

# Teaching Guide: Faces: Ireland

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## Objectives:

- \* Students will gain an understanding of history of Ireland
- \* Students will learn about the culture of Ireland

## Prior Knowledge:

- Before reading the articles, ask the students to share what they know about Ireland and the Irish culture. Students will probably mention St. Patrick's Day, leprechauns, and maybe, the Blarney Castle.

- \* Before reading the articles in this issue, have the students turn to the map on page 4 and ask some questions for which they need to refer to the map. For example:

A Which is the northern most city? (Letterkenny), Which is the southern most city?(Carrigaline), Which islands are off the coast from Galway Bay?(Aran Islands). Which city touches Donegal Bay?(Donegal) Which County of Ireland would you find the city of Tralee?(Kerry). Which county in Ireland would you find the city of Blarney?(Cork) On which coast of the country of Ireland is the capital of Dublin?(East) Who owns Northern Ireland(United Kingdom). You may also wish to use this map:

<http://www.factmonster.com/atlas/country/ireland.html>

## From Bogs to Bono: pages 8-11

**Possible Vocabulary words:** dreary, contrasts, intermarry, forbade, devastating, famine, governance, diversified, commonality, heritage, and colcannon.

- \* Before reading the article, bring in music of Bono (ie: Beautiful Day- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=omFdpnSu57U> and perhaps, have the students read a three page story on Gulliver's Travels by Irish writer, Jonathan Swift.

<http://www.india4u.com/kidsworld/gullivers.asp>

- How did the early British try to impose their will on the Irish?(banned their Gaelic language, music and customs, built walled cities and forbade the Irish to intermarry with Britons.)
- What was the Time of Troubles? What caused it? In which city was most of the trouble?(Violence between Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland/ Irish Catholics wanting to remove British rule from entire island/Belfast)
- What caused so many Irish to leave for America in the 1840s?(potato famine)
- After reading the article, create a postcard pretending to have visited Ireland. Include four examples of traditional Irish culture (ie: sampling colcannon-a dish of potatoes and cabbage), buying Uilleann pipes (Irish bagpipes), purchasing a poster of Gaelic writing, etc.)
- Try listening to some Gaelic, or Irish. <http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/~oduibhin/sf/>

## Learn some Irish:

Dia dhuit (Jee-A dich)- Good day, hello

Failte (Fahlt-shuh) Welcome

Conas ta tu? Cunn-us Thaw too) How are you?

Slán agat (slawn UG-ut) Good-bye

\* Listen to samples of Irish music at this site: <http://www.liveireland.com/live.shtml>

### Learning the English of Ireland: pages 12- 14

- Before reading the article, ask students to if they know what a jumper is? a press? vest? crisps? Explain that in Great Britain and in Ireland, although they also speak English, many words have different meanings.
- Have the students read the story and make a chart for the words which have different meanings than in the United States. Additionally, have the students make a list of words for which we don't use in the United States (ie: mac, biro, criss, cozy, curraugh).
- Give groups of students some of the following words and definitions. Have the students create sentences for these words. For example: **Boot(car trunk)**. *We put the suitcases into the car's boot.* Have other teams try and determine the word's meaning.

Words to use:

bap- hamburger-type bun  
biscuit-cookie  
bonnet- car hood  
braces- suspenders  
afters- dessert  
mate-buddy  
nought-zero  
lorry-truck  
ice lolly-popsicle  
fortnight- two weeks  
face flannel-washcloth  
queue-line  
strand- beach  
underground-subway  
petrol-gas  
torch-flashlight  
giving off-complaining  
jacket potato-baked potato  
cat's eyes- road reflectors  
knackered-exhausted

### The Blarney Stone: pages 15

Possible Vocabulary Words: awkward, descent, eloquent, impressive, persuade.

\* After reading the information on the Blarney Stone, have students draw a picture of the castle and write three facts to share about Blarney Castle/Stone.

\* • You may wish to show the students picture of Blarney Castle from this website:  
<http://www.blarneycastle.ie/>

### Dear Tommy: pages 16- 18

\* After reading the emails from Tommy and Sarah, make a chart with SAME and DIFFERENT. Have groups of students list examples of how Tommy's and Sarah's cultures are the same and examples of how they are different.

