 Singing 'He's not dead, he's alive.'
 He has risen from the grave, risen from the grave
 And he is not dead, he is alive.'

v.2 Then they ran to tell the others 'He's alive'
 Then they ran to tell the others 'He's alive'
 Then they ran to tell the others, ran to tell the others
 Ran to tell the others 'He's alive.'

Music: Traditional.