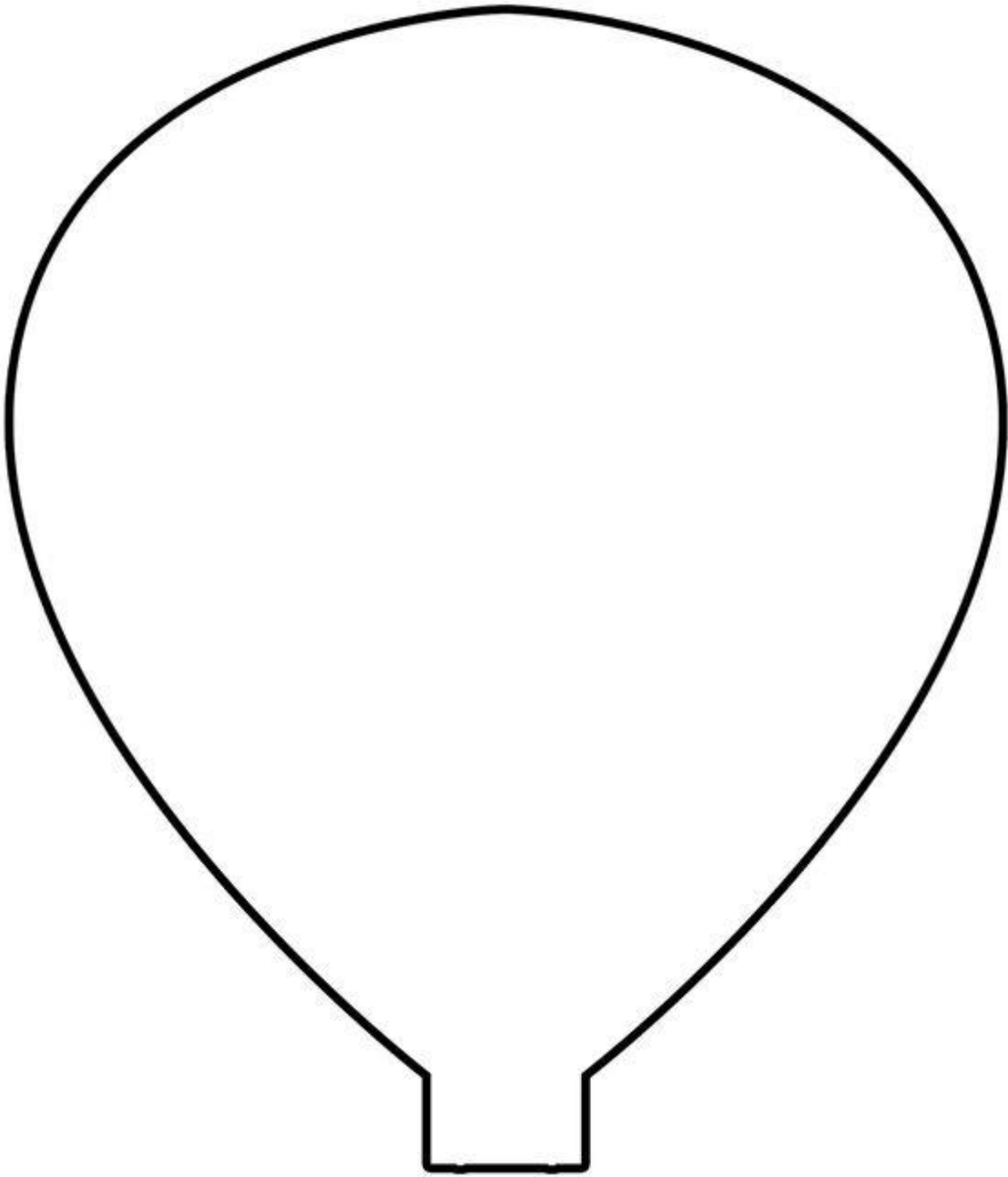


Mary Magdalene

- **Ask:** What are you most thankful/greatful for?
- **Play: Thankful Pick Up Sticks:** Use a set of pick up sticks or coloured paper straws for this game. Hold all the sticks/straws in you hand and drop them on the floor/table. Then take turns to try to pick one up without moving any of the other ones. Each colour represents a person or thing to be thankful for - you can decide in your group what they are. For example, 'Red' is a person you're thankful for, 'Blue' an object you're thankful for, 'Green' a place you're thankful for, 'Yellow' a food you're thankful for, 'Orange' an animal you're thankful for etc. Take it in turns to pick up a stick and say what you are thankful for. Keep playing until all of the sticks have been picked up. You could turn this into a prayer game by helping the children to say a prayer for the things they are thankful for.
- **Talk:** This week we are continuing our Bible character series with Mary Magdalene. Who was Mary Magdalene? **She is one of the most well known disciples of Jesus and is mentioned in all four Gospels. She came from Magdala; Jesus cast out 7 demons/bad spirits from her, she was so thankful to Jesus that she followed Jesus for the rest of her life. She was a woman of wealth and was a great support to Jesus. She helped the early church to grow. Mary was very close to Jesus, she witnessed most of the important events in his ministry – his teaching and miracles, the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. In fact Mary was the first person to see and speak to the resurrected Jesus. She is known as 'the Apostle to the Apostles' because she told the disciples that Jesus had risen and was alive!** Let see how this happened.
- **Watch or Read:** Jesus and Mary Magdalene from 6:33-9:13 at https://youtu.be/-bT8hH_UiSY or Lottie's Mary Magdalene video on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfoRgvwNoapVwiU5UCF2ZMg>, or, John 20:1-18 <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+20%3A1-18&version=NIV>.
- **Discuss:** In the clip we saw Mary Magdalene and the other women taking spices and herbs to anoint Jesus' body, but what had happened to the tomb? **The stone had been rolled away, Jesus was risen and two angels were there.** What did Mary and the other women do? **They ran to tell the other diciples that Jesus had risen.** What happened later when Mary was alone at the tomb? **She saw a man she thought was the gardener, but when he called her name she realised it was Jesus!** This is the most important event in history. Despite the beliefs at this time that women were not as important as men and could not be disciples, Jesus chose to make Mary the first witness to his reserrection and encouraged her to go and tell the disciples and many more the good news of his resurrection. By doing this, Jesus demonstrates a special tenderness and care for women. By trusting Mary to share his resurrection with the others, Jesus challenged the beliefs of the time that the testimony of a woman couldn't be trusted. This teaches us to be careful not to dismiss things that don't follow our expectations because Jesus doesn't do what we expect. He delights in doing his work through the most unlikely people - he did it through Mary and he can do it through us! Mary played a key role in Jesus' ministry by offering financial support, taking care of Jesus, being there at the crucial parts of his life and continuing his ministry after his resurrection. This week can you think and pray about what your role in sharing the good news of Jesus with others could be?

