

Games



Play large group games.
(25 minutes)

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Strips of paper
- Markers or pens
- Open space for running
- Plastic eggs or small bags with paper messages inside (each should say "Jesus is alive!")
- Music player with upbeat worship songs

LARGE GROUP GAME: RESURRECTION TAG

Materials: None

Object of game: To remind kids of the joy of new life, symbolizing the moment Jesus rose from the dead.

How to play: Choose one or two kids to be "taggers". When a player is tagged, they have to sit or lie down as if they're "in the tomb". To be "brought back to life", another player has to come over, say, "Jesus is alive!" and gently touch them. Once "brought back to life", they can rejoin the game. Play for a set time and switch taggers, if desired.

LARGE GROUP GAME: GOOD NEWS RELAY

Materials: Strips of paper, markers or pens

Object of game: Help kids experience the joy and excitement of spreading good news, mirroring the way the Disciples shared the resurrection news.

How to play: Before the activity, write simple, exciting messages on strips of paper. Examples could include: "You get extra playtime!", "You get a snack!", or "You're getting a prize!" Make sure the messages are positive and something the kids will be excited about.

Split the kids into two or more teams, with each team lining up at one side of the room. The first person in each team runs across the room, picks up a strip of paper, and reads the message. They then run back to their team and whisper the "good news" to the next teammate in line. That teammate runs to the starting point, picks up a new strip of paper, and shares it with the next person in their team. Continue this process until every team member has had a turn to hear and share the "good news."

After the relay, bring everyone together and discuss:

- How did it feel to hear good news?
- How did it feel to share good news?
- Was there excitement as you passed the message?

Bible story connection: On Easter, Jesus' followers discovered the best news ever: He is alive! Just like in the relay, they couldn't wait to share it with others. We can share this amazing news, too, because it brings joy and hope to everyone who hears it.

LARGE GROUP GAME: RUN AND TELL!

Materials: Open space for running, plastic eggs or small bags with paper messages inside (each should say "Jesus is alive!")

Object of game: To simulate the excitement of Mary and Mary Magdalene when they ran to tell the Disciples that Jesus had risen.

How to play: Divide the group into pairs. Place the eggs or bags on one side of the room, and have each pair race to grab one and bring it back to the starting point. When they open it, they should shout together, "Jesus is alive!"

Bible story connection: It is exciting to share good news about Jesus! How does it feel when you have really good news to share?

LARGE GROUP GAME: ALIVE FREEZE DANCE

Materials: Music player with upbeat worship songs

Object of game: To celebrate and reinforce the joy of Jesus' resurrection in a fun and lively way.

How to play: Play an upbeat song, and have the kids dance around with lots of energy. At random intervals, pause the music and have the kids "freeze". When they freeze, shout, "Jesus is alive!" and encourage the kids to shout it back.

Resume the music and continue playing. Each time they freeze, you can have them make different joyful poses, like "praise hands" or jumping for joy.

Tip: You could turn this into an elimination game, where those who don't freeze fast enough are out until the last one remains. Or keep everyone involved for maximum fun!