

Roots Of Easter Answer Key

1. The resurrection of Jesus Christ
2. From *Eostre*, a spring goddess once honored in Europe
3. To represent sacrifice and rebirth
4. It came from ancient symbols of fertility like hares
5. On the first Sunday after the first full moon following the start of spring
6. That hope and renewal come after difficult or dark times
7. Answers will vary; should connect a tradition to personal or symbolic meaning

Teacher's Guide

- **Skill Focus:** Reading comprehension, identifying key details, connecting symbolism to meaning.
- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - For developing readers, read the passage aloud and discuss each paragraph before questions.
 - For advanced learners, encourage comparison with spring festivals from other cultures.
- **Engagement Ideas:**
 - Create a "Timeline of Traditions" poster showing how each Easter symbol evolved.
 - Hold a classroom discussion on how nature's changes mirror the themes of renewal.
- **Extension Activities:**
 - Students research one Easter tradition (e.g., eggs, bunnies, sunrise services) and present its origin.
 - Write a short reflective paragraph on what "renewal" means in their own lives.