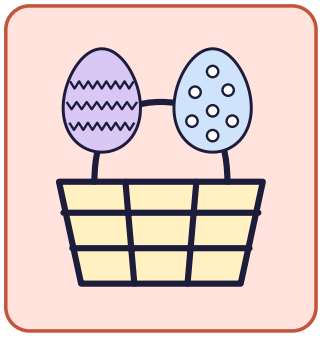
Easter eggs

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Name _____ Date _____



Easter comes in March or April. In 2027, Easter Sunday is on 28 March.

At Easter, many children look for eggs. Grown-ups hide the eggs in the garden or in the house. The children hunt for them and put them in a basket.

Some eggs are real eggs with painted patterns. Some eggs are made of chocolate and wrapped in shiny paper.

Eggs are a sign of spring and new life. In spring, chicks hatch from eggs and flowers start to grow.

1. What date is Easter Sunday in 2027?

2. Where do grown-ups hide the eggs?

3. What do the children put the eggs in?

4. What are some eggs made of?

5. Why do you think eggs are a sign of new life?

Easter around the world

A non-fiction text for Grades 2 to 4 (Years 3 to 5)

When is Easter?

Easter does not have a fixed date. It is always on a Sunday between 22 March and 25 April. Easter Sunday is the first Sunday after the full moon that comes on or after the spring equinox, the day in March when day and night are about the same length. In 2027, Easter Sunday is on 28 March. In the United Kingdom and New Zealand, Good Friday and Easter Monday are public holidays, so schools and many workplaces close.

Eggs and new life

Easter is a Christian festival. It is also a spring holiday in many countries, and eggs are its best-known sign. An egg is a sign of new life, because baby birds hatch from eggs. In central and eastern Europe, people have dyed and painted real eggs for hundreds of years. Today, many children get chocolate eggs wrapped in coloured foil instead.

Rolling eggs

Egg rolling is an old Easter game. In the United States, children have rolled eggs on the lawn of the White House since 1878. Each Easter Monday, children push an egg through the grass with a long spoon. In parts of England, people roll eggs down a hill to see whose egg goes furthest.

The Easter Bilby

In Australia, some families have an Easter Bilby instead of an Easter Bunny. A bilby is a small native animal with long ears. Bilbies are endangered, and rabbits that people brought to Australia damage the land. Since 1991, a group called the Foundation for Rabbit-Free Australia has asked people to choose bilby chocolates instead of chocolate bunnies.

Spring or autumn?

In the north of the world, in places like the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States, Easter comes in spring. In the south, in Australia and New Zealand, it comes in autumn. In the UK, Australia and New Zealand, many people eat hot cross buns on Good Friday: soft spiced buns with a cross on top.

Sources: Royal Museums Greenwich; GOV.UK; Employment New Zealand; Wikipedia (Easter egg, Egg rolling, Easter Bilby, Hot cross bun).

Easter around the world: questions

Use the text to answer. Look back to find the evidence.

Name _____ Date _____

1. Between which two dates is Easter Sunday always?

2. Which two days are public holidays in the United Kingdom and New Zealand?

3. Why is an egg a sign of new life?

4. Find a word in “Rolling eggs” that means “farthest”.

5. Since what year have children rolled eggs at the White House?

6. Why do some Australians choose a bilby instead of a bunny?

7. In which season is Easter in New Zealand?

8. The text has a heading for each part. Which heading would you read to find out about hot cross buns, and why?

Answers: Easter reading

Easter eggs (Grades 1 to 2)

1. What date is Easter Sunday in 2027?
   28 March

2. Where do grown-ups hide the eggs?
   In the garden or in the house.

3. What do the children put the eggs in?
   A basket

4. What are some eggs made of?
   Chocolate

5. Why do you think eggs are a sign of new life?
   Any sensible answer: for example, baby chicks hatch out of eggs.

Easter around the world (Grades 2 to 4)

1. Between which two dates is Easter Sunday always?
   Between 22 March and 25 April.

2. Which two days are public holidays in the United Kingdom and New Zealand?
   Good Friday and Easter Monday

3. Why is an egg a sign of new life?
   Because baby birds hatch from eggs.

4. Find a word in “Rolling eggs” that means “farthest”.
   furthest

5. Since what year have children rolled eggs at the White House?
   1878

6. Why do some Australians choose a bilby instead of a bunny?
   Bilbies are endangered native animals, and rabbits damage the land in Australia.

7. In which season is Easter in New Zealand?
   Autumn

8. The text has a heading for each part. Which heading would you read to find out about hot cross buns, and why?
   “Spring or autumn?”, because that part tells us people eat hot cross buns on Good Friday.