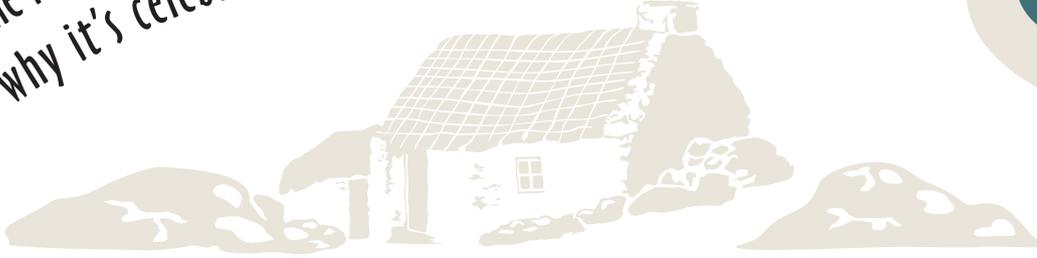


Learn the history of St. Patrick's Day  
and why it's celebrated today

QUIZZES!  
PUZZLES!  
GAMES!

AND  
MORE



# ST. PATRICK'S DAY

## History-at-Home Pack



Discover why Irishness is celebrated  
across the world



# A HISTORY OF... St. Patrick's Day

What comes to mind when you think of 'Irishness'? Most of what we have come to associate with Ireland – including the colour green, St. Patrick, Halloween, shamrocks, potatoes and parades – can be connected with migration, or the movement of people.

## ST. PATRICK

St. Patrick himself was a migrant. Born around in the 5th century AD, he had a difficult start to life. Abducted by Irish pirates off the coast of Britain, it was his forced movement to our shores that would go on to change both the course of his life and eventually, shape Irish culture itself. After 6 long years herding sheep in Antrim, he had a dream about a ship upon which he could escape, and went back to Britain. However, it was not long before he returned to Ireland. He chose to spend the rest of his life living among the people, spreading Christian values using the three leaves of a native Irish clover, the shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit). By the end of the 7th century, many legends had sprung up around him, from raising the dead, to scaring the snakes out of Ireland. But one thing was certain: we Irish had adopted him, and his ways, as our own.

## IMMIGRATION

This story of migration and adoption is a story we see often at EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum. It can be seen in immigration, or movement, to Ireland.

From the ancient Celts who brought us Samhain or Halloween; to the Vikings who set up towns such as Dublin and Wexford; to the more recent Asian, South American and European migrants who have introduced us to their culture and festivities; these immigrants have and still continue to contribute to shaping Irish history and what Irishness is.

## EMIGRATION

We see this story too in emigration, or those who leave Ireland. Over 10 million people have left Irish shores since 400 AD, when the monks first took their currach boats to Scotland. The people who left Ireland often left by many different forms and means. Just like St. Patrick, they didn't always have a choice – poverty, persecution, disease and desperation often drove them to pastures new. Over 1.5 million Irish emigrated during the Famine period alone. However, no matter their reasons, these people were usually united by two core things: hope for a better future, and their shared Irishness. Their love of their homeland meant that Irish culture often survived the many-month long journeys to new continents - and not only were adopted, but prospered there.

70 million people around the world  
claim Irish Heritage

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY

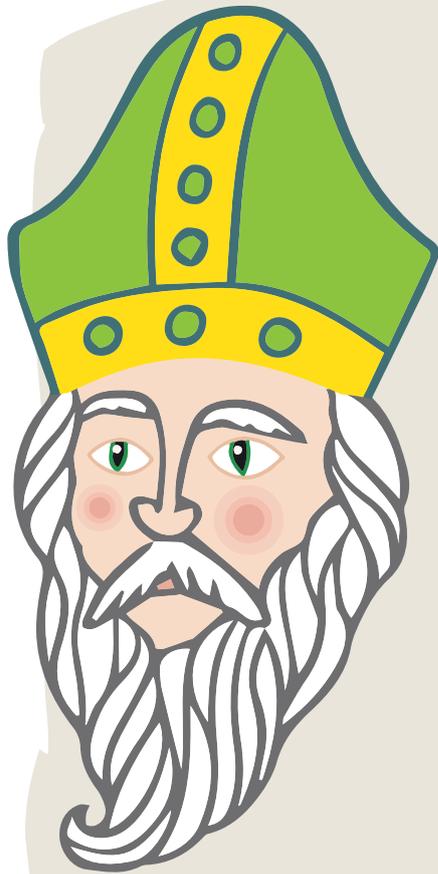
# A HISTORY OF... St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day is the perfect example of this - today, it is one of the only national holidays to be celebrated throughout the world. However, the iconic parade didn't even begin in Ireland. Irish emigrants in Florida, USA were the first to celebrate it, all the way back in 1601. The first parade in Ireland didn't take place until 1903 - the same year that St. Patrick's Day was declared a public holiday. Nowadays, Tourism Ireland's 'Global Greening' initiative, which sees roughly 300 landmarks lit up in over 50 countries on the 17th March every year, is proof of how Irishness has been adopted the world over.



