

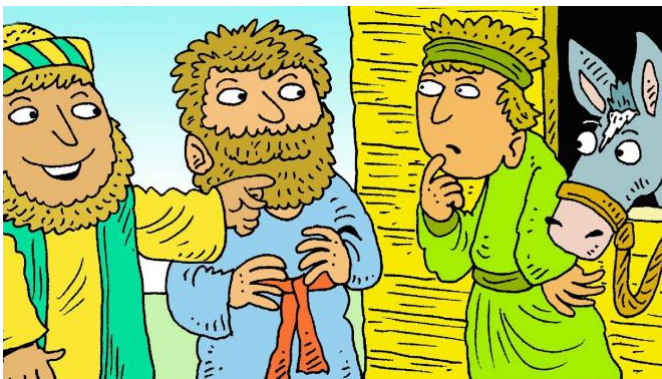
Jesus goes into Jerusalem

Matthew 21:1-11

I live in a village outside Jerusalem. Nothing much happens here. One day I was with my master when something amazing happened!



I could see some men walking towards me. They looked happy and excited. I don't know why but they made me feel excited too. I couldn't help letting out a little bray.

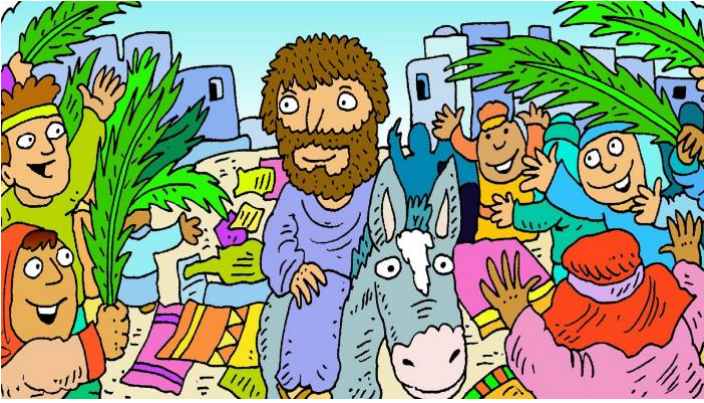


I got even more excited when I overheard them ask my master if I could come with them! They said to him, "the master needs the donkey colt."

I wondered what was going to happen next?



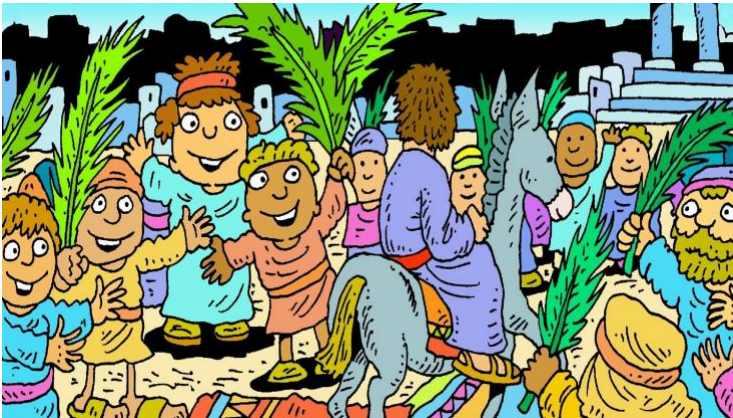
They excitedly put cloaks on my back, they were getting me ready to be ridden! No one had ever ridden me before. I wondered who was going to ride me and what was going to happen next.



A man got on my back. He was very calm and he said, “Hello, little Donkey. You are going to do an important job today.” I felt proud. Lots of people started to crowd around us.



Suddenly, there were huge crowds of people. I got pushed and shoved. The people started to cut down palm branches and wave them. The noise was incredible – I was a bit nervous.



They started to take their cloaks off and put them under my hooves. It felt strange walking on everybody’s cloaks. The people were all shouting, “Hosanna, Praise Him who comes in the name of the Lord.”



The people were so excited to see Jesus. The noise was deafening. I felt proud and important to be part of such a day. Jesus whispered, “thank you,” in my ear and He went to the Temple to pray to God.

The people who were welcoming Jesus into the city recognised Jesus as their Saviour. Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem on a donkey colt was prophesied in the Old Testament. He was the Messiah that the people had been waiting for. In the Old Testament, in the book of Zechariah, it talks about a king coming to Jerusalem, a king coming on the back of a donkey! How exciting for our little Donkey! The word Hosanna is a Hebrew word meaning 'Lord Save us.' The people were crying out for a Saviour, someone to save them from the Roman occupation. They knew that Jesus healed people and did miracles. How do you think the people watching this felt? How do you feel when somebody exciting is coming to visit?



A verse to learn.....

Psalm 118 v 24 "This is the day that the LORD has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it"

Can you think of a way of learning this verse? Perhaps you could pretend to wave palms and shout it out loud!!

Sometimes when life is difficult, or we are feeling sad or worried it can be hard to be glad. But every day we have things to be thankful for. Why not make a list of all the things you can be grateful for and say a big thank you to God for all He has provided for you and your family today?



A prayer to say....

