

Easter around the world!

Celebrated around the world, Easter is one of the most important holidays in Christianity. However, this year, Easter celebrations will likely look a lot different as more than 1.5 billion people worldwide have been asked to stay home amid the spread of coronavirus. As much as this time is anxious for many of us, it certainly has given us the chance to slow down in this fast pace world.

With COVID 19, I have become more fascinated in learning how other countries celebrate Easter. How similar and how different we are when it comes to big celebrations. How do we prepare for the day, how do we decorate our houses? Where does the idea of egg hunt come from?

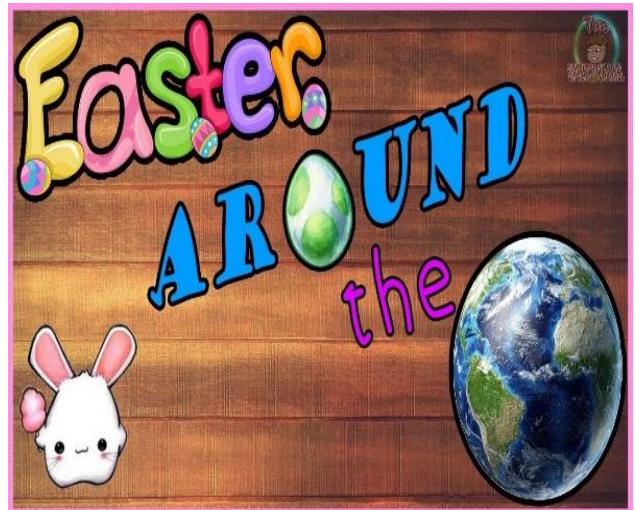
I would stop at this point and leave it for our children at Surrey Hills to investigate and explore more other cultures around the world.

I would like to share with you few of hands on activities that would keep us all engaged, children and adults, during this critical time of COVID 19.

Some of these activities could be outside, which is a great opportunity to be out in the open air when there is very little that we can do at the moment. Some of these activities have a huge physical benefits.

Have fun and let us know how you are getting on with some of these activities.

Mrs R Hardo



Kite Flying

The people in Bermuda aim high for Easter: kite flying is everyone's favourite pastime during the Easter holidays.

Bermudians make their own kites with wooden sticks, colourful paper, and intricate designs. All of this is topped off with a special tissue called "hummers" that then makes a buzzing sound, aka the sound of Bermudian Easter.



Everyone gathers and lets their beautiful constructions fly – or goes to Horseshoe Bay Beach to attend the annual Kite Festival on Good Friday.

If you have a kite, how about fly your own one around your garden. You can have a race with your mum, dad, brothers and sisters.

Easter Nest Hiding

Who doesn't like to search the house and yard for baskets filled with chocolate? In Germany, Switzerland, and many other countries for that matter, Easter nests are hidden for kids (and some grown-ups because why not!). The nests are actually decorated baskets or boxes that are filled with chocolate bunnies, chocolate eggs, and toys and are said to be hidden by the Easter bunny himself.



Kids Easter Egg Tree

An Easter tree is an old tradition which also goes way back. Decorating trees with eggs are a German tradition and Swedish tradition.

Today, Easter tree have many versions. And it became popular for people to create their own Easter tree. I have already collected few branches, gathered into a vase ready to be decorated by hanging ornaments made of any Easter symbol of homemade ornaments like; salt dough Easter egg ornaments, paper Easter eggs, or even plastic eggs to decorate your Easter tree with. Children can get involved and get adored with making their own Easter egg tree for a lovely spring and Easter centrepiece.



Wreath Craft Decorations For Easter

Wreath craft decorations for Easter is not as difficult as many believe.

An easy paper **Easter wreath** is one of the simplest crafts for little ones that want to do some craft for Easter decoration. Help your children to have an Easter tradition as hanging a wreath on the front door. Children can create a colourful wreath all by themselves (with a little bit of supervision). Children could be creative and design their wreath the way that they like!