### THE IRISH

Distance has never stopped Irish people before. In a time when we can't gather together in person, more people consider themselves to have Irish heritage now than ever before – over 70 million in fact. This St. Patrick's day, we invite you to join together with the global Irish – the descendants of those who left – and the adopted Irish – those we have welcomed to our shores – in celebrating. Complete the activities in this pack and invite family and friends to join you virtually for your very own St. Patrick's Festival. And, if you have Irish family that have emigrated, give them the recognition they deserve by adding their names to our **Power of a Name** exhibition. Simply head to [epicchq.com/power-of-a-name](http://epicchq.com/power-of-a-name) and enter their name, where they emigrated from and the year that they left. We will project it onto the wall of EPIC and it will become part of our exhibition. Above all, let's remember what makes us all Irish: hope for better days and a love of Ireland and Irish culture, for all.



## ST. PATRICK'S STORY

Unscramble the missing words to complete the story of St. Patrick

St. Patrick was born sometime in the 5th century in **BIITARN**. At the age of 16 he was abducted by Irish **PRIATSE**, who were well-known at the time for raiding British coasts for people, animals and clothes! Once in Ireland, Patrick was sent to Slemish Mountain in County Antrim to herd **EPSHE**. He spent about 6 years herding sheep, until one night he had a dream about a **HIPS** on which he could escape. Upon his return to Britain, he had a second **DEAMR**, which encouraged him to return to Ireland to spread Christianity to the people. He did this, and spent the remainder of his life in **RENDAIL**, preaching, baptising and building **ECSHRUHC**. He died on March 17th, 461 in Saul, in County Down, at the site of his first church and he is **DUIREB** in the grounds of Down Cathedral in Downpatrick. By the 7th century, the tale of St. Patrick had already become a **LEENDG** in Ireland, with many reporting that he completed several miracles, including driving the **ASKSNE** from Ireland and raising the dead!

Answers: Britain, pirates, sheep, ship, dream, Ireland, churches, buried, legend, snakes

## ST. PATRICK'S PIRATES

St. Patrick was thought to be one of the Irish pirates' most famous captives, but Irish pirates have made quite a name for themselves through the years also! Solve the clues to figure out the missing letters, then match them to the correct spaces to discover the names of three famous Irish pirates.

CLUE 1: The beginning of the Alphabet.

CLUE 2: This letter can be found in 'm'.

CLUE 3: Long and lengthy, this letter appears three times here.



\_\_\_ **E** **B** **O** \_\_\_ **Y**

part of the infamous pirates of the Caribbean

**W** \_\_\_ **L** **M** \_\_\_ **M** **P** **O** **R** **T**

said to be the inspiration behind the legend of Zorro

**G** **R** \_\_\_ **C** **E** **O** **'** **M** \_\_\_ **E** **Y**

a notorious pirate Queen



ANSWERS: A, N, L, AND ANNE BONNY, WILLIAM LAMPART AND GRACE O'WALLEY

## ST. PATRICK'S COLOURS

Solve the clues below to reveal the colour people all over the world associate with St Patrick's Day in the shaded areas.

	A			S
G		E		D
	H		E	
L		B		
	A		I	

1. Something you play with your friends
2. When you want too much of something
3. St. Patrick herded a flock of this animal
4. A sticker that you might put your name on
5. A shed or small wooden house

Answers: 1. GAMES, 2. GREED, 3. SHEEP, 4. LABEL, 5. CABIN

# ST PATRICK'S ESCAPE

While tending to his flock one night, St. Patrick had a dream which told him how to escape from captivity on a ship. Help him navigate safely home by completing the maze below so he knows where to go - and avoid the obstacles such as sheep and pirates along the way!



