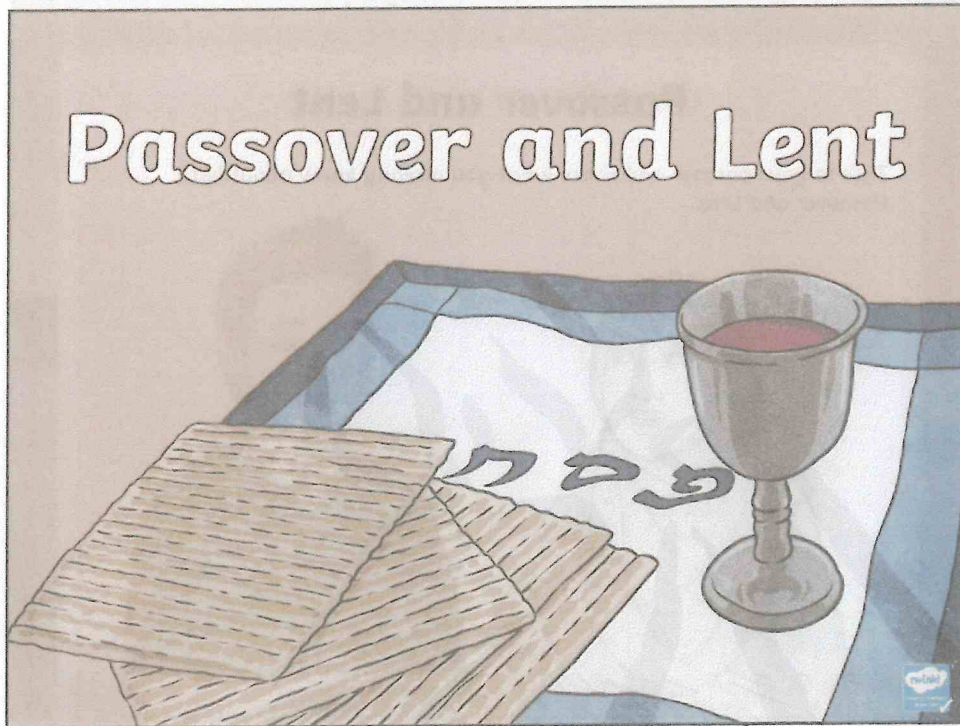


# Passover and Lent



## Aim

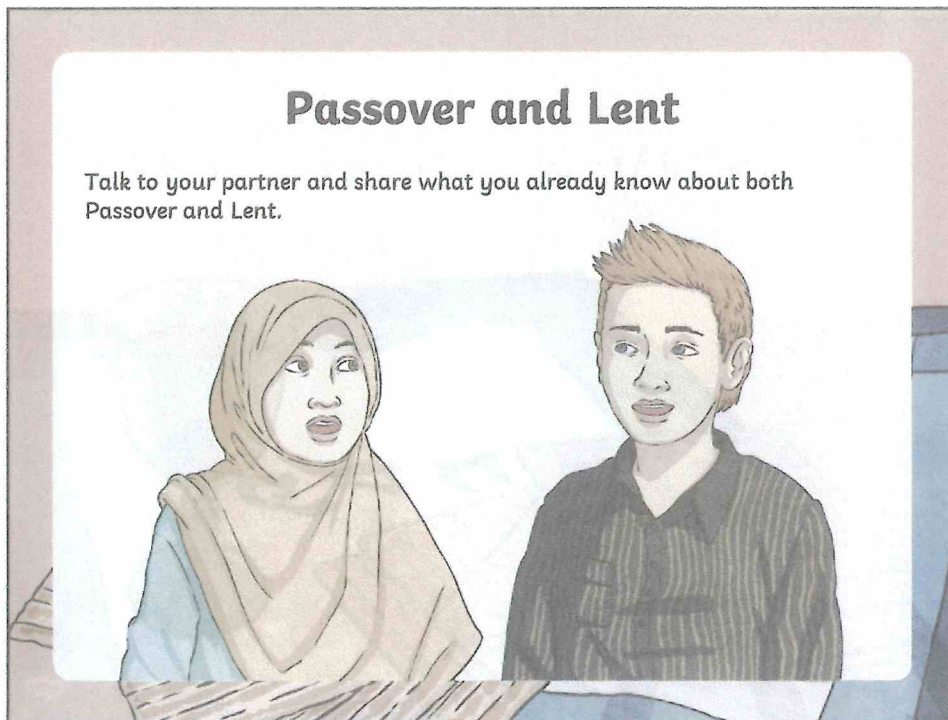
- To learn about Passover and Lent

## Success Criteria

- To know who celebrates Passover and Lent and why.
- To know how both festivals are celebrated today.
- To understand the link between the festivals.

