



# St Patrick's Day

## Fact File & Activities 2



NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_



St Aiden's

### NOTE TO PARENTS/EDUCATORS:

In this fun and informative unit, a little more advanced than Unit 1, is a little more detailed history about the Legend of St Patrick, setting out the varying contradictions in dates, locations etc. We don't believe that they are materially of any major significance. This Unit is designed to be read to younger children, the contents explained (there will be many questions...) There is a focus on symbols and vocabulary which will be explored in the unit, and will include flash cards specifically created for this unit. Enjoy this fascinating history of a fascinating man representing to me, the most fascinating of all nations in the world. Please contact me with feedback or if I can provide you with any more information or compile a particular workbook for you [donnette@staidenshomeschool.com](mailto:donnette@staidenshomeschool.com)



### **About St. Patrick's Day**

St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland and the Irish. He was born about 389 A.D. (these dates differ according to various versions) in Northern Wales (some say Britain), which at that time may have been part of England or Scotland. Saint Patrick had an adventurous life. He was captured by pirates at the age of 16. The Irish pirates brought him to Ireland to tend the flocks of a chieftain in Ulster. Six years of slavery made him a devoted Christian. He escaped to France (some will have it he returned to Britain) and became a monk.





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In 432, a vision led him to return to Ireland as a missionary bishop. He brought Christianity to Ireland and taught there for 29 years. He used the shamrock, a 3 leaf clover, (Ireland's national flower) to explain the Blessed Trinity. St. Patrick founded 365 churches, baptized over 120,000 people and consecrated 450 bishops. It is also said that it was the then Pope that asked Patrick to bring Christianity to Ireland.


Many tales sprung up about this popular saint. One of the most popular legends was how he charmed all the snakes of Ireland down to the seashore to be drowned by the water.

The only certain writings of St. Patrick's are his *Confessions* and a letter written to a man named Coroticus (See *Tripartite Life of St. Patrick* by Stokes and *Lives* by Todd, Healy, Bury and Lusack.). His *Confessions* are written in crude Latin.





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According to some Irish writings, St. Patrick died on March 17, 461 A.D. The anniversary of his death is celebrated as St. Patrick's Day. It's interesting to note that the shamrock clover flowers around that time of year. 

The first official celebration of St. Patrick's Day in the United States occurred in Morristown, New Jersey in 1780. It was authorized by George Washington. Today St. Patrick's Day is celebrated by the Irish as well as many Americans with parades, parties, wearing of green, Irish songs and jigs. People wear green on this day to represent the lushness of Ireland - The Emerald Isle.



Here is a table showing which days St Patrick's Day will be celebrated from 2007 to 2010.

Saturday	March 17	2007
Monday	March 17	2008
Tuesday	March 17	2009
Wednesday	March 17	2010





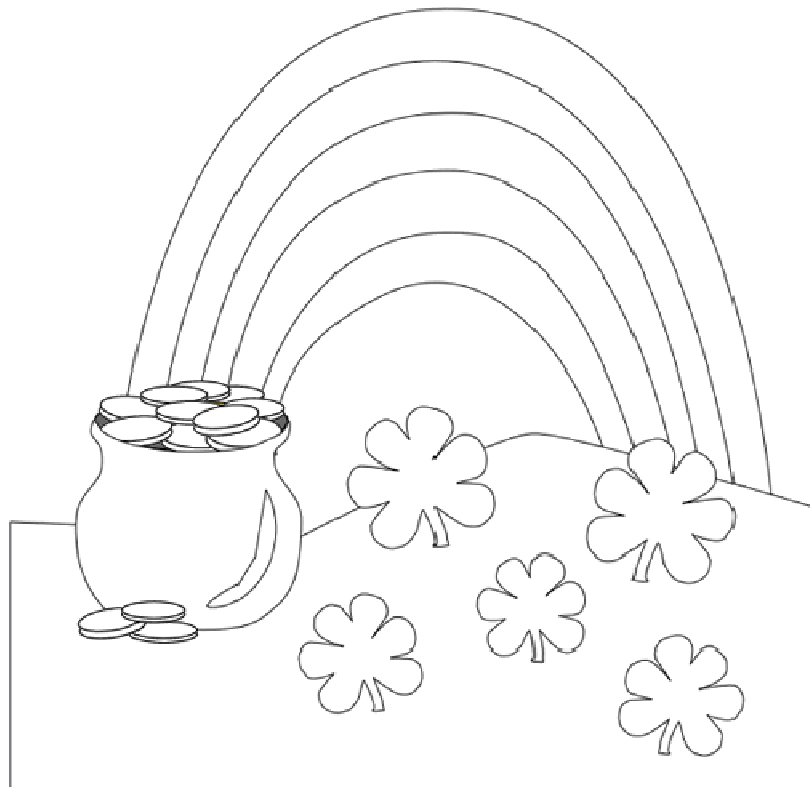
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**IRISH SYMBOLS** - Irish symbols belonging to the leprechaun: pot of gold with rainbow and shillelagh (irish fighting stick). The leprechaun in himself is an Irish symbol.