## ST PATRICK'S ANIMALS

It's said that St. Patrick drove the snakes out of Ireland, but there are many other animals that he might have come across while tending to his flock of sheep. Unscramble the names of the Irish wildlife below and match them to their description to discover more about them.



**BWNOR EBRA**



**LOWF**



**OABR**



**DERE**

The \_\_\_\_\_ is the ancestor of the pig, and once abounded in the forests of Ireland. They ate acorns and were an important source of meat for Irish people. The Ancient Irish warriors, The Fianna, often held boar hunting competitions.

The \_\_\_\_\_ was widespread in Ireland until the 18th century – so widespread in fact, that Ireland was once nicknamed "\_\_\_\_\_ Land"! They survived on wild boar and sheep, and were respected and revered by the ancient Irish.

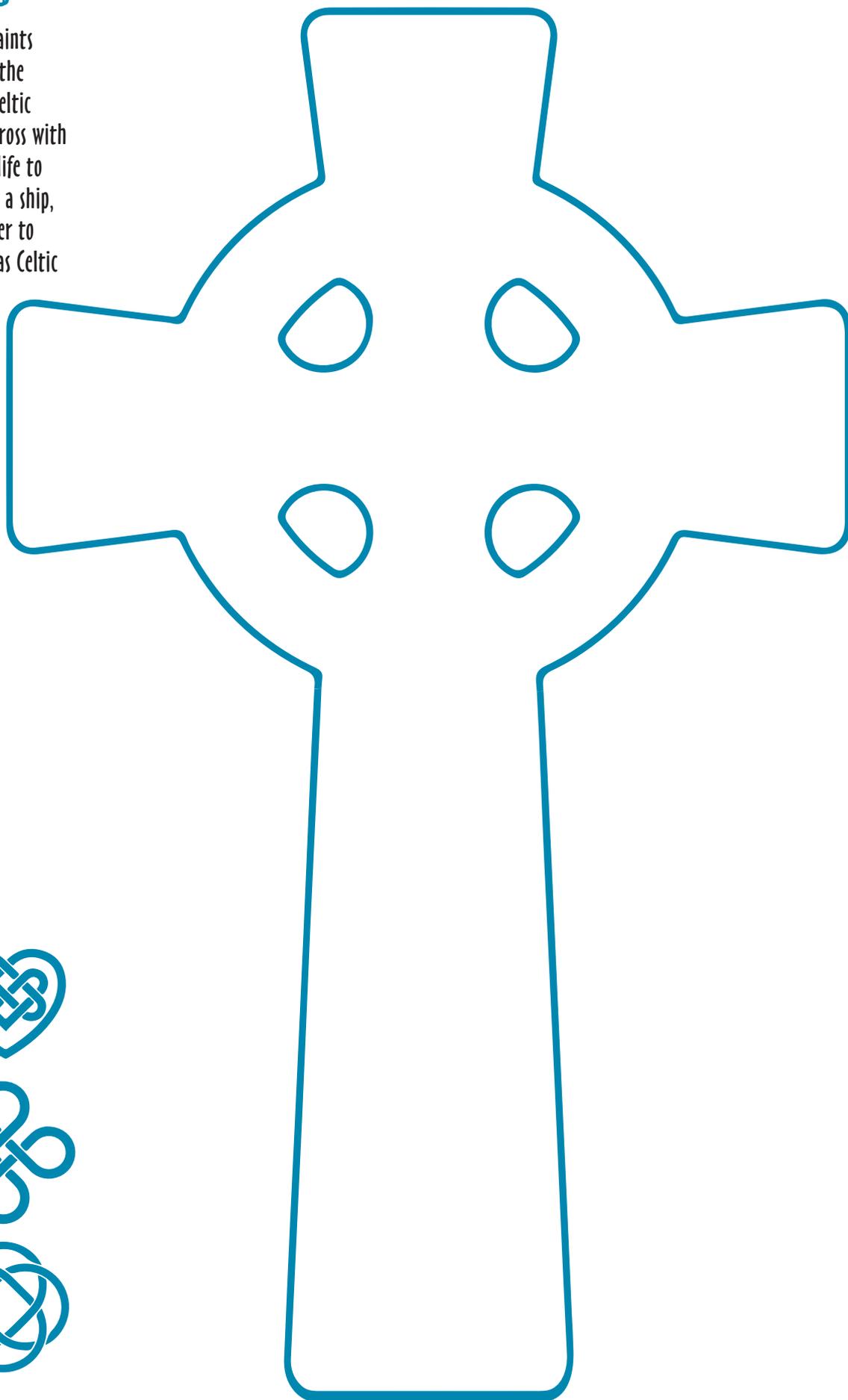
Ireland was once home to three types of \_\_\_\_\_ – Red \_\_\_\_\_, great Irish Elk and even Reindeer! These animals ate grasses and the leaves and shoots of trees. They were hunted to the point of extinction, but have recently begun to flourish again with new \_\_\_\_\_ being introduced.

