Saint Patrick's Day and The Twelfth

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY & THE TWELFTH LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Teachers and leaders can adapt the following to suit their own needs.
- The methodology that worked best on the pilots was 'circle time'. For more information about methodologies that build a positive learning environment please see the chapter on group work and facilitation in Lynagh N and M Potter, *Joined Up* (Belfast: NICIE, Corrymeela) 2005, pp 43 – 86. There is a hyperlink to this resource in the 'Getting Started' page in the Introduction.
- Teachers/leaders need to explore and be comfortable with their own identity before discussing identity with the class/group. It is important for us to accept others both for the ways in which we are different and also for the ways in which we are similar and to express our identity in ways that do not harden boundaries with others. You can find out more about sectarianism and approaches to difference in the trunk and branches sections of the downloadable 'Moving Beyond Sectarianism'(young adults) at: www.tcd.ie/ise/projects/seed.php#mbspacks
- It is important that parents are aware of the issues in this unit. Write a letter to let them know what you will be covering and why.
- These two events – Saint Patrick's Day & The Twelfth can be studied separately or comparatively. During the pilots they were studied comparatively over 4 and 5 sessions. In what follows the learning activities have been presented in 4 sessions. These can be adapted so that the events can be studied separately; or extended with other materials used in between or following the sessions.

STEPPING OUT LEARNING ACTIVITY **SAINT PATRICK'S DAY AND THE TWELFTH** *A* programme for 4 sessions of 30 – 40 minutes **LEARNING INTENTION:** In sharing our stories of events throughout the year and focusing on Saint Patrick's Day and The Twelfth , we learn more about and share feelings associated with commemoration; identity, division and inclusion	**SUGGESTED SUCCESS CRITERIA:** • We will share stories about the celebration of St Patrick's Day and The Twelfth • We will learn about King William and St Patrick • We will learn more about our own and others identity and their expressions through symbols and flags associated with The Twelfth and St Patrick's Day • We will encourage active listening; empathy • We will share similarity and difference • We will understand more about systems that exclude and harden boundaries between us • We will share and evaluate what we have learnt from a baseline

