The EASTER GARDEN EXPERIENCE

An Audio Adventure for All Ages

Hello!

We hope that you will enjoy this experience and find it easy to use. The experience uses QR codes so those taking part will need smartphones in order to get the most out of the trail.

Each station can be set up however you would like. Some ideas include cardboard cutouts of the characters, paintings, scarecrows or even real life people! Get creative and see what you can come up with.

The activities suggested are to help engage the younger participants although they are also designed to help people of all ages respond to the story of Easter.

You'll also find a code sheet so that your participators can spot the hidden letters/numbers at each station. These could be hidden on costumes, easter eggs or wherever you'd like! The important thing is that the final code is revealed to be:

JOHN 3:16



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How It Works:

You'll need to organise a trail that includes seven stations (eight if you want to include the Empty Tomb) - this could be done outside or inside depending on space and weather.

Each station is named as followed:

- 1. The Last Supper
- 2. Jesus Prays in Gethsemane
- 3. Jesus is Arrested
- 4. Peter Denies Jesus
- 5. Pilate and the Prisoners
- 6. Jesus is Crucified
- 7. The Tomb
- 8. The Empty Tomb (Optional)

At each station is a QR code which, when scanned, will take you to a short audio drama to help immerse you in the scene before you. We suggest staggered timings to avoid audio 'bleed' as well as giving those taking part the opportunity to have time to reflect at each station without feeling rushed.

On the sheet with the QR code there are instructions as to what to do at each station. The materials could either be prepared in bags for the participants to carry with them or simply placed at the relevant stations.

The Empty Tomb is an optional extra - this could either be used on the same day as your trail or you could invite people back on Easter Sunday to see the empty tomb.



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The Last Supper

A table laid out with the passover meal.

Jesus Prays in Gethsemene

Jesus prays whilst his disciples fall asleep.

Jesus is Arrested

Jesus is betrayed by Judas and is arrested by guard soldiers.

Peter Denies Jesus

A 'fire' pit and a cockerel.

Pilate and the Prisoners

Pilate standing on a raised platform asking the crowd what to do with Jesus.

The Cross

A large wooden cross where people can stick on cut-out hearts.

The Tomb

A cave with a large stone rolled over it.

The Empty Tomb

A cave with a large stone rolled away - inside Jesus' grave clothes neatly folded.



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CANVA STORIES











EASTER GARDEN TEXPERIENCE

I WONDER...

Jesus and his disciples were celebrating the Festival of Passover. This is a festival in which Jews celebrate God rescuing them from Egypt.

How much of the story of Moses do you remember?

In which ways are the stories of Moses and Easter similar?



EASTER GARDEN EASTER GARDEN SEXPERIENCE JESUS PRAYS IN GETHSEMANE

WONDER...

Jesus was really worried about what was going to happen to him and asked God for help.

Can you think of a time when you've been scared or worried about the future?

What did you do to calm yourself down?

Did you try praying? If so, what happened?



RESPOND

Jesus knew that God's plan was best - even though it was difficult.

Pray to God that He will give you the strength and confidence needed to follow His plan, even when things seem tough, and for His help to make wise decisions in your life.



EASTER GARDEN

JESUS IS ARRESTED



I WONDER...

Jesus was arrested by the Chief Priests for claiming to be the Son of God and for challenging the Pharisees and their behaviour.

Does Jesus' teaching ever cause you to think about how you live your life? How so? What could you do this week to live more like Jesus and less like the Pharisees?

RESPOND

Judas did something that wasn't very nice.

Think of something you've done this week that you're not proud of and write it down on the piece of paper provided in your pack and keep hold of it.

(You'll need this later!)



EASTER GARDEN EXPERIENCE

PETER DENIES JESUS



I WONDER...

Peter was too afraid to admit that he was a follower of Jesus in case it caused him to be arrested or, even worse, killed.

Have you ever been afraid to admit that you are a follower of Jesus?

How can we be more confident to own our faith and not hide it away?

RESPOND

Peter denied Jesus three times just as Jesus had said he would.

Later, Jesus gives Peter a chance to make up for his mistakes.

Throw your piece of paper into the fire pit to demonstrate that you are letting go of the things you've done wrong.



EASTER GARDEN EASTER GARDEN EXPERIENCE PILATE AND THE PRISONERS



I WONDER...

Pilate was shocked that the crowd wanted Jesus to be crucified instead of Barabbas. Jesus had done nothing wrong as far as Pilate could see - in fact, Pilate washed his hands after the decision was made to show that he had no part in it.

Have we ever seen someone who needs our help but haven't helped them?

How can we give help to those who need it?

RESPOND

A few days before, the crowds were shouting 'Hosanna!' when Jesus entered into Jerusalem on a young donkey. But when Jesus could have been freed, the crowds were shouting for him to be killed.

You may want to say sorry for the times when you have not spoken up for the innocent and those who were in need of help.

Can You Spot The Hidden Number?



THE EASTER GARDEN EASTER GARDEN EXPERIENCE THE CROSS AND THE TOMB



SCAN HERE AND THEN SLOWLY APPROACH THE CROSS AS THE AUDIO DRAMA TAKES PLACE

THE CROSS AND THE TOMB

I WONDER...

Even as the crowds mocked him, Jesus cried out:

'Father, forgive them for they don't know what they do.'

Why did Jesus have to die?

Who was Jesus saving when he chose to die on the cross?

RESPOND

Jesus died on the cross to show the world how much God loves us. That, even though we constantly mess up, God hasn't given up on us. So much so, that He was even prepared to sacrifice His only son in order for us to live our lives with Him for eternity.

Stick a love heart on the cross to say thank you to Jesus for dying to save our lives.

Can You Spot The Hidden Number?



EASTER GARDEN EXPERIENCE



THE END.?

THE CROSS AND THE TOMB ISN'T THE END OF THE STORY!

Please take a cup with some cress seeds in. Plant the seeds in the cup when you get home and see what happens over the next few days...

Thank you for taking part in the Easter Garden Experience!

Can You Spot The Hidden Number?







QUESTION 1 WHAT HAPPENED TO JESUS?

QUESTION 2 HOW CAN WE CELEBRATE THIS GOOD NEWS?