For thousands of years, \_\_\_\_\_ roamed Ireland. They lived in forests, and had plenty to eat in the form of deer, boar, hares and salmon. Their remains have been found in many caves across the land, including Poll na mBéar – the Cave of the Bears - in County Leitrim, and Aillwee Cave, in County Clare.

Answers: Boar, Wolf, Deer and Brown Bear

## CREATE A CELTIC CROSS

Before books, the stories of saints were often communicated to the people through carvings on Celtic crosses. Illustrate the Celtic cross with key scenes from St. Patrick's life to tell his story, such as pirates, a ship, sheep or shamrocks. Remember to add some Celtic designs such as Celtic knots to complete your Cross!



Examples:



# NATIONAL HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD

Did you know that Montserrat in the Caribbean is the only other country in the world where St Patrick's Day is also a public holiday, meaning that the people get a day off to celebrate it? Solve the crossword clues to discover the public holidays celebrated in different countries.

## DOWN:

1. The country with a Great Wall, where the Dragon Boat Festival is celebrated on the 5th day of the 5th month
2. The creator of The Simpsons, with Independence Day on July 4th
3. The home of the Eiffel Tower, where Bastille Day is celebrated on July 14th
5. The country of the Highlands, where St. Andrews Day is celebrated on November 30th

## ACROSS:

4. The land of kangaroos, where Anzac Day is celebrated on April 25th
6. The country of Berlin, with Unity day on October 3rd



Answers: 1. CHINA, 2. USA, 3. FRANCE, 4. Australia, 5. SCOTLAND, 6. GERMANY

## GROUPS OF 3

One of the reasons we might associate the colour green with St. Patrick's Day is because of the shamrock. St. Patrick used the shamrock as a tool to teach Christianity to the people of Ireland, by using its three leaves to represent the three different aspects or parts of the one God. Find the missing word that links all three things listed below. We've done the first one for you.

COTTAGE - SWISS - CAKE

CREAM - SKATE - WATER

WORM - SHELF - END

SLEEPING - BEAN - RUBBISH

GOLF - HOUSE - SANDWICH

Cheese

Answers: 1. CHEESE, 2. ICE, 3. BOOK, 4. BAG, 5. CLUB



# THE SHAMROCK

Thanks to St. Patrick, the shamrock is one of the most recognised symbols for Ireland. However it is not the only plant used as a symbol for a country. Can you match the plants below to the country they are associated with?



TULIP



LOTUS



MAPLE LEAF



SHAMROCK



ROSE



CHERRY BLOSSOM

IRELAND

INDIA

CANADA

JAPAN

ENGLAND

HOLLAND

ANSWERS: 1. Holland, 2. India, 3. Canada, 4. Ireland, 5. England, 6. Japan



## THE FIRST ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Did you know that the first St. Patrick's Day parade wasn't even in Ireland? Solve the maths problems below to complete the story. We've done the first one for you.

The very first St. Patrick's parade was probably held in Florida in the United States as early as  $(800 \times 2) + 1 = 1601$  while the second parade took place in Boston in  $1900 - 163 = \square$ . This is because a lot of Irish people emigrated to America over the years. Many left due to the Famine, which began in  $(900 \times 2) + 45 = \square$ . So much so that by  $1815 + 35 = \square$  the Irish were the largest ethnic population in Boston! This was followed by the first official parade in New York in  $(1 \times 1767) - 1 = \square$ . Ireland was a little further behind with the first parade held in Waterford in  $(700 \times 3) - 200 + 3 = \square$ . Dublin joined in  $1900 + (22 + 9) = \square$ . Today, the parade in Dublin is a huge event, with roughly  $(300,000 \times 2) - (50,000 \times 2) = \square$  attendees in  $(100 \times 20) + 19 = \square$ .