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY AND THE TWELFTH This column gives suggestions for a lesson outline	DETAIL OF WHAT TO DO This column lists resources needed and gives sources for background information for each lesson
SESSION 1 **Opening activity** **Events Calendar** Invite members of the class/group to share information on events throughout the year. Focus on Saint Patrick's Day and the Twelfth. Use this group activity as an opportunity to construct a baseline. **Ulster Wean's A-Z frieze** First picture (Irish dancing) and Letters 'B' (Banner; Bodhran) 'D' (Drum) 'F' (Flags and Flute) 'I; K' (Ireland; King Billy and Kerbs) 'O' (Orangeman) and 'S' (Shamrock; St. Patrick). **Paper cuttings** - share information about St Patrick's Day and The Twelfth - what we know about them; how they are celebrated in different ways; talk about other celebrations we know, learning more about ourselves and others. **Flags and symbols weave** – Look at the colours green, white and orange; red, white and blue.. Arrange them on either side of the cloth. Talk about how they feel seeing those colours e.g. on Kerbs. Talk about the Irish; Ulster/Northern Ireland flags. Attach other symbols according to where the group members think they belong on the weave. Invite members of the group to share information about the different symbols. **Closure - All Change** - Try using specific statements about e.g. whether they ever:- visited an area flying Ulster/Irish flags; go to church on St Patrick's Day; sent cards to people for celebrations other than their own; went to a St Patrick's Day/Twelfth parade etc.	**SESSION 1** **Opening and Closing activities** Choose appropriate activities for opening and closing each session from 'Games' in the Resources section **Events Calendar** Print out your own from the 'Resources' section **Ulster Wean's A-Z frieze** – the frieze, or the book, may still be available from the Community Relations Resource Centre on College Square East. It is another useful way of constructing a baseline – what the children can recognise; name or share information about. **Paper Cuttings** If you have them, it is useful to share newspaper headlines, cartoons and pictures of coverage of the events. Try the following website links also http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/northern_ireland/1422212.stm for The Twelfth and for Saint Patrick's day, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St._Patrick's_Day **Flags and symbols weave** – Flags and symbols are essential for this session. You can print off pictures of flags from the Quiz folder or buy small ones and symbols from various shops particularly at times near these events. Other flags and symbols and information about them can be found on this very useful website www.cain.ulst.ac.uk For the weave, all you need is a white sheet/cloth and strips of green, blue, orange and red cloth or ribbons. **All Change Game** – read the instructions for playing this game in 'Games' in the Resources section. Think about how you will use it.
SESSION 2 **Opening activity – Clumps** **Discussion -** Talk about our behaviour – do we choose to be near our 'friends' or find the person nearest in order to play the game. Talk about feelings – being 'in' or 'out' of a clump. Acknowledge difference. **The Story of King William** – Tell the story of King William using either the picture set and story or the Diorama. What is the group learning about William;, his birth in Holland; time in Ireland and the Battle of the Boyne especially, that they didn't know already? How do they feel about it? **The Story of Saint Patrick** - Tell the story of Patrick using either the picture set and story or the Diorama. What is the group learning about Patrick, where he came from and his time in Ireland especially, that they didn't know already? How do they feel about it? Talk about how others, in Ireland and in other parts of the world, might spend the day using information from the websites. How might we make the day more 'inclusive' to different people who might want to join in? How might we help them feel 'safe'?	**SESSION 2** **Clumps** – read the instructions for playing this game in 'Games' in the Resources section. This game breaks people into clumps. **Story of King William** Print out the '**Saint Patrick'** and '**King William'' stories; picture sets** and, if you decide to make a diorama, the **diorama slides**. For **more information** to accompany the story see www.bbc.co.uk/northernireland/learning/william **The Story of Saint Patrick** For more information to accompany the story or arrange a visit see http://www.saintpatrickcentre.com/stories **Map of the world** – Invest in an inflatable globe to pass around the circle as an opening or closing activity, inviting people to find the country – where they live now; have lived before; have visited or know someone… **Flashcards** – These will help us remember new words – Holland; Boyne; etc.

Map of the world – include questions more specific to these events - where Patrick/William were born; visited or where Saint Patrick's Day /The Twelfth is celebrated **Closure**	
SESSION 3 **Circle activity – Gate Game** **Discussion -** Talk about the word 'minority' and what it means to be in the smaller 'minority' group re gender; eye colour; whether or not you wear glasses/a brace etc. Express preferences for a particular group over the other – e.g. boys are stronger than girls; people who wear glasses are more intelligent etc. Talk about' discrimination' against people according to gender; eye/hair colour; age; skin colour; or religion and introduce the terms racism; sectarianism if appropriate. **Celebration Poster** - Note the different ways the children spend St Patrick's Day and The Twelfth – meeting family and friends; going to the parade and marching/dancing to the music; going to their caravan, going to church or on pilgrimage. **Symbolism** – Talk about the colours, flags and symbols that have been introduced on previous weeks and their meanings. Introduce symbols that both communities use in N. Ireland - red hand, shamrock, harp, white ribbon and Cuchulain. Introduce flashcards – sectarianism; racism; sexism; ageism; discrimination and prejudice. Talk about what they mean. **Closure**	**SESSION 3** **Gate Game** – read the instructions for playing this game in 'Games' in the Resources section. Think about how you will use it. This game, which 'sorts' people into categories according to gender; appearance; clothes worn etc. helps us experience what it's like to be 'grouped' together. **Save the Children** have produced a booklet, '**Think of me, Think of you'** and another with Barnardo's entitled, '**Fair Play'** either of which you will find very useful for this session. **Flashcards** – for new terms – minority; majority; discrimination; sectarianism etc. **Celebration Poster** - Use a large sheet of paper and write or better still if you can, draw a picture of the day. Turn over and draw a similar picture for the' other' celebration. What are the similar themes running through both celebrations? How do the world-wide celebrations of Saint Patrick's day differ from place to place? Use the inflatable globe again.
SESSION 4 **Circle activity** – getting into 3 groups **Spaghetti Quiz** **Wool Web Closure** - collect some feedback about what we have learnt from previous weeks. We have an opportunity to share/ talk about what we have learnt as well as the importance of connections and interdependence.	**SESSION 4** **Spaghetti Quiz**; Paper and pens; Cassette recorder; tapes; pictures; prizes etc. You will need uneven lengths of string for the 'spaghetti.' There are up to 7 rounds in this quiz so decide which ones you will use and print out the necessary pictures etc. awarding 'prizes' to all at the end. **Wool Web -** This is an affirmation exercise as well as a closure An evaluation can be made of the learning from this and the baseline after the first session.

