

# Holiday Helps

Ideas for Early Childhood Classrooms

Make these yummy crafts and remember the sweet joy we can have because Jesus died and rose again!

## Sweet Candy Crosses

### What You'll Need

- miniature chocolate bars or sticks of gum (1 per child)
- 3½" x 1/8" rubber bands (1 per child)
- LifeSaver® candies (2 per child)
- rolls of Smarties® (1 per child)
- construction paper
- tape
- markers
- optional: stickers

### What to Do

1. Cut pieces of construction paper large enough to wrap around the snack items. Give each child a roll of Smarties and a stick of gum or a chocolate bar. Provide the pre-cut construction paper and encourage the children to design their own wrappers, writing on and decorating the slips of paper as desired. Help the children tape their homemade wrappers overtop of the original candy wrappers.
2. Give each child two LifeSaver candies. Thread a rubber band through the holes in the candy rings; then set a roll of Smarties between the rings and on top of the rubber band.
3. Place the candy bar or gum horizontally across the roll of Smarties to form a cross. Carefully lift one end of the rubber band and pull it over one end of the candy bar. Repeat with the other end of the rubber band, pulling it over the opposite end of the candy bar. When held upright, the candy craft will look like a cross. Remind the children of how sad everyone was when Jesus died on a cross. But Jesus came back to life and now offers sweet joy to everyone who loves and obeys Him!

### Another Idea!

Let the children make plenty of these treats to give as gifts to family and friends. If you like, you can encourage the kids to wait three days before eating the candy. This will remind them of how hard it must have been for Jesus' friends when they were waiting for Him to return to them!