### Growing up in Ireland: pages 20-23

\* This site has lots of information about Ireland from an Irish school site:

<http://homepage.eircom.net/~whitechurchns/menupage.htm#1>

\* Have partners of students read the article and then write four questions to ask other groups about Aoife and four questions about Fiachra. Regroup and have the students ask another team a comprehension question. If they know the answer, they receive a point, if not, they lose a point. The team with the most points wins the comprehension game.

**An Irish Potato Treat: pages 24-25**

**Possible Vocabulary Words:** emigrated, insulted, mayoral, champ and colcannon.

\* Review reading a time line and ask questions for students to answer: such as "Which happened first: potato chips were invented or Thomas Jefferson introduces the french fry to Americans? etc.

\* **Do the following comprehension activity:**

A. Who first served french fries at the White House?(Jefferson)

B. How did Marie Antoinette help the potato gain in popularity in Europe?(worn potato purple blossoms in her hair)

C. How did a chef in New York "invent" the potato chip?(customer complained about the thick potatoes and wanted them done thinner)

D. In which city did Mr. Potato Head win for votes for mayor in 1952? (Boise, Idaho)

E. Who declared 2008, the International Year of the Potato?(United Nations)

F. Who first gathered potatoes for food(South Americans in 6000BC)

**The Capital of Irish America: pages 26- 29**

**Possible Vocabulary words:** deported, enlivened, ceili, bodhran, and quarantined.

\* Before reading, brainstorm with the students what types of emotions they might have had leaving Ireland for America.

\* How were Irish treated in Boston in 1850?( people demanded they be sent back to Ireland, ads posted that Irish need not apply, their churches were attacked)

\* What kinds of jobs did the new Irish immigrants do?(roadwork, tunnel building, cleaned homes,etc/)

\* Have partners read the article about St. Patrick. On a piece of paper, make a time line with five events/facts about St. Patrick.

\*After reading the article, draw a ship and write a brief paragraph describing your voyage over to the United States by ship(include 3 facts learned from the reading).

**Try making Irish Soda Bread:**<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Irresistible-Irish-Soda-Bread/Detail.aspx>

**Fairs and Festivals: pages 30-33**

**Possible Vocabulary Words:**

\* Why were fairs important to villages in ancient times?(people come together for fun, selling and purchases needed goods)

Why is a goat honored during King of Puck Fair?(legend says that a goat warned towns people of enemies coming, saving their town)

\* Who are the travelers? Describe their lifestyle.(people that move from move to place, selling and entertaining at fairs, etc.) Would you like this lifestyle? Why, why not?

\* What is the holiest of Ireland's mountains?(Croagh Patrick) Check out this site:

<http://www.croagh-patrick.com/>

### **Giant Tombs: pages 36- 39**

**Possible Vocabulary Words:** intricate, intriguing, cremated, solstice, germinate, calculations, trait, align,

- \* What are four facts to describe Newgrange?(a passage tomb, white quartz rocks are in the front, decoration in the stones, 280 ft. in diameter and 50 ft. high, etc.)
- \* What happens inside Newgrange during the Winter solstice?(light shines through an opening above the entrance lighting the passageway)
- \* What is the Newgrange Lottery?(50 lucky people that get to be inside the tomb during the winter solstice.)
- \* Pretend to be an archaeologist and write a diary entry of your first entering Newgrange. What did you see? hear? smell?

### **Trivia Safari:**

**Readings: Hurling**(page. 34), **The Connemara Pony**(pages 6-7) and **Huddon and Duddon**(pages 43-44)

Use the following readings to have students to a trivia safari.

1. What is a shanachie?(storyteller)
2. Why did the innkeeper want to buy Donald's cow hide?(thought it was magic and could produce money)
3. What is the ball in the sport of hurling called?(sliothar)
4. Who is Og o'Hailpin? (Ireland's most famous hurler)
5. About how old is the sport of hurling?(3000 years old)
6. Legend says that the Connemara pony originally came from Spain. How did they get to Ireland(shipwreck of the Spanish Armada in 1588)
7. Who was Cannon Ball?(famous racing pony)
8. The district of County Galway was compared to what American area?(American Wild West)

\* Do the fun Irish Cyberhunt at this site:

<http://www.gailhennessey.com/index.shtml?cyberhuntireland.html>