THE STORY OF SAINT PATRICK

To accompany the picture set

1. Patrick was born somewhere in Roman Britain to a fairly wealthy family. His father was a civil servant and 'worker deacon' and his grandfather was a priest so he would have been brought up as a Christian. He was not religious as a youth but while in his teens, he was kidnapped in a raid and transported to Ireland by pirates who sold him as a slave.

2. He was sold to an Irish chieftain who sent him to look after the sheep. This was a hard time for Patrick as a slave in a strange land without the security of family life. He writes in his 'Confession' that praying many prayers each day, he met God face-to-face as he remembered words from the Psalms and the Gospels taught to him by his family.

3. He describes a dream he had one night in which he heard a voice urging him to leave for home for his ship was ready. He escaped and walked many miles to a harbour where he was allowed to board a ship going to France.

4. He returned home and eventually studied to become a priest. In 432, the call came to Patrick to return to Ireland. Again it was in the form of a dream when he heard the voice of a man called Victoricus, whom Patrick had known in Ireland, holding countless letters in his hand entitled, 'The Voice of the Irish' and calling out to him, 'we beseech you, come and walk among us.'

5. Patrick came to Ireland as a missionary bishop. The local chief, Dichtu came out to meet Patrick with armed men, but was so impressed with him and his teaching that he became a Christian and was baptized.

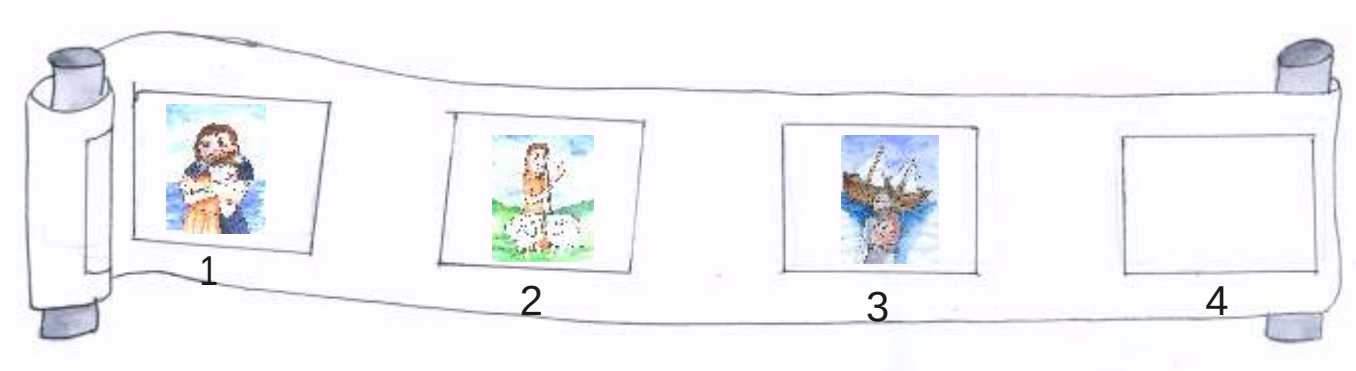
6. Dichtu gave Patrick a barn to use as a church. He travelled all round Ireland and founded hundreds of churches. It is said that he used the shamrock to help explain the Trinity – the three in one – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Patrick died on 17th March, AD 461.

