

Easter fun facts

The custom of giving eggs at Easter time goes back to Egyptians, Persians, Gauls, Greeks and Romans, to whom the egg was a symbol of fertility.	The name Easter comes from Eastre, the Anglo-Saxon goddess who symbolizes hare and egg.	In many European languages the name Easter comes from the word Passover: Pasqua in Italian, Pâques in French, Pascua in Spanish	Easter Day is always on a Sunday, but the date varies from year to year. Easter can be as early as 22 March or as late as 25 April.
The traditional act of painting eggs is called Pysanka.	The first Easter baskets were made to look like bird's nests.	Eggs are associated with Easter because they are a symbol of starting new life.	The first symbol of Easter was a chicken breaking out of its shell (Christ's resurrection).
The first chocolate eggs were made in Europe in the early 1800s and still are one of the most popular treats associated with Easter.	Many pagan traditions have found their way into Christian religious observances. Rabbits are one such symbol. Rabbits symbolize the fertility of springtime. The rabbit is also the symbol of the Egyptian moon — and the moon is used to determine the date of Easter each year.	90 million chocolate bunnies are made each year. 76% of the people eat the ears of the chocolate bunny first.	Early Christians used red colored eggs to symbolize the Resurrection. In England they began writing messages and dates on their eggs and exchanging them with friends and loved ones. In the 1800's, candied eggs were made.
Americans celebrate Easter with a large Easter egg hunt on the White House Lawn.	Easter Island got its name from its discovery on Easter Sunday, 1722.	16 billions of jelly beans are made each year for Easter.	2, 1 billion dollars are spent worldwide for Easter candy.

Answer true or false. Correct the false statements orally.

- The Greeks and the Romans had the eggs as a symbol. ()
- The name Easter comes from Passover. ()
- Easter Day is always on Sunday April 25. ()
- The first Easter baskets imitated a bird's nest. ()
- Eggs are a symbol of the Easter bunny. ()
- Chicken breaking out of a shell is a symbol of resurrection. ()
- The Gauls and the Egyptians exchanged chocolate eggs. ()
- Rabbits are also a fertility symbol. ()
- Many people like chocolate bunnies. ()
- The children eat the ears of the bunnies first. ()
- Red was an other symbol for fertility. ()

Answer the questions.

- Where does the name Easter come from?.....
- Where does the name Pascoa (Portuguese) come from?.....
- Why are eggs associated with Easter?.....
- Where were made the first chocolate eggs?.....
- Why is the rabbit associated with Easter?.....
- How do Americans celebrate Easter?.....

Answers for the teacher

Answer true or false. Correct the false statements orally.

The Greeks and the Romans had the eggs as a symbol. (T)

The name Easter comes from Passover. (F) IT COMES FROM EASTRE, AN ANGLO-SAXON GODESS

Easter Day is always on Sunday April 25. (F) IT IS BETWEEN 22 MARCH AND 25 APRIL.

The first Easter baskets imitated a bird's nest. (T)

Eggs are a symbol of the Easter bunny. (F) THEY ARE SYMBOL OF FERTILITY.

Chicken breaking out of a shell is a symbol of resurrection. (T)

The Gauls and the Egyptians exchanged chocolate eggs. (F) THE FIRST CHOCOLATE EGGS WERE MADE IN THE EARLY 1800S

Rabbits are also a fertility symbol. (T)

Many people like chocolate bunnies. (T)

The children eat the ears of the bunnies first. (T)

Red was an other symbol for fertility. (T)

Answer the questions.

Where does the name Easter come from? IT COMES FROM EASTRE, THE ANGLO SAXON GODESS.

Where does the name Pascoa (Portuguese) come from?FROM PASSOVER.

Why are eggs associated with Easter? BECAUSE THEY ARE A SYMBOL OF FERTILITY.

Where were made the first chocolate eggs? IN EUROPE.

Why is the rabbit associated with Easter? BECAUSE HE IS A SYMBOL OF SPRING AND FERTILITY.

How do Americans celebrate Easter? WHIT A BIG EGG HUNTS.