ANSWERS: 1737, 1845, 1850, 1766, 1903, 1931, 500,000, 2019

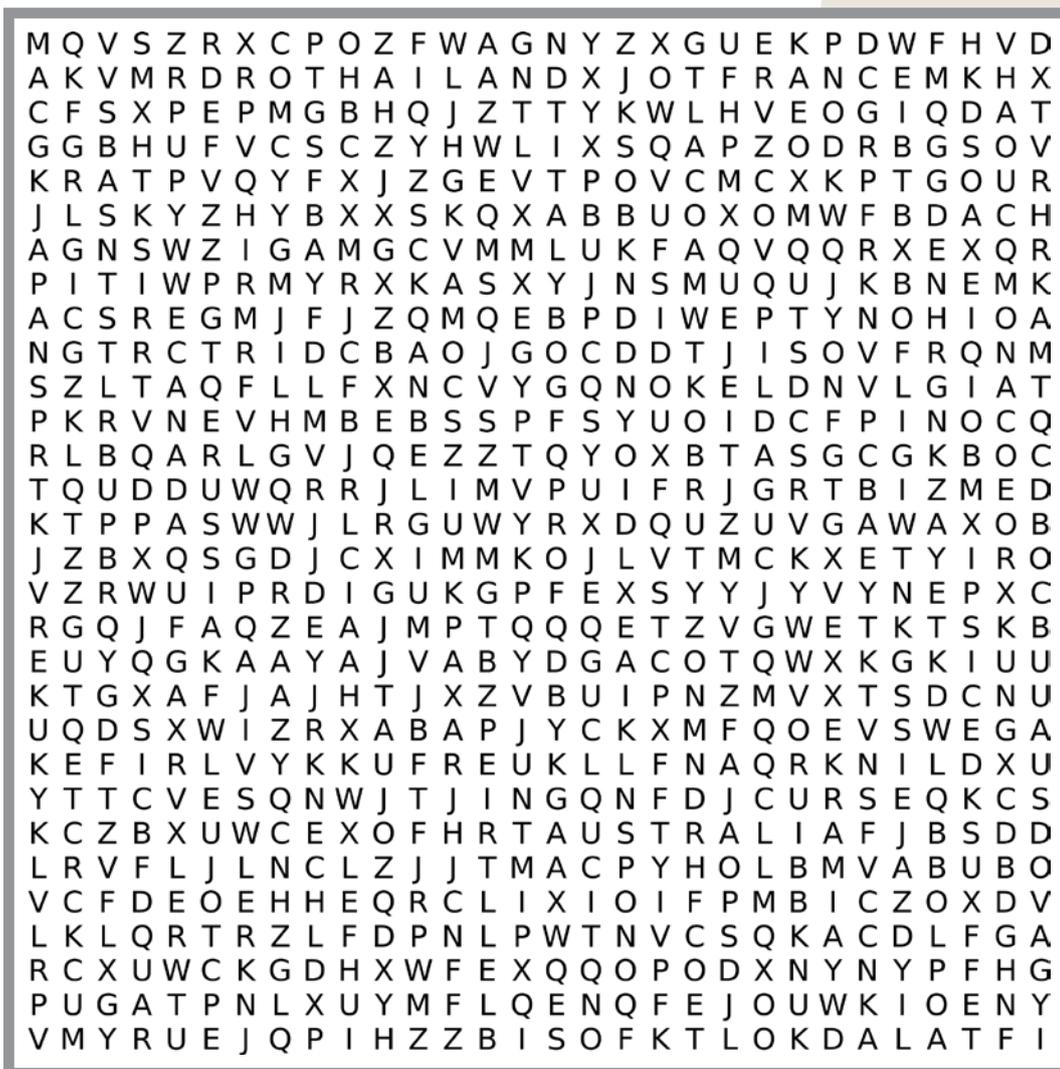


# GLOBAL GREENING wordsearch quiz

## GLOBAL GREENING

Nowadays the colour green lights up many different places on St. Patrick's Day. From the pyramids of Giza in Egypt to a post-box at the summit of Øretoppen Mountain in Norway, 350 kms above the Arctic Circle; roughly 50 countries worldwide go green for St. Patrick's Day! Can you find 15 of them hidden in the word search below?