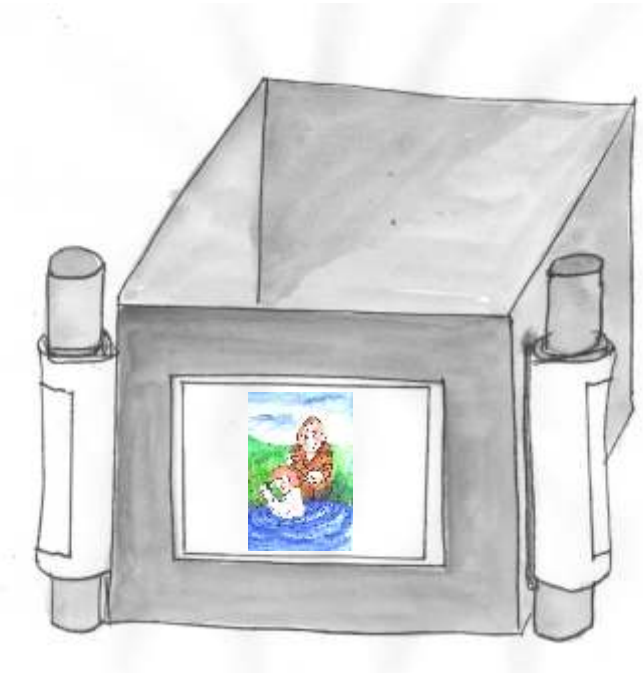
Saint Patrick picture set

1

come
and
walkamong
us again

Making and Using a Diorama





1. Patrick was born about the year 390 in the west of Britain. As a young man he was captured by some pirates and brought to Ireland to be sold as a slave.

1. He was sold to an Irish chief who sent him to work looking after the sheep. During this time he learnt more about the Christian faith he had been taught as a boy and prayed to God a lot.

3. One night he had a dream in which he heard a voice telling him to go back to his own country. He escaped and walked many miles to a harbour where he was allowed to board a ship going to France.

4. When Patrick arrived back in Britain, he studied to become a priest. He had another dream in which he heard the voice of the Irish saying, 'Come and walk among us again'.

5. Patrick came to Ireland as a missionary bishop. The local chief, Dichtu came to meet Patrick with armed men, but was so impressed with him, believed his teaching and was baptized.

6. Dichtu gave Patrick a barn to use as a church. He travelled all round Ireland and founded hundreds of other churches. It is said that he used the shamrock to help explain the three in one - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Patrick died on 17th March, AD 461.

THE STORY OF KING BILLY

To accompany the picture set

For more information see www.bbc.co.uk/northernireland/learning/william

1. William was born in Holland on 4th November 1650. His young mother Princess Mary was very sad. Her husband, Prince William II, had recently died of smallpox. Her father King Charles I had been executed in London the previous year. Her brother Charles was living in exile.

2. The Princess hated living in Holland so when her brother Charles was able to become King Charles II, in May 1660, William was brought to London to join in the celebrations. In the procession, nine-year-old William sat on the knee of his uncle James. William's mother died of smallpox that year and his grandmother Amelia cared for William, now an orphan.

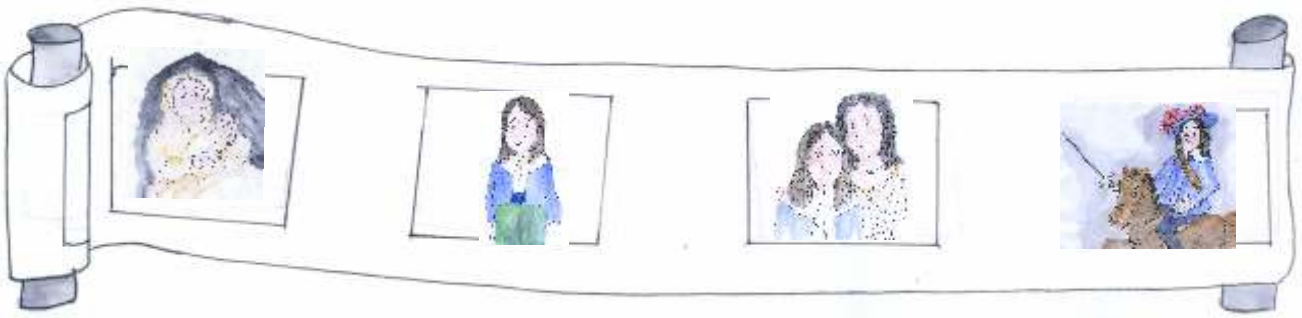
3. In London on the 5th November 1677 Prince William of Orange married his Uncle James' daughter, Princess Mary at St James's Palace. The Prince at 27 suffered from asthma and was slightly stooped. His bride, although she was only 15 was nearly six feet tall and taller than him. They had a small wedding and only members of the Royal Family attended. The bride's sister, Princess Anne, was in bed with smallpox.