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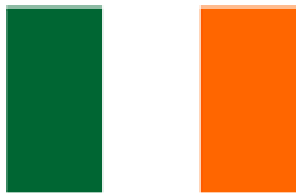


shillelagh

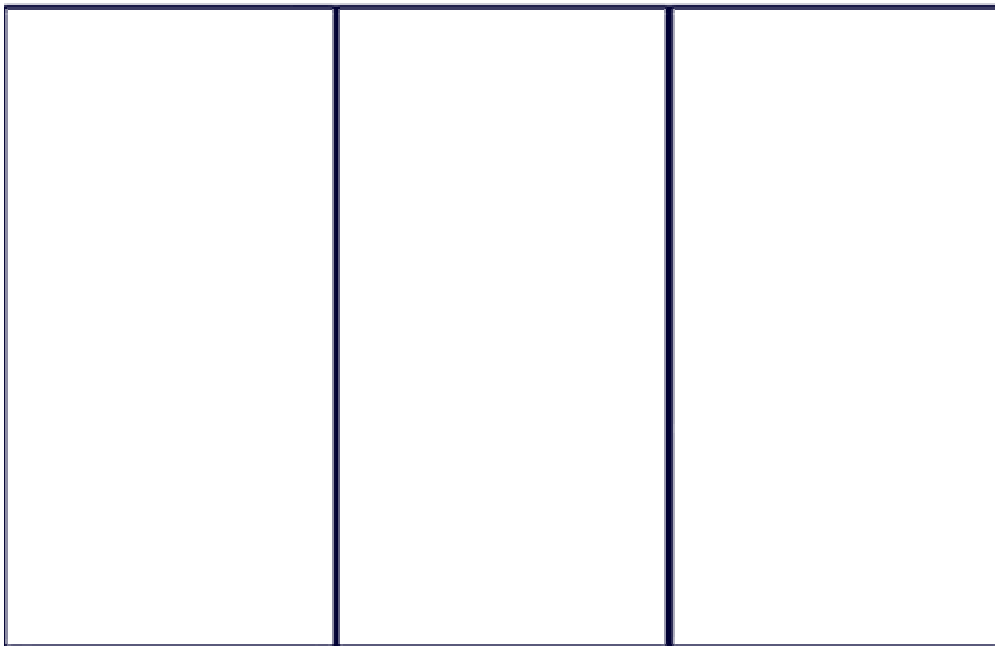


Lucky Irish symbols: Ireland's flag, celtic cross, shamrock, harp.

Flag of Ireland



Flag of Ireland



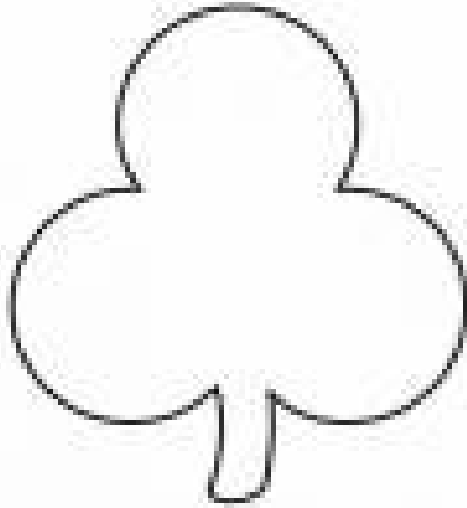
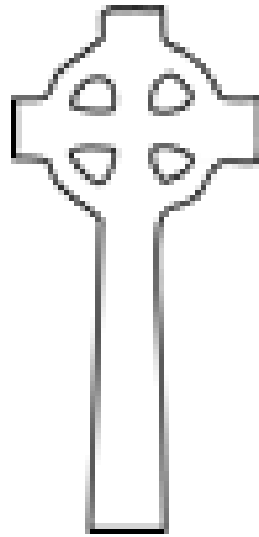
GREEN

WHITE

ORANGE



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## VOCABULARY WORDS ASSOCIATED WITH ST PATRICK'S DAY CONCENTRATION GAME

Ten words are randomly chosen from this list of vocabulary words associated with St. Patrick's Day:

blarney, bodhran, Kells, castle, ceili, Celtic, claddagh, cross, Druid, Eire, fiddlers, Gaelic, green, harp, Ireland, irish, March, gold, rainbow, shamrock, snakes, Patrick

which can be used in a game of concentration. [In the site](#) you will find flash cards of all of these words and in order to play the game of concentration, you will need to print 2 sets. The pages are too many will make this a large download file.

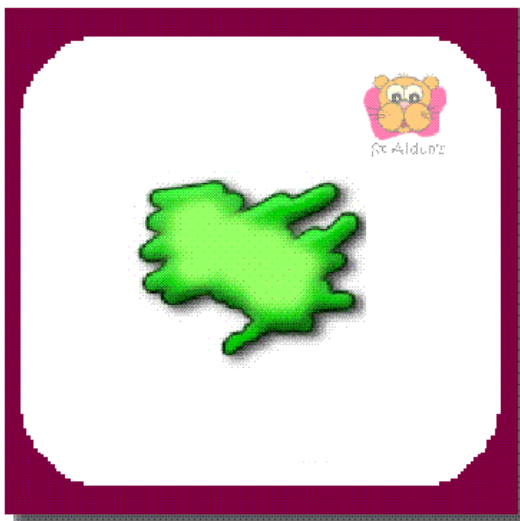


## PICTURE CONCENTRATION GAME (PRINT OUT 2 SETS OF THE CONCENTRATION CARDS ONTO CARDSTOCK FOR A FUN GAME OF CONCENTRATION)

Find all these pairs to play St. Patrick's Day concentration! When you find a match, a part of the surprise gets revealed. Irish symbols include: a harp, the flag of Ireland, a leprechaun, a shamrock tie, the claddagh, a Celtic cross, a fiddler, a shamrock, a fuzzy green guy and a shamrocked tophat. Each time you play, the cards get shuffled around. The picture concentration cards can also be found in the site in .pdf format and will be substantially better quality than what is contained in this workbook.



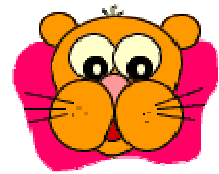
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## Acknowledgements

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Thanks. Have a fantastic day. Enquiries direct to [info@staidenshomeschool.com](mailto:info@staidenshomeschool.com)

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