Bunny Corner Bookmark – DIY Origami for Kids

This is really a simple fun crafty activity for kids to make; an Easter bunny corner bookmark. In Fact there are many visions for creating a cute bunny bookmark as it is a great bookmark making ideas, a craft for Easter, or spring theme to share with you. You will absolutely love making any of these DIY bunny bookmark. These cute origami bookmarks are the best, kids love leering how to make bookmarks at home easy designs. And most of all you can even use them as non-candy treat as Easter basket fillers. I have represented two lovely ideas from easy and fun the bunny corner bookmarks and a chick corner bookmark idea . They are really so cute and easy for most ages to do.

I will definitely, try to make one with George.

First, you will you how to make a bookmark- the basic origami corner bookmark. Then how to decorate the corner bookmark and turn it to the proper shape. Folding your own corner bookmark are an adorable addition to any reading collection and to add a creative touch to their bookmark finding its place in the end of the reading page. They are simple origami paper crafts that may help in encourage reading.



Sharpie Eggs

This is one of the simplest egg decorating and the easiest Easter project: Sharpie eggs. After the eggs are well boiled, have a go with this fun. Use different Sharpie pens with different pastel colours for a table centrepiece. Then, let your kid's imagination go wild.



Lolly Pop Bunnies

Here are adorable little bunny lollipops as an Easter craft you can do with kids. These safety pops are adorable and fun little character for your kids to make and to play with first. Later when they are finish playing they can eat the sweet treat.





Tissue Paper Mache Hen Basket and Bunny Baskets

These Cute **Easter Baskets** for kids are made out of tissue **paper Mache**. Upcycle the tissue paper into a hen basket or a bunny basket which means there is no painting involved. This is an art and craft that doesn't require any special supplies just paper pieces from around the home and the paper-Mache paste which is a simple mixture of flour and water. So, it is a super thrifty eco project to decorate the **Easter Table** or collect Easter Eggs.

Bookmarks

I have found this idea simple and effective. Also could be used in your Easter basket as an extra decoration. Be creative and encourage the children to use their imagination to come up with ideas to use this lollipop sticks design.





Egg nest

You can use this little nest for the dyed Easter eggs.



Another simple idea that can be achieved with little materials.



Easy Peasy and Fun

Palm cross for palm Sunday :

I grew up attending a Syrian Orthodox Church in Syria. Every year, the week before Palm Sunday would be all making palm crosses for the congregation.



Material

Just do a Google search for “Palm leaf for Palm Sunday”. They come pre-cut and bound into sections like the one pictured. They dry out fast, so keep them in the refrigerator (NOT the freezer).



To make for easier folding, pull the two sections apart and peel off any hanging pieces. You can also peel off any hard sections that look like they'd be difficult to fold. You can easily shape your leaf down to a pile of strings trying to get one that's “perfect”, so just try for a “good enough” strip.



Once you have a nice strip, cut off a little off the bottom at an angle (this will make the finished cross look tidier), and cut a bit off the top to make weaving easier.



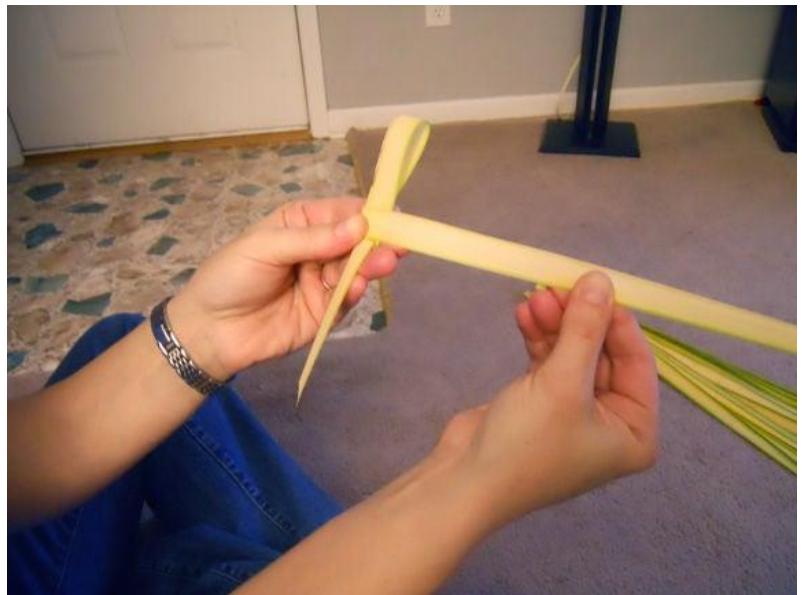
Fold the front section to the right, making an angled crease at the point where you want the crossbar to be.