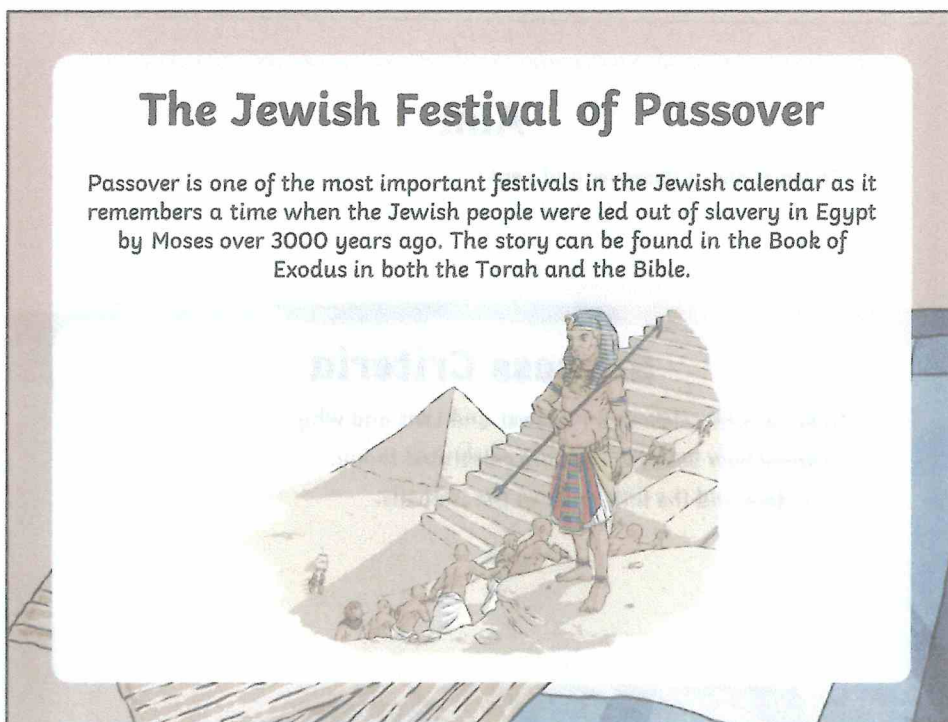
## Passover and Lent

Talk to your partner and share what you already know about both Passover and Lent.



## The Jewish Festival of Passover

Passover is one of the most important festivals in the Jewish calendar as it remembers a time when the Jewish people were led out of slavery in Egypt by Moses over 3000 years ago. The story can be found in the Book of Exodus in both the Torah and the Bible.



## How do Jews Celebrate Passover?

- The celebration lasts for seven to eight days.
- In preparation, some families clean their houses to remove crumbs of chametz, called leaven. This is to help them remember the Jews who left Egypt in a hurry and did not have time to let their bread rise.
- On the evening before Passover, families share a meal and a service called 'Seder'.
- Different food is eaten to remind them of how the Jews were freed from Egypt.
- At the end of the meal, the story is read from a book called the Haggadah.
- Everyone sits with a cushion to remind them that they are no longer slave but are free.