- **Prayer:** Dear Jesus, Thank you that you love us and trust us to share the good news about you. Help us to discover our role in sharing stories of you with others. Give us courage to reach out to others who need your love and hope. Amen.
- Is there anything that the children would like to pray about?
- **Make: 'Lift Others Hot Air Balloon Craft':** You will need: 5 sheets or A4 white card or 5 balloon templates printed on card, a brown/yellow strip of card measuring 5cm x 15 cm, scissors, coloured pens/pencils, glue stick, string/thread, a ribbon and a hole punch per child. Draw, decorate with a pattern and colour in all 5 balloons. Then cut them out and fold each balloon in half length-ways. On the left-hand side of the balloon, write something that you can already do: E.g. swim, ride a bike, tie my shoe laces, you could include things like pray for others. On the right-hand side, write someone you could teach to do those things or pray for. Then fold all the balloons up and stick one side of the balloon to another balloon and so on until all the balloons are connected together. You should be able to read what you have written on each side of the balloon by turning it. Then take the brown/yellow slip of paper and stick one end to the other to create a circle. This is your basket. Then take the hole punch and punch a hole in opposite sides of the basket. Then punch a hole through the bottom of the balloons and one in the top. Measure 20cm of string/thread, cut it and then thread it through the two holes in the basket and the one hole in the bottom of the balloons and tie it. Then tie a ribbon through the hole at the top and display your 'Lift Others Balloon' for everyone to see.
- **Make: Empty Tomb Craft:** You will need: a clear jar/pot with a lid, green sugar paper, grey sugar paper, white paper, pictures or stampers of flowers and trees, glue stick, coloured pens and pencils, white cloth and an empty raisin box per child. First cut a strip of green sugar paper so it will fit inside the jar/pot and cover the inside. Then decorate the strip with tree and flower stickers/stamps/draw your own. Draw and cut out a semi-circle shape for the tomb opening in the strip. Then measure the opening you have made and draw a circle on the grey sugar paper for the stone. Glue the green strip at one end and stick it to the other end to make a tube, make sure it fits in the jar. Then glue the stone to the green strip so it looks like it has been rolled away from the entrance. Then place this in the jar. Cover the raisin box with grey paper and place it in the jar inside the tomb. Then cut some strips of white cloth and lay them onto the raisin box to look like the grave clothes of Jesus. Now put the lid on your jar/pot (the lid should be the bottom of your craft). Draw a picture of Mary Magdalene and colour it in. Cut the picture out and a strip of paper 2cm x 10cm. Glue Mary in the middle of the strip and then glue the ends of the strip to each other to make a stand for Mary and place her by the empty tomb.
- **Activity:** Print out the attached sheets and colour the picture, do the maze, crossword, word search.
- **Play:** Happy Land or Playmobil and ask the children to play together, helping each other and being thankful to one another.
- **Have drink and biscuit during your crafting time or during the video.**

