

# Close Reading

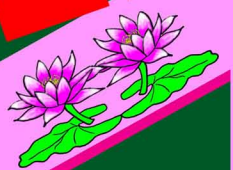
Plus Writing Activities

## Easter By Gail Gibbons



Teaching World Holidays through  
Reading, Comprehension, Vocabulary,  
Posters, and Reflection

Qiang Ma

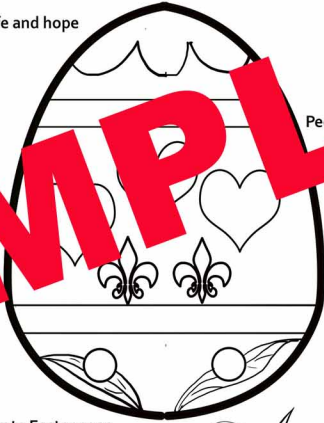
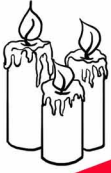


# Happy Easter

a religious holiday in spring

Easter Symbols:

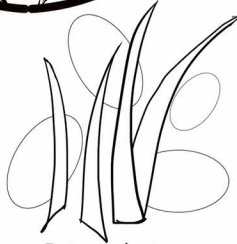
egg, candles, lilies, spring flowers: new life and hope



People dress up in spring clothes.



People decorate Easter eggs.



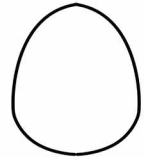
Easter egg hunt



People wear Easter bonnets



Easter bunny brings the Easter eggs.

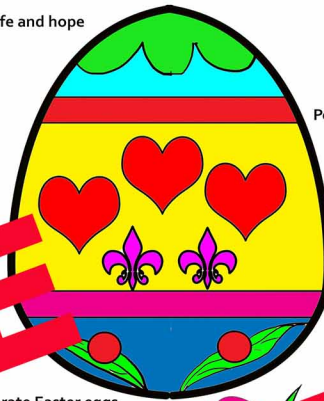


# Happy Easter

a religious holiday in spring

Easter Symbols:

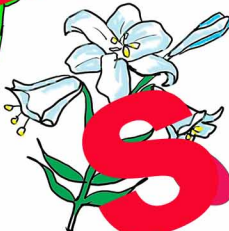
egg, candles, lilies, spring flowers: new life and hope



People dress up in spring clothes.



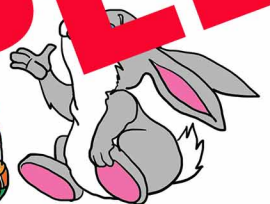
People decorate Easter eggs.



Easter egg hunt



People wear Easter bonnets



Easter bunny brings the Easter eggs.



Easter by Gail Gibbons Close Reading @ Qiang Ma

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ P: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Easter Close Reading Organizer

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Things to remember
<b>Colors to mark the passage:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highlight the title in yellow.</li> <li>Underline topic sentence in green.</li> <li>Circle the important words about Easter in red.</li> <li>Use close reading symbols throughout text.</li> </ul>
<b>CLOSE reading symbols:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check Mark (✓) – understands story</li> <li>Star (*) – something is important</li> <li>Exclamation mark (!) – something new, something that is surprising</li> <li>Question mark (?) – unsure, don't understand it</li> </ul>

The main idea of this passage is to \_\_\_\_\_

have you \_\_\_\_\_

Easter by Gail Gibbons Close Reading @ Qiang Ma

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ P: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Easter Close Reading Organizer

Title: Easter

Things to remember
<b>Colors to mark the passage:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highlight the title in yellow.</li> <li>Underline topic sentence in green.</li> <li>Circle the important words about Easter in red.</li> <li>Use close reading symbols throughout text.</li> </ul>
<b>CLOSE reading symbols:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check Mark (✓) – understands story</li> <li>Star (*) – something is important</li> <li>Exclamation mark (!) – something new, something that is surprising</li> <li>Question mark (?) – unsure, don't understand it</li> </ul>

The main idea of this passage is to explain Easter

What have you learned about Easter?  
I learned that Easter is a religious holiday, but also a time of hope and joy.

Easter by Gail Gibbons Close Reading @ Qiang Ma

### Easter

Easter is a religious holiday in spring. The death of Jesus on the cross and the miracle of His rising from the dead are the heart of the Easter story. Many Christians go to church to celebrate Easter Sunday. Often candles are lit to remind people that after darkness comes light, and after death comes new life. There are Easter lilies and other spring flowers. They are symbols of new life and hope.

Easter is also a time of hope and joy. The word Easter comes from the word Eostre, the goddess of spring. Before the time Jesus lived, there were festivals thanking the gods for spring.

The egg is a symbol of new life. For thousands of years it was the custom to give eggs as gifts at spring festivals. As part of the Easter celebration, some eggs are dyed with beautiful colors. Some eggs are painted. Others are decorated with designs. There are Easter egg hunts. Eggs are hidden everywhere. Everyone is excited to see who can find the most. Each Easter, people tell a story about a woman who dyed Easter eggs. She hid them in a nest. When the children found the nest, a big rabbit hopped away. They thought the rabbit brought the eggs, and in baskets with candy and other treats.

Many children believe that the Easter bunny brings them their Easter eggs. It began many years ago. There was a story about a woman who dyed Easter children at Easter. She hid them in a nest. When the children found the nest, a big rabbit hopped away. They thought the rabbit brought the eggs, and the story spread.

Families and friends get together for Easter. There may be an Easter ham, or lamb with mint sauce.

There are Easter parades. Some people dress up in new spring clothes and wear Easter bonnets.

