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Episode #086

How Americans celebrate Easter

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Hi everyone! I am Georgiana, founder of speakenglishpodcast.com. My mission is to help you speak English fluently.

Today we'll talk about something festive. Have you noticed that in springtime you go to your local supermarket and you see **chocolate bunnies** and **colorful eggs** everywhere?

Well, today I'll talk about **Easter** and how Americans celebrate this holiday. And with a funny **mini-story**, you'll practice your speaking while learning new things about the **Easter holiday**.

What exactly are we celebrating at **Easter**? Each spring, people all over the world celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This year we celebrate **Easter** on Sunday, April 21.

Whenever **Easter** comes, everywhere you go, you'll see from **colorful eggs** to **Easter bunny cakes**.

Also, most people have a week off for **Easter**, so parties are organized to enjoy the occasion with family and friends. Certainly, Easter is one of the most celebrated holidays in the **United States**.

And how else do **Americans** celebrate Easter?

Apart from spending this holiday with friends and family, some people attend special services which are held in churches on Easter.

And what's with the eggs and the rabbits? Why are they a symbol of this holiday?

Eggs and rabbits symbolize rebirth and return to the fertility of nature in spring. The eggs are hard-boiled and decorated or made of plastic, candy, and of course, chocolate.

Every year, several Easter activities are held at the **White House** lawn. Hundreds of children participate in different activities and organize games.

The **White House Easter Egg Roll** officially dates back to 1878. Here's how the game works: The egg is placed on a flat floor while the children are asked to push it with a spoon. So cool! Right? Isn't it surprising to see a child playing with an egg instead of a video-game?

And there's another popular game in the States called **Easter egg hunting**. Here's how it works: The eggs are hidden all over the house, and the children hunt them with great excitement.

As a child, I have fond memories of making **Easter eggs** with my family and in school.

This type of activity is great for children. And usually, kids remember making **Easter Eggs** for the rest of their life.

Kids love decorating Easter eggs in the days before the holiday. And it's a beautiful way to stimulate their creativity.

And on **Easter Sunday**, children wake up to find that the **Easter Bunny** has left them baskets of candy, including the eggs that they decorated earlier that week.

By the way, a **bunny** is a child term for a rabbit. Now you know what Bugs Bunny means. :)

Of course, children enjoy this holiday a lot, but adults also have fun displaying their costumes and colorful hats at the **Easter parades**.

The person leading the parade holds an Easter candle or cross in their hand.

How interesting? Right?

And how do you celebrate Easter?
You can leave a comment on iTunes, Facebook, Youtube, or on my website SpeakEnglishPodcast.com.

Mini-Story

(Practice your Speaking)

Ok! Now, you can practice with a mini-story. A mini-story is very simple. I give you information using phrases, and then I ask you questions. I created a mini-story using interesting facts about Easter.

I recommend that you listen several times until it's easy to answer.

Let's start!

The custom of giving eggs at Easter comes from the Ancient Egyptians, Persians, Romans, and Greeks.

What do we give at Easter?

Eggs. We have the custom of giving eggs at Easter.

What custom comes from the Ancient Egyptians?

The custom of giving eggs.

Do we give eggs at Christmas?

No. No. We don't give eggs at Christmas. We give eggs at Easter.

Does the custom also come from the Romans?

Yes. The custom also comes from the Romans.

The word Easter comes from the Anglo-Saxon goddess who represents the hare and the egg.

What word comes from the Anglo-Saxon goddess?

Easter. The word Easter comes from the Anglo-Saxon goddess.

Where does the word Easter come from? From Greece?

No. No. The word Easter doesn't come from Greece. It comes from an Anglo-Saxon goddess.

What does the Anglo-Saxon goddess represent?

The Anglo-Saxon goddess represents the hare and the egg.

At Easter, people usually buy sweets made of chocolate.

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What do people buy at Easter? Do they buy a tree?

No. No. People don't buy a tree at Easter. People buy sweets at Easter.

When do people buy sweets?

At Easter. People buy sweets at Easter.

What type of sweets do people buy?

Chocolate sweets. People usually buy sweets made of chocolate.

Each year on Easter, more than 90 million chocolate bunnies are produced in the United States.

When are the chocolate bunnies produced? In winter?

No. No. The chocolate bunnies are produced in spring at Easter.

How many chocolate bunnies are produced in the United States?

90 million. Ninety million chocolate bunnies are produced in the United States.

Where are the chocolate bunnies produced? In Europe?

No. No. They are not produced in Europe. The chocolate bunnies are produced in the States.

Consequently, Easter is one of the sweetest holidays of the year.

So what's one of the sweetest holidays?

Easter. It's one of the sweetest holidays of the year.

Is Easter the bitterest holiday?

No. No. Easter isn't the bitterest holiday. It's one of the sweetest holidays of the year.

Do people go on a diet at Easter?

No. No. People don't go on a diet at Easter. People eat many sweets at Easter. That's why it's the sweetest holiday of the year.

Perfect! It's the end of this mini-story. As you can see, through questions and answers you can practice and improve your speech.

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You can get it at SpeakEnglishPodcast.com/fluency

Well, I think that's enough for today. Try to listen to this content several times.

And try not to eat too many chocolate bunnies this holiday. Or else you'll need to go on a diet. :)

Happy Easter, everyone!
Bye Bye!



Georgiana

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