Lifting Others Hot Air Balloon Craft



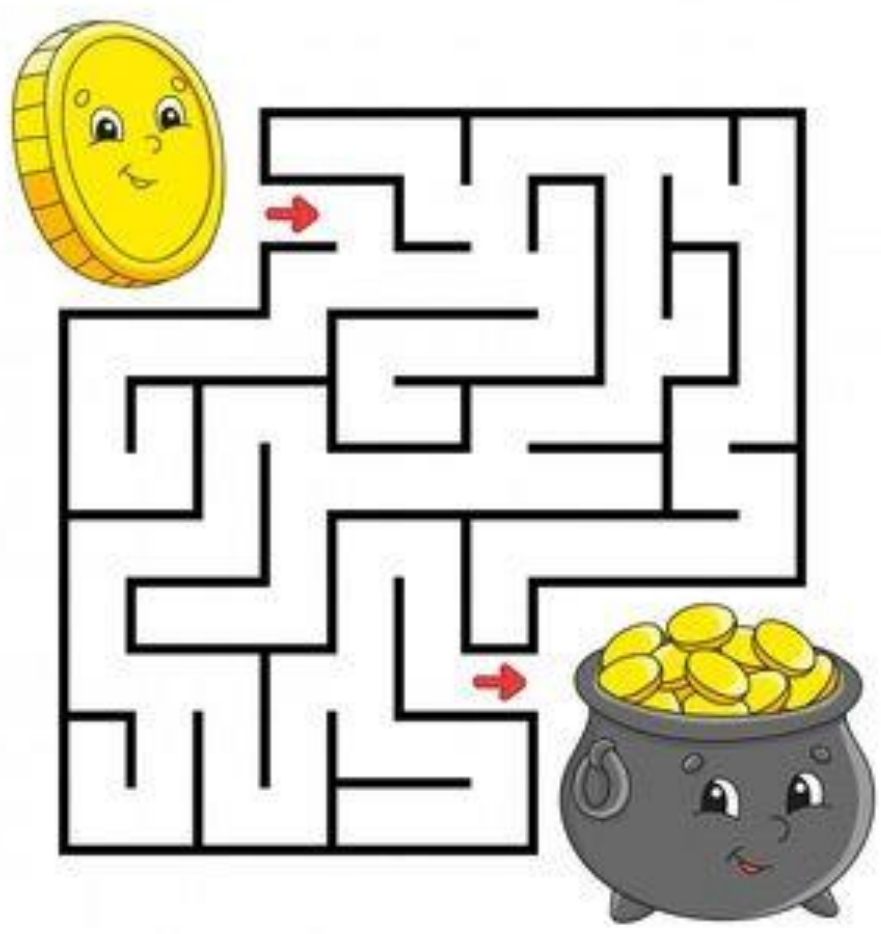
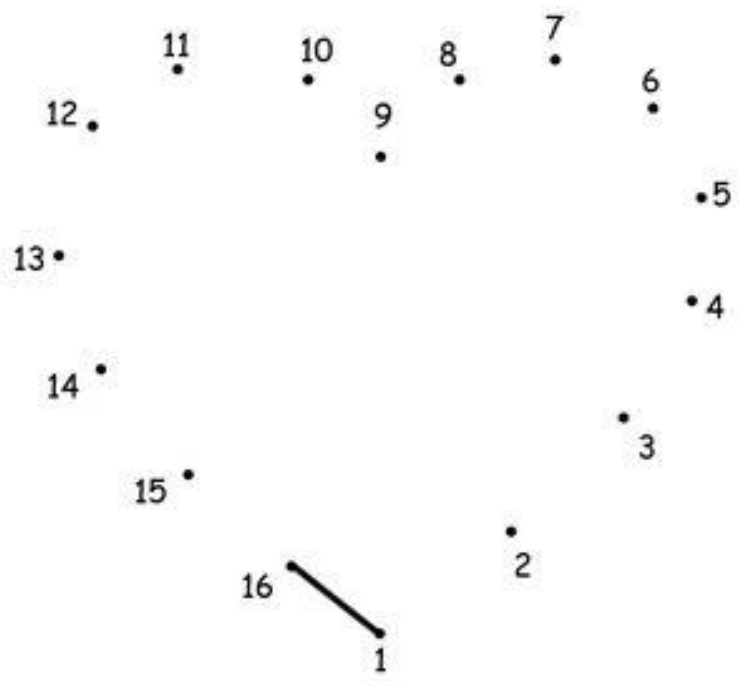
Empty Tomb Craft



