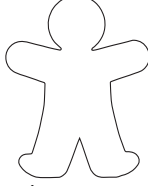
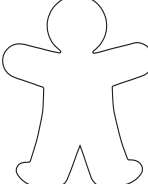


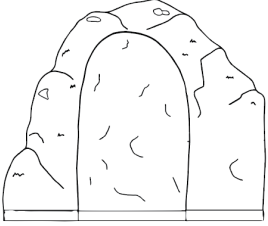
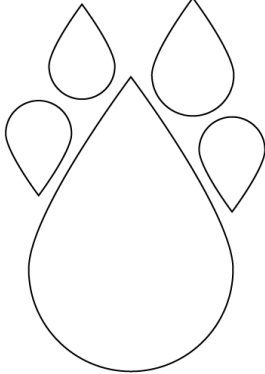
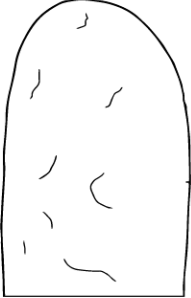
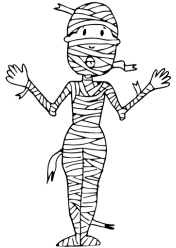


Jesus brings Lazarus back to life

Sit in a circle and pass the parcel around the group, until the music stops. Unwrap a layer, and discard the paper. Put the props in the centre of the circle where everyone can see them.

Story	Props
<p>Today's true story in the Bible is about a man, who was sick in the village of Bethany. His name was Lazarus.</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Body shape – Lazarus.</p> <p>If you have older children, you could cut out letters to spell Lazarus that they have to rearrange to spell his name.</p> </div>
<p>Lazarus had two sisters – Mary and Martha. You might have heard about Mary in another of Jesus' stories – she poured perfume on Jesus' feet.</p> <p><i>Have you heard that story before?</i></p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Two body shapes – one for Mary and Martha. You can also include something to symbolise the perfume, like a piece of lavender or a small test sample of perfume (that won't break!)</p> </div>
<p>The sisters sent a message to the Lord and told him that his good friend Lazarus was sick</p> <p><i>How do you think Jesus would have felt, when he heard the news?</i></p>	<p>An envelope with letter inside: On the front write: To Jesus, Jerusalem On the back, write: From Mary and Martha, Bethany. Inside: Write a short note asking Jesus to come back, Lazarus is sick and we need your help.</p>
<p>Jesus loved Martha and her sister and brother. But he stayed where he was for two more days. After two days, he told his disciples that it was time to go to Judea and see Mary, Martha and Lazarus. His disciples did not think this would be a good idea, as it wasn't safe for Jesus to travel there. Jesus told them that God had a special plan for Lazarus, and even though everyone thought Lazarus was dead. "Our friend Lazarus is asleep, and I am going there to wake him up." Jesus' disciples were a little confused.</p> <p><i>Why do you think Jesus stayed for 2 days, and didn't go to see Lazarus straight away?</i></p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Two suns, to symbolise Jesus waiting two days.</p> </div>
<p>Then Jesus told his disciples, "Lazarus is dead. But I am glad that I wasn't there, because now you will have a chance to put your faith in me. Let's go to him now..."</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Foot prints</p> </div>

<p>Jesus and his disciples walked the 3km to Bethany, and found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Many people had come from the city to comfort Martha and Mary because their brother had died.</p>	 <p>A picture of the tomb</p>
<p>When Martha heard that Jesus had arrived, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed in the house.</p> <p>Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. Yet even now I know that God will do anything you ask."</p> <p>Jesus told her, "Your brother will live again!" Everyone who has faith in me will live, even if they die. And everyone who lives because of faith in me will never really die. Do you believe this?"</p> <p>"Yes, Lord!" she replied. "I believe that you are Christ, the Son of God."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CHRIST</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHRIST – written on a piece of paper</p>
<p>Martha went to find her sister Mary, and told her that Jesus was there and that he wanted to see her. Mary jumped up straight away and went to find Jesus, who was just outside her village. Some of her friends followed her, thinking she was going to the tomb to cry.</p> <p>As soon as Mary saw Jesus, she knelt at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."</p> <p>When Jesus saw that Mary and the people with her were crying, he was terribly upset</p> <p>"Where have you put Lazarus' body?" he asked, and they replied, "Lord, come and you will see."</p> <p>Jesus started crying. When the people saw him, they said "See how much he loved Lazarus. He does amazing miracles to heal people. Why couldn't he have kept Lazarus from dying?" Jesus was still terribly upset.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Tear drops</p>
<p>Jesus went to the tomb, which was a cave with a stone rolled against the entrance. Then he told the people to roll the stone away. But Martha said, "Lord, you know that Lazarus has been dead four days, and there will be a bad smell."</p> <p>Jesus replied, "Didn't I tell you that if you had faith, you would see the glory of God?"</p> <p>After the stone had been rolled aside, Jesus looked up towards heaven and prayed, "Father, I thank you for answering my prayer. I know that you always answer my prayers. But I said this, so that the people here would believe that you sent me."</p> <p>When Jesus had finished praying, he shouted, "Lazarus, come out!"</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Stone</p>

<p>Lazarus, the man who had been dead for 4 days, came out out of the tomb. At his burial, his friends had wrapped up his body in strips of cloth. As he walked out of the tomb, his hands and feet were wrapped with strips of cloth and a cloth covered his face. Jesus then told the people, "Untie him and let him go."</p>	 <p>Picture of Lazarus, and strips of white cloth</p>
<p>Many of the people who had come to visit Mary saw the things that Jesus did, and they put their faith in him.</p> <p><i>How do you think Mary and Martha would have felt?</i> <i>What do you think happened next?</i></p>	<p>Final layer, with lollies in for the children.</p>