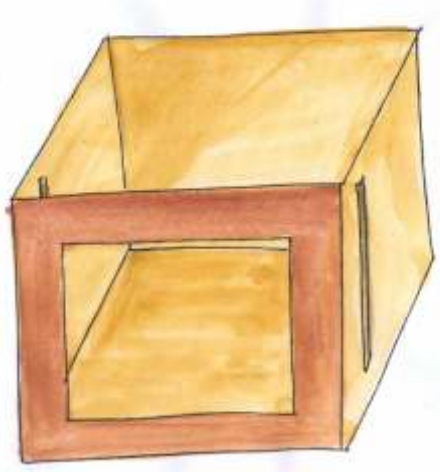
4. In 1685 William's uncle became King James II of England and Ireland. James was a Catholic and the British parliament didn't trust him because Catholics in Ireland were appointed to key posts in government and parliament and they were afraid that Protestants would be persecuted, so in 1688 they invited William and Mary, who were Protestants, to England to replace James. James fled to Ireland supported by Louis XIV of France, who was at war with William and the Dutch. The Pope (Innocent XI) supported William because of Louis's treatment of the French Catholic church. William and James fought each other at the Battle of the Boyne on July 1st 1690. It is unlikely that he rode a white horse, as this would have been unwise in battle. The Catholic Nationalist cause in Ireland saw the battle as a defeat, but both Protestants and the Pope saw it as a victory and it was celebrated in Catholic churches in Austria. Peace returned in the 1690s after decades of war but bitter memories have remained with Protestants and Catholics alike, roots of present day sectarianism. A strong believer in religious tolerance, William's Protestantism was not militant. He spent less than three months in Ireland, from 15 June to 5 September 1690, and never returned.

5. When James died, William and Mary became King and Queen and lived at Hampton Court, thirteen miles outside London. They were both very interested in gardening. William liked evergreen shrubs, arranged in patterns with canals, fountains and statues. They both loved their gardens. William found them an oasis of peace when he returned home from fighting in various wars, and when Mary died of smallpox in 1694 he went to the gardens for comfort. Whilst riding his horse, Sorrel at Hampton Court, the horse stumbled on a molehill and William fell off and broke his collarbone. He died a few weeks later on 8th March 1702.

King William 111 Picture set

How to make and use a Diorama Theatre





Telling the Story of King William's Life

1. William was born in Holland in 1650. His mother was very sad. Her husband had recently died.

2. When William was 9 his uncle Charles became king of England. He went to London for the coronation and sat on his uncle James' knee in the procession.

3. Prince William was 27 when he married his 15 year old cousin Mary. She was nearly 6 feet and taller than him. He suffered from asthma and was slightly stooped.

4. William was a keen soldier. He was in Ireland during the Battle of the Boyne for only three months and never returned. He wanted the different religions to get on.

5. William was 52 when he died in 1702. He was a keen gardener and founded the Bank of England.

SPAGHETTI QUIZ

A Spaghetti quiz brings a bit more equity into the competition between each small group. It introduces chance and takes the focus off the score. The important aim is to have fun learning from one another.

AIMS:

- To have fun finding out how much we do and do not know about the 'Saint Patrick's Day' and 'The Twelfth' celebrations
- To encourage co-operation and team building