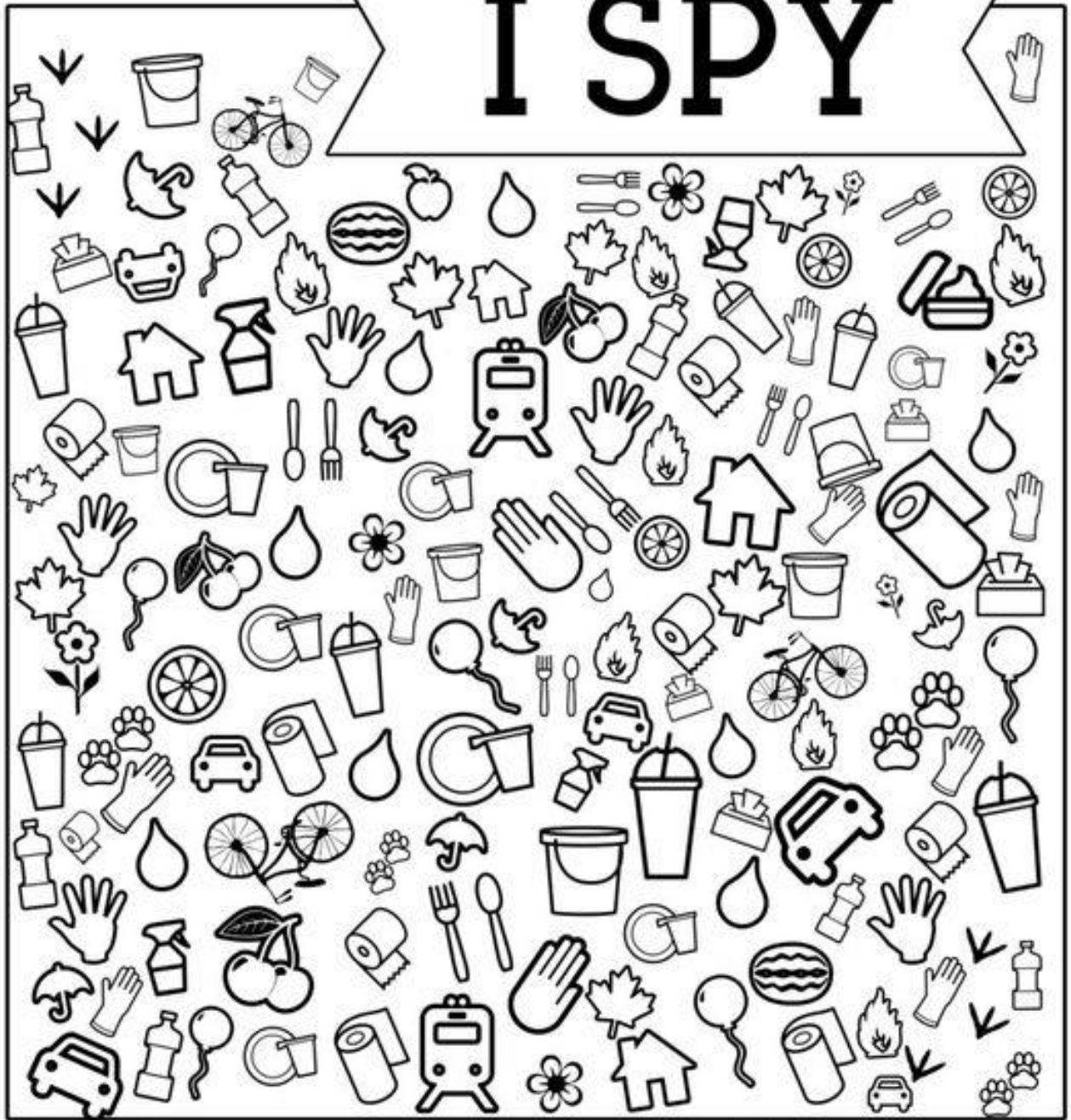
Color by Number – Puzzle

Use the color code to color the picture of the women when they found the tomb empty. Where was Jesus?





I SPY



- | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 6 |
| 1 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 7 |
| 3 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 6 |

Bible Heroes

Mary Magdalene



Dawn Discoveries

Luke tells us that Mary Magdalene was healed of seven demons, Make the image of Mary whole again by completing the 7 mission sections.

How well do you remember the story? Circle true or false for each of the statements below

Mary supported Jesus by giving him money

True

False

Mary went to the tomb alone at sunrise

True

False

Mary knew which tomb it was because she had sat opposite it when Jesus was put inside?

True

False

Mary thought Jesus was the gardener, perhaps she didn't recognise him because the sun was still coming up. Match the silhouette to the person.



Mother Mary

Centurion

Jesus

Mary Magdalene

Salome



Help Mary make her way through the garden to the tomb.