Easter by Gail Gibbons Close Reading @ Qiang Ma

### Easter

**TDO #1** Easter is a religious holiday in spring. The death of Jesus on the cross and the miracle of His rising from the dead are the heart of the Easter story. Many Christians go to church to celebrate Easter Sunday. Often candles are lit to remind people that after darkness comes light, and after death comes new life. There are Easter lilies and other spring flowers. They are symbols of new life and hope.

**TDO #2** Easter is also a time of hope and joy. The word Easter comes from the word Eostre, the goddess of spring. Before the time Jesus lived, there were festivals thanking the gods for spring.

**TDO #3** The egg is a symbol of new life. For thousands of years it was the custom to give eggs as gifts at spring festivals. As part of the Easter celebration, some eggs are dyed with beautiful colors. Some eggs are painted. Others are decorated with designs. There are Easter egg hunts. Eggs are hidden everywhere. Everyone is excited to see who can find the most. Each Easter, people tell a story about a woman who dyed Easter eggs. She hid them in a nest. When the children found the nest, a big rabbit hopped away. They thought the rabbit brought the eggs, and in baskets with candy and other treats.

**TDO #4** Many children believe that the Easter bunny brings them their Easter eggs. It began many years ago. There was a story about a woman who dyed Easter children at Easter. She hid them in a nest. When the children found the nest, a big rabbit hopped away. They thought the rabbit brought the eggs, and the story spread.

**TDO #5** Families and friends get together for Easter. There may be an Easter ham, or lamb with mint sauce.

**TDO #6** There are Easter parades. Some people dress up in new spring clothes and wear Easter bonnets.

✓ ☆ ! ?

Easter by Gail Gibbons Close Reading @ Qiang Ma

### Text Dependent Questions

What is Easter? When is Easter?	Easter is not only a religious holiday, but also a time of hope and joy. It is in spring.
List at least two Easter symbols and explain what they mean.	Easter symbols include: Egg: new life Easter lilies and other spring flowers: new life and hope Candy: new life and hope
What do you think the Easter bunny is? What is the legend of Easter bunny?	Many children believe that the Easter bunny brings them their Easter eggs. It began many years ago. There was a story about a woman who dyed Easter children at Easter. She hid them in a nest. When the children found the nest, a big rabbit hopped away. They thought the rabbit brought the eggs.
List at least two activities people do to celebrate Easter.	People celebrate Easter by: • doing egg hunts • hosting Easter parades • getting together • dressing up in new spring clothes • wearing Easter bonnets

Easter by Gail Gibbons Close Reading @ Qiang Ma

### Text Dependent Questions

What is Easter? When is Easter?	Easter is not only a religious holiday, but also a time of hope and joy. It is in spring.
List at least two Easter symbols and explain what they mean.	Easter symbols include: Egg: new life Easter lilies and other spring flowers: new life and hope Candy: new life and hope
What do you think the Easter bunny is? What is the legend of Easter bunny?	Many children believe that the Easter bunny brings them their Easter eggs. It began many years ago. There was a story about a woman who dyed Easter children at Easter. She hid them in a nest. When the children found the nest, a big rabbit hopped away. They thought the rabbit brought the eggs.
List at least two activities people do to celebrate Easter.	People celebrate Easter by: • doing egg hunts • hosting Easter parades • getting together • dressing up in new spring clothes • wearing Easter bonnets

Easter by Gail Gibbons Close Reading @ Qiang Ma

### Vocabulary

religious	Believing in a religion
miracle	Wonder, surprise
contest	Race, competition, match
legend	Like folk tale, a legend is a traditional story that is historical, but not necessarily real.
dye	Color or to change the color of something by soaking it
bonnet	An old-fashioned hat that ties under the chin, worn by women and children

Easter by Gail Gibbons Close Reading @ Qiang Ma

### Vocabulary

religious	Believing in a religion
miracle	Wonder, surprise
contest	Race, competition, match
legend	Like folk tale, a legend is a traditional story that is historical, but not necessarily real.
dye	Color or to change the color of something by soaking it
bonnet	An old-fashioned hat that ties under the chin, worn by women and children

## Getting Started: Easter Close Reading

1. Get together to get the following items ready.

Item needed	Teacher	Student
The book <u>Easter</u> by Gail Gibbons	V	
Lesson Plan	V	
Vocab Poster	V *	
	Teacher can blow the original black and white sample into a poster.	
Info Organizer	V	V
Blank Paper for Drawing on Day 1	V	V
1 Reading Passage	V	V
1 Text Dependent Questions Set	V	V
Vocabulary	V	V
2 Easter Black and White Drawing (with/without labels)	V	
2 Easter Color Drawing (with/without labels)	*	*
	Teacher can blow the original black and white sample into a poster and color it.	Students may create the poster by using the teacher's sample. It takes a good house painting.
Teacher's Finished Sample Package:	*	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Easter Color Drawing with label</li> <li>1 Vocab Poster with Post-it notes</li> <li>1 Info Organizer completed</li> <li>1 Reading Passage with marks</li> <li>1 Text Dependent Questions Set with answers</li> <li>Vocab Sheet with answers</li> </ul>	<p>It takes much as possible for you to read. If you are going to hand write to model for your students.</p>	
Sharpie	V	V
Crayon/Markers	V	V
Post-It	*	

V: must, \*: optional

2. Read the lesson plan.
3. Look at the finished sample works included.
4. Photocopy 5 page package (1 Empty page, 1 Info Organizer, 1 Reading Passage, 1 Text Dependent Questions Set, and 1 Vocabulary) for students. Make an extra set for the teacher to use.
5. The lesson is designed as a cross-curriculum among ELA, Social Science/World History, and Art. Use reading and GLAD strategies.

# Term of Use

Copyright © Qiang Ma

All rights reserved by the author.

# Credits

I draw all the clipart myself for all the products in my store.

Thank you so much and I hope you enjoy this lesson.