Dear God,

Thank you for the story of Jesus arriving in Jerusalem. Thank you that you came to be a Saviour for everybody. Help us to draw close to you and learn more about who you are. We pray for those in the world who do not know you yet. Help them to recognise you as their Saviour. Amen

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZloqznHIGY8&t=76s> Story read by Heather

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJqFuiafDf8> Song to sing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-39h0xYqdE> Palm Sunday Story

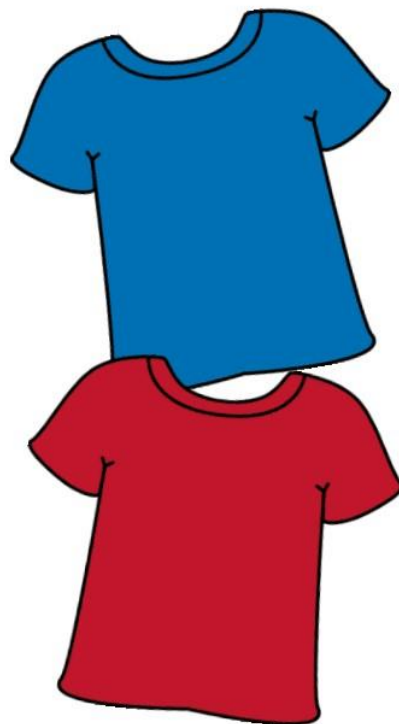
Family Activity 1

You will need: fabric you don't mind standing on
e.g. old t-shirts, pillow cases.

Using just two or three pieces of fabric can you get your whole family from one side of the room to the other?

You are only allowed to stand on the fabric and not touch the floor. You will need to work as a team standing on one piece while you move the other.

Use this as a reminder of the clothes that the people put down for Jesus to walk on.



Family Activity 2

You will need: Leaves, sticks, rocks

In your garden or on your daily walk why not collect some leaves to make into a collage at home.

The people in the story were so excited to welcome Jesus that they grabbed what they could find to worship Him.

What other items can you find in your garden or on your walk to make some worship art from? Arrange the items you have found to make your own picture.



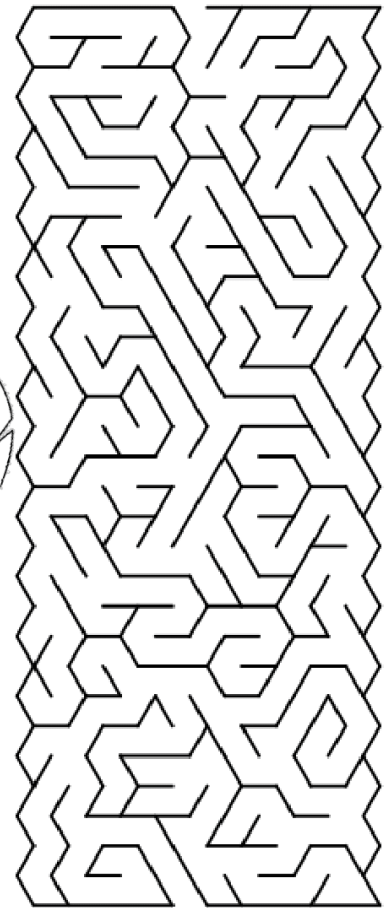
A colouring page you could print and colour together



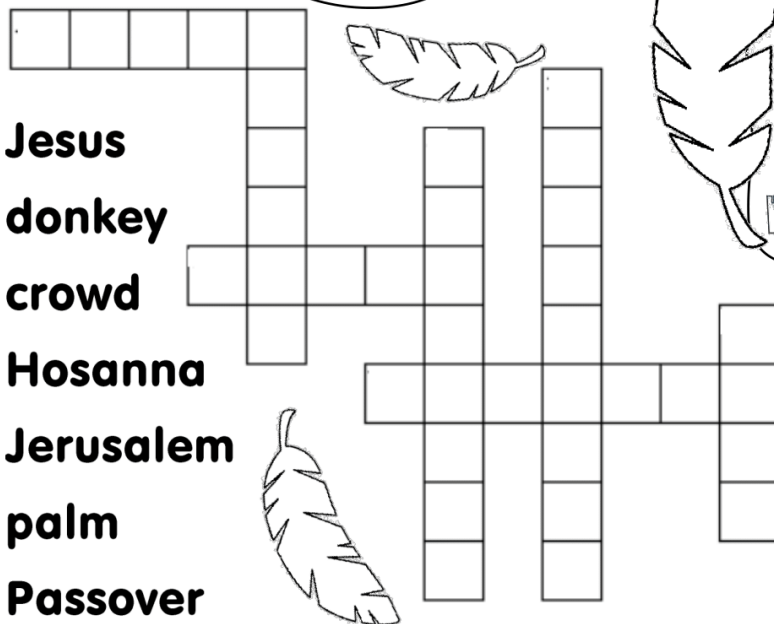
Puzzle Sheet

Jesus travelled into Jerusalem on a colt – a baby donkey. Can you match these adult animals to their babies? The first one has been done for you.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| cat | | calf |
| horse | | joey |
| dog | | piglet |
| lion | | kitten |
| sheep | | tadpole |
| pig | | cub |
| kangaroo | | lamb |
| cow | | foal |
| frog | | puppy |



Can you fit the words below into the grid? CLUE: If you are struggling begin with the shortest word.



Answer: There are eleven palm leaves on the page