

**Reception Geography and Writing Project**

To help you prepare for your learning in year 1, we are going to learn about the 4 countries in the United Kingdom. We live in the country England, so we are going to look at where this is, but also find out about the other 3 countries that are included in the United Kingdom. We are going to use the internet to find out more about these countries and each day you are going to write about what you have learnt. We will be doing this in lots of different ways, so if you have your own ideas about how you want to record your learning, please feel free to do this!

We hope you enjoy your Geography topic this week and we can’t wait to see your work at the end of the week.

**Monday-**

**Learning objectives:**

* To understand that union means joined together

* The United Kingdom is the union of 4 countries

* The four countries in the United Kingdom are: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

1. Look at the map of the United Kingdom. Begin to identify the countries within in. Also look at the pictures on the map and encourage them to question why they might be there; “*Why do you think there is a picture of a monster in Scotland?!”* Either make links to their own experiences of visiting these places or make a note of these to come back to throughout the learning this week.
2. Watch BBC bitesize video ‘Welcome to the UK’, which talks about the four countries and their capital cities. (This video may also answer some of the questions they had when looking at the map) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zdq6t39>
3. Use the pp attached to talk to the children about the United Kingdom flag and how it was created.
4. Complete the union flag activity; ‘the creation of the union flag’
5. Extra challenge- Can you create your own flag for your class bubble or family?

**Tuesday**

**Learning objectives:**

* Scotland is a country in the United Kingdom
* Scotland is located in the North of England
* The Scottish flag is blue with a white cross

1. Show the map of England again. Who can remember something about the United Kingdom? Can you point to England? Scotland? Wales? Northern Ireland?
2. Explain that today we are going to look at Scotland- can you point to where that is?
3. Using the other map in Tuesday’s resources show them where it is and point out Edinburgh. Explain that this is the capital of Scotland. With a marker, see if they can add a dot to their map to show where Edinburgh is.
4. Go through powerpoint about Scotland. Refer to the pictures on their map as you talk about them- the flag, the thistle etc
5. Please use the visit Scotland website if the children have further questions- why they wear tartan, the Loch Ness Monster <https://www.visitscotland.com/about/uniquely-scottish/>
6. Point out the Loch Ness Monster on their sheet- explain that people believe he lives in the freshwater loch in the highlands!
7. Watch video episode, where Annie and Ben see the loch ness monster! <https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=scottish+traditions+for+kids&ru=%2fvideos%2fsearch%3fq%3dscottish%2520traditions%2520for%2520kids%26qs%3dAS%26form%3dQBVR%26sp%3d1%26pq%3dscottish%2520traditions%2520for%2520%26sc%3d5-24%26cvid%3dBA1415595F4744029879364ECD82319D&adlt=strict%2cstrict%2cstrict&view=detail&mid=C53DE8EDE3B18B938131C53DE8EDE3B18B938131&&FORM=VDRVRV>
8. Write a newspaper article about a sighting of the Loch Ness Monster. Use questions to support each sentence.

**Wednesday**

**Learning objectives:**

* Wales is a country in the United Kingdom
* There is a red dragon on the Welsh flag
* Cardiff is the capital city of Wales

1. Show the map of England again. Who can remember something about the United Kingdom? Can you point to England? Scotland? Wales? Northern Ireland?
2. Explain that today we are going to look at Wales- can you point to where that is?
3. Using the other map in Wednesday’s resources show them where the capital city is and point out Cardiff. Explain that this is the capital of Wales. With a marker, see if they can add a dot to their map to show where Cardiff is.
4. Using the relief map- talk about the shape of the land and point out where the mountains and hills
5. Show pictures of mountains and valleys in wales- can you point out the mountains in the pictures? Can you point out the valleys? (the valley is the low area between the mountains)
6. Complete the ‘mountain and valley’ picture to show what they are.
7. Using the Wales Teach PP talk go through some facts about Wales
8. Show children the flag of Wales and explain that there are many stories of dragons throughout history, and we cannot be sure why the dragon was chosen for the Welsh flag. We do know that Henry Tudor carried a flag depicting the dragon into battle in 1485 at the Battle of Bosworth Field. Many Welsh people today are proud of the red dragon as it symbolises strength and courage.
9. Can the children write some sentences describing the red dragon? ‘The red dragon is fierce’, ‘The red dragon is strong’
10. Extra if you want to- watch Barneby Bear climbs Moel Famau <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0114340>