## How do Jews Celebrate Passover?

Seder table



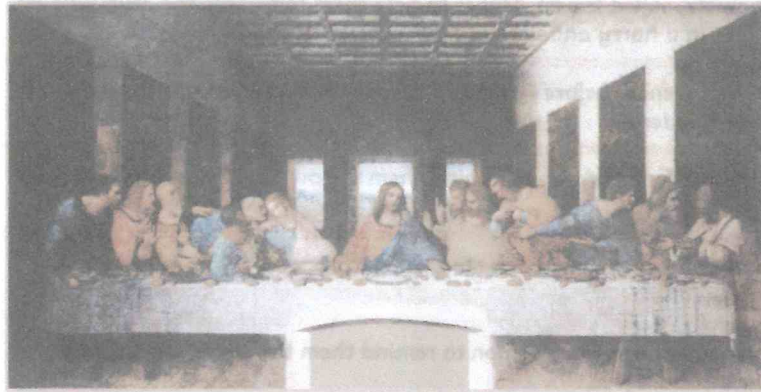
Haggadah



"Seder table" by Anna Szymon in "Passover" by Ashley Pa. licensed under CC BY 2.0

## Passover and Christianity

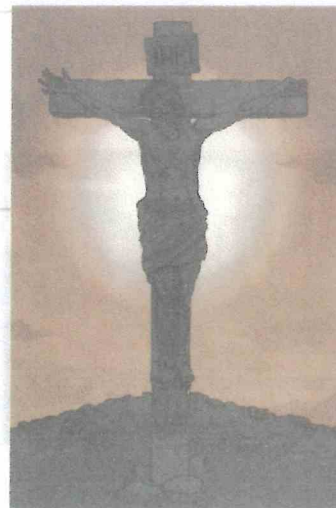
Some Christians believe that Jesus and the apostles were celebrating Passover when they shared the Last Supper. The death of Christ took place during the daylight hours that followed the Passover evening.



"Last Supper" by 2010723 is licensed under CC BY-SA

## The Christian Festival of Lent

Lent is a festival of forty days which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. It is a time when Christians remember the lead up to when Jesus was crucified on a cross in Jerusalem.



## How do Christians Celebrate Lent?

- Christians give up a particular food, drink or bad habit during Lent (traditionally rich, fatty foods) in order to help them remember and reflect upon the sacrifice that Jesus made by dying on the cross.
- Lent is a way of testing your own self-discipline. This is because Jesus spent forty days in the desert being tempted by Satan but he resisted and did not give in to him.
- The last week of Lent is known as Holy Week – the most important week in the Christian calendar.
- On Good Friday, some Christians take part in a Good Friday procession to remember the walk that Jesus did on the way to his crucifixion.
- On Holy Saturday, a candle (Paschal) is lit during an Easter vigil service which mourns the death of Jesus.

## The Build-Up to Easter

Can you order the following events as they happened according to the Bible?

### Maundy Thursday

Christians remember this as the day of the Last Supper when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. It was on this night that Judas betrayed Jesus.

### Ash Wednesday

This day marks the beginning of Lent.

### Easter Sunday

A most joyous day which marks the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

### Shrove Tuesday

Eating pancakes today is a way of using up food before fasting starts during Lent.

### Holy Saturday

The service is a way for faithful Christians to wait hopefully and confidently for Jesus to return. The Easter, or Paschal, candle is lit during this service.

### Palm Sunday

This day marks the beginning of Holy Week and Jesus' triumphant arrival in Jerusalem to the cheers of the crowd.

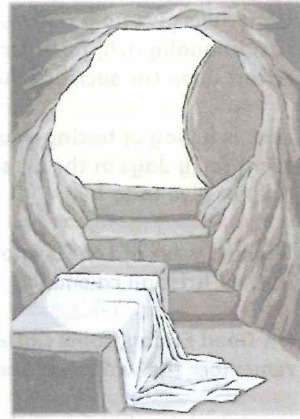
### Good Friday

This day commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus.

## Lent for Christians

Easter Sunday is the final day of Holy Week and is a most joyous day which marks the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Christians believe that Jesus' body was taken down from the cross and buried in a cave. The tomb was guarded and an enormous stone was rolled over the entrance so that nobody could steal the body. On the following Sunday (Easter Sunday), some women visited the grave and found that the stone had been rolled away, and that the tomb was empty. Jesus was seen that day and his followers realised that God had raised him from the dead.



The date of Easter changes each year.

## How do Christians Celebrate Lent?

### Palm Crosses



### Good Friday Procession



### Easter Vigil



## Time to Reflect

- Who celebrates Passover? Why and how do they celebrate?
- Who celebrates Lent? Why and how do they celebrate?
- How are the two different religious festivals linked?

