



Faith @ Play



Explore together....

Use your daily exercise time to go for a walk to a nearby park or around your local area (or explore your garden if you can't go out).

Collect leaves, twigs and other natural things you find on your walk.

When you get home, lay the things you have found out on a mat or tray or on the table.

Talk about the things you have found.

- + What different colours can you see?
- + What do they smell like?
- + What is the biggest thing you found? What is the smallest?
- + Did you find something that feels rough? Did you find something that feels smooth?
- + What is your favourite thing that you found?

In the story today, we're going to hear about some people who collected leaves and went to see Jesus – listen to the story to find out what they did with their leaves!

These resources are to help you play and explore faith together when you can't go to church or to your toddler group. They are designed for children under 5. You can choose which activities you would like to do. Have fun spending time with each other and with God!

Jesus enters Jerusalem

Sing together....

If you usually sing songs in your group, you might like to try:

Mr Tumble's Nursery Rhymes:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iyIDg6m4gAO>

Super Simple Songs:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D7MhgeV9yA8>

If you'd like to sing and dance to some praise songs, try:

Clip Clop Beat (by Bob Hartmann and Sam Hargreaves)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kyFZ93k_OAU&fbclid=IwAROCtDsFYt0L67SrDPXDAeLvVawUMSi0YcZOWo6PKbTrmhSbyF_dy3_zYs0

Hosanna Rock (by Yancy Ministries)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iK7oIIENZO>

See if you can learn the words and follow the actions together!

If you have any scarves you can wave or instruments you can play at home, you might like to use them to help you praise God.



Listen to a story....

- + If you have a Candle Toddler Bible, you could read 'Jesus Goes to Jerusalem' (p.326) together.
- + You could read the story '**We're going on a Jesus hunt**' and act it out together as you read (you can find the story at the end of this pack).



Talk about....

The people waving for Jesus shouted 'Hosanna' because they were filled with joy – this means they were really happy! They were happy because Jesus was very special to them.

What makes you feel happy?

Who is special to you?

Make together.....

Make some hand print palm branches together – there are different ways to make them depending on what you have at home.

Step 1:

Draw around your hand on green paper (or a different colour if you don't have green – you could use white and colour it in).

OR

Using green paint, make green hand prints on paper or card.

Step 2:

Cut out your hand shapes to make your leaves. Attach your leaves to a 'stalk' – if you have a lolly stick, you could attach them to this with glue, or you could roll a piece of paper into a tube shape and staple your leaves to it.

OR

Stick your leaves onto a piece of card or paper and draw a stalk down the middle.

Pray together.....

Put your hand out in front of you with your palm facing upwards and trace the lines on it with your finger while you listen to these words:

God, thank you for all the things that make us feel happy.

Thank you for all the people who are special to us. Help us to remember that Jesus is special too, and we are special to him.

Amen

Jump up as high as you can and say 'amen' together!



Play together.....

Collect some coats from around your house and lay them on the floor to make a pathway like the people did for Jesus.

See if you can cross the room from one side to the other walking only on the coats and not on the floor.

Story: We're going on a Jesus hunt.....

We're going on a Jesus hunt.

We want to see God's son.

What a beautiful day!

We're so glad!

Uh-oh! A dusty path.

We can't go over it. We can't go round it.

Oh no! We've got to go along it.

Stumble trip, stumble trip, stumble trip.

We're going on a Jesus hunt.

We want to see God's son.

What a beautiful day!

We're so glad!

Uh-oh! Palm branches.

We can't go over them. We can't go round them.

Oh no! We've got to go through them.

Swishy swashy! Swishy swashy! Swishy swashy!

We're going on a Jesus hunt.

We want to see God's son.

What a beautiful day!

We're so glad!

Uh-oh! Donkey poo.

We can't go over it. We can't go round it.

Oh no! We've got to go through it.

Squelch squelch! Squelch squelch! Squelch squelch!

We're going on a Jesus hunt.

We want to see God's son.

What a beautiful day!

We're so glad!

Look out! Jesus is here!

Let's wave our palm branches and shout for joy!

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna!

We're going on a Jesus hunt.

We want to see God's son.

What a beautiful day!

We're so glad!

Uh-oh! A big crowd.

We can't go over it. We can't go round it.

Oh no! We've got to go through it.

Excuse me! Excuse me! Excuse me!

We've been on our Jesus hunt,

We're going home to tell our friends!

Back through the palm branches,

Swishy swashy! Swishy swashy! Swishy swashy!

Back through the big crowd,

Excuse me! Excuse me! Excuse me!

Back through the donkey poo,

Squelch squelch! Squelch squelch! Squelch squelch!

Back along the dusty path,

Stumble trip, stumble trip, stumble trip.

Phew! We're home. What an exciting day!