**Thursday**

**Learning objectives**

* Northern Ireland is a country in the United Kingdom
* Belfast is the capital city of Wales
* The Southern part of Ireland is an independent country and not part of the UK

1. Show the map of England again. Who can remember something about the United Kingdom? Can you point to England? Scotland? Wales? Northern Ireland?
2. Explain that today we are going to look at N.Ireland- can you point to where that is?
3. Using the other map in Thursday’s resources show them where the capital city is and point out Belfast. Explain that this is the capital of N.Ireland. With a marker, see if they can add a dot to their map to show where Belfast is.
4. Talk about only Northern Ireland being part of the UK, because Southern Ireland is its own country. Point out the divide between the two.
5. Watch videos of irish dancing and Gaelic football. Explain that these are traditions in Ireland <https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=irish+dancing&ru=%2fvideos%2fsearch%3fq%3dirish%2bdancing%26FORM%3dHDRSC4&adlt=strict%2cstrict&view=detail&mid=0C76A313C538092A077A0C76A313C538092A077A&rvsmid=86CC39509CA7A174A95286CC39509CA7A174A952&FORM=VDRVRV>

What music can you hear? What do you notice about the dance?

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=gaelic+football&adlt=strict&view=detail&mid=1EA7517C6DA8989B67501EA7517C6DA8989B6750&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Dgaelic%2520football%26qs%3Dn%26form%3DQBVR%26sp%3D-1%26ghc%3D1%26pq%3Dgaelic%2520football%26sc%3D8-15%26sk%3D%26cvid%3D73A9A73588494CA9B877A91F3CA3A240>

How is this different to the football you play?

1. Explain that on the North East coast of Ireland there is a very special natural creation called; ‘The Giants Causeway’. Lots of people have their own ideas about how this was created. The legend says it was created by a giant!

Watch video about the giants causeway and/or use PP to learn about it.

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=giants+causeway+legend&adlt=strict&view=detail&mid=9EEB282EB9FBFB18741D9EEB282EB9FBFB18741D&&FORM=VRDGAR>

1. The legend is believed by many, each with their own versions of the story. Can you write your own story about the Giant’s Causeway? Children can draw a picture of the giant who made it, give them a name and think about how and why he/she made it.

**Friday**

**Learning objectives**

* England is a country in the United Kingdom
* The capital city of England is London
* Observe some geographical features in England

1. Show the map of England again. Who can remember something about the United Kingdom? Can you point to England? Scotland? Wales? Northern Ireland?
2. Explain that today we are going to look at England- can you point to where that is?
3. Using the other map in Fridays’s resources show them where the capital city is and point out London. Explain that this is the capital of England. With a marker, see if they can add a dot to their map to show where London is. If they have been to London, talk about what was there and what it is like.
4. Watch video about London: <https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=london+ks1&adlt=strict&view=detail&mid=2BD165794DBCD6B318542BD165794DBCD6B31854&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Dlondon%2Bks1%26FORM%3DHDRSC4>
5. Is London a city or countryside? How do you know it’s a city? So what does countryside look like? Use pictures to help discuss
6. Can you draw some features of a city in England and the countryside? Features are things you would normally see there. Can you then label or write sentences about both
7. Recap watching the BBC bitesize video watched at the beginning of the week and pause at various points- see if children can talk about each country before it is played on the video.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zdq6t39> This page also has games and other videos which the children can watch if they’d like to learn more about the 4 countries.