- |                  |              |              |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Great Britain | 6. Belgium   | 11. Italy    |
| 2. United States | 7. Argentina | 12. Israel   |
| 3. Canada        | 8. Monaco    | 13. Japan    |
| 4. Albania       | 9. France    | 14. Russia   |
| 5. Australia     | 10. Egypt    | 15. Thailand |



# IT'S SLIME TIME!

It's said that St. Patrick drove the snakes out of Ireland, and their slime too. . . But at EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum, we're going to invite some slime back to Ireland with this fun and easy home-made slime recipe. It's time to get gooey!

## DID YOU KNOW?

Snakes don't actually make slime, but one unusual animal that does is the parrotfish. Before they go to sleep, parrotfish burp out a layer of slimy mucus to cover themselves in. Scientists aren't sure exactly why parrotfish cover themselves in bedtime slime, but they think that it might be to protect themselves from parasites or predators while they sleep. Cozy!

## SLIME-Y TIPS:

- Slime can be easily destroyed by vinegar.
- Slime rarely goes off, so it can be kept for a really long time.
- If your slime goes dry, add some body lotion or baby oil to it to make it stretchy again. This not only brings it back to life, but can sometimes make slime even stretchier and softer.

## How to make Green Slime

### YOU'LL NEED

- 1 cup of PVA glue (found in most euro shops or your local art and hobby shop)
- ¼ cup of water
- Green food colour (gel or liquid)
- 1 tablespoon bicarbonate of soda
- Contact lens solution, containing 'boric acid' (can be bought in most pharmacies, and even some supermarkets!)

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Put all the ingredients except for the contact lens solution into a bowl and mix well until combined.
2. Add a tablespoon of contact lens solution and mix in well for 2-3 minutes. As you mix, you should start to see it coming together.
3. Add more contact lens solution if needed, but just a little at a time! Keep on mixing for 2-3 minutes until the slime is not too sticky to touch.
4. Finally, roll the slime out onto a smooth surface and knead it like bread for a few minutes.
5. Hey presto, it's slime time!

Want to learn more about the science behind slime, and how to make even more types of slime? Come to EPIC when we reopen for even more slime based fun - such as slime monsters, fluffy slime, and slime waterfalls! All upcoming workshops will be on our website [epicchq.com](http://epicchq.com)

Don't forget to share your slime photos on social media  
#EPICmuseum @epicmuseumCHQ

# How to host... a virtual St. Patrick's Day Festival

This St. Patrick's day, we invite you to join together with your family and friends – no matter where they are in the world – by hosting your very own virtual St. Patrick's Festival with our step-by-step guide.

## My Virtual St. Patrick's Day Festival

- Put yourself as Festival Manager.
- Multiple roles can be carried out by one person, or multiple people can work together on a role.

### STEP 1: PLAN

**GATHER YOUR TEAM:** First things first, you need to gather your festival crew and assign everyone their roles. Get family and friends to help out. Even if they aren't in the same house as you, you can still organise virtual meetings to discuss your plans.

ROLE	NAME	DUTIES
FESTIVAL MANAGER:		Fills out this pack and organises schedule
EVENTS MANAGER:		Invites guests and makes sure everything runs smoothly on the day
DESIGN MANAGER:		Leads decorating, arts and crafts activities
CONTRIBUTOR 1:		Anyone delivering activities on the day
CONTRIBUTOR 2:		Anyone delivering activities on the day
CONTRIBUTOR 3:		Anyone delivering activities on the day

### STEP 2: BRAINSTORM A THEME

Deciding on a unique theme is very important as this is what will get your guests excited about attending. For instance, every year the official St. Patrick's Day Festival has a new theme. In 2021, it's 'Dúisigh Éire! Awaken Ireland!'.

Start by making a mind map. What comes to mind when you think of 'Irishness' or 'St. Patrick's Day'? We've started one below for you with some scrambled words. Unscramble them and then add any more you can think of around them.



REVIRDENCA      LTCES  
 NEREG      IRISHNESS      HRAP  
 KENAS      KIVSGIN      DSPORAI

Answers: Green; Riverdance; Harp; Vikings; Celts; Diaspora; Snake

Now, choose a word from your mind map and use this to create a broader theme for your festival. For example, you could choose the word 'snake', and the theme 'animals'; or the word 'green' and the theme 'colour'.