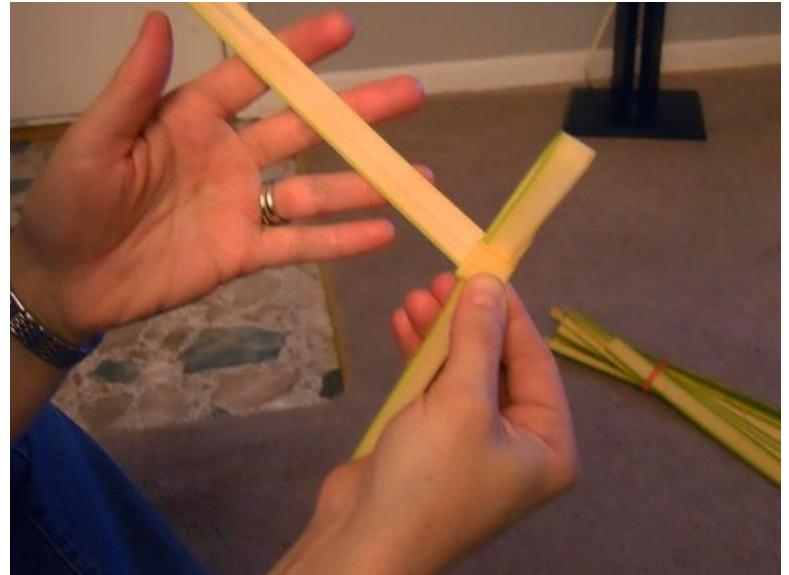
Take the section pointing to the right and bend it around the BACK of the cross so that it now points to the left.



Take the section pointing to the left and bend it around the FRONT of the cross so that it now points to the right.



This time DON'T BEND. FLIP. You're going to turn the cross around so that the section pointing to the right will now point to the left. You have to get the angled crease you made in step 5 so that it's in the BACK of the cross. Otherwise it will get in the way later on.



Take the section pointing to the left and bend it around the FRONT of the cross so that it now points right.



Here's where you start to make the arms of the cross. Make a bend in the section pointing to the right, and fold it (don't crease) towards you, so that it now points left. The position of the bend will determine the length of the crossbar.



Now make another bend towards you (again, no creasing), forming the left-hand section of the crossbar.

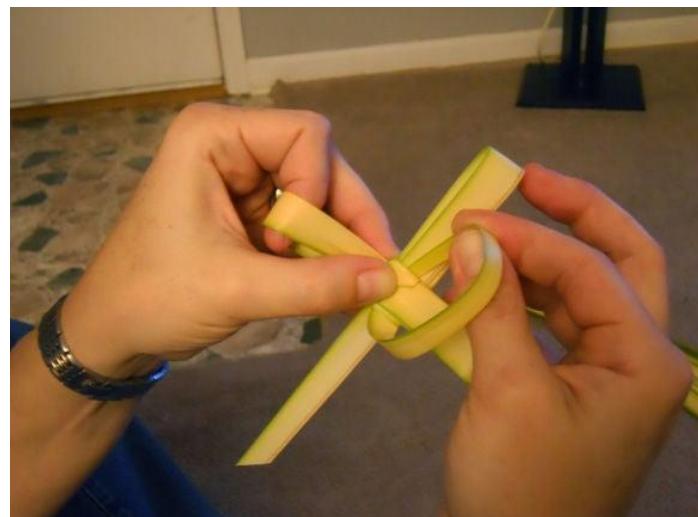
At the centre of the crossbars, make an angled crease so that the end of the frond now points UP.





Repeat again threading the tip of the frond behind the crossbars and right up against the vertical part of the cross.

Pull the end snug, and you're done!



You can keep your cross after the service and hang it on your window or door from the outside.

Leftover crosses are saved until the next year, when they're burned to make the ashes for the Ash Wednesday service.