MY CHOSEN WORD IS:

MY FESTIVAL THEME IS:

# How to host... a virtual St. Patrick's Day Festival

## STEP 3: SCHEDULE

While we all might look forward to the St. Patrick's Day parade the most, festivals usually have multiple aspects to them. Unscramble the words below to discover some common activities that you might want to include in your festival. Then choose up to 5 of them to fill out the schedule for your day below.

The bodhran and the fiddle make Irish forms of this -

**CUSIM**

The Seanchai were the ancient Irish keepers of this art -

**OITRLLYTENG**

A place where you see a show or performance -

**TAHEETR**

Riverdance is a popular form of this -

**DENCA**



The Liffey Swim by Jack B Yeats is a famous Irish work of what -

**RTA**

Something that makes you laugh -

**YCMEDO**

A long line or procession -

**APRAED**

ANSWERS: Music, Storytelling, Theatre, Dance, Art, Comedy, Parade

## MY ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL SCHEDULE:

Tip: When picking your activities, remember to involve your theme in some way!

TIME:	ACTIVITY:

## STEP 4: INVITE

Every good festival needs an exclusive guest list. Now that you have your festival planned, fill out the invitation below, and take a picture to send it to your attendees. Don't forget to include a copy of your schedule too!

Dear

Even though we can't be together in person this year, please join my family in celebrating our virtual St. Patrick's Day Festival. This year's theme is

We invite you to get creative by designing a costume and join us virtually via video call at  GMT time on Wednesday 17th March 2021.

Lá Fhéile Pádraig sona duit! Happy St. Patrick's Day!

From



# How to host... a virtual St. Patrick's Day Festival

**STEP 5: DECORATE** Now you've got everything prepared, it's time to get artistic. Using your theme as a starting point, create at least one of each of the following:

## CREATE A SHAMROCK SUNCATCHER GARLAND

**MATERIALS:** white disposable coffee filters OR white tissue paper, paper towels/napkins, washable markers, spray bottle OR water gun, 2 x A4 sheets of card, glue stick, string.

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. Colour the coffee filters/tissue paper with your markers. The more vivid the colours, the better!
2. Spread your finished design on top of other paper towels or napkins
3. Spray your design with a little bit of water using a spray bottle or water gun, and watch the colours start to mix to create a tie dye pattern
4. Allow everything to dry completely
5. Divide the A4 sheets into four quarters and draw a shamrock on one. Cut it out
6. Trace this template on to the other sheets and cut out all the shamrocks. You should have 8 in total
7. Cut out a heart shape in the centre of each shamrock
8. Using the glue stick, attach the dyed coffee filters or tissue paper to one side of the shamrocks, making sure to cover the heart shaped holes
9. Once dry, use scissors to trim off the extra coffee filters/tissue paper
10. Attach the shamrocks to the string using either glue or sticky tape
11. Hang your finished shamrock suncatcher on your window

Tip: Add in a few additional drawings or shapes that tie into your festival theme. If you chose the animal theme, you might want to add snakes and rabbits, or other animals that you like! You can add these to your suncatcher by following the same method but just changing the shapes you cut out to whatever else you want to include.



## A BANNER FOR YOUR PERFORMANCE SPACE

Create a banner for your performance space by writing the letters of 'S t P a t r i c k ' s D a y' on A4 sheets of paper and designing them to fit in with your festival theme! Tie them together with string and display them proudly.



## COSTUMES

One thing we all look forward to seeing as part of any festival is the fantastic costumes the groups wear during the parade. Both you and your team will need to be dressed to suit the theme of your festival. Make sure to create at least one of the following for each of you:

- **Costume** – something to wear. Look for particular colours or a costume that ties into your theme well. For an animal theme, each participant could dress up as a different animal, such as a snake, rabbit and dog!
- **Props** – every costume needs a prop, and depending on what you are doing, it might even be useful for your performance! You can create your own props using papier-mâché, paper crafting or clay, or find something around your house that will suit your character. The only limit is your imagination!
- **Mask** – using a disposable face mask create a mask for your costume. Stuck? Download our Spooktacular Halloween Around the World History-at-home pack for further instructions!

## STEP 6: PARADE!

The only thing left to do is put on the festival itself. Don't forget to take pictures! To be part of the official St. Patrick's Parade, get an adult to share them on social media with the hashtag #RTEVirtualParade. And share them with us by using #EPICMuseum for a chance to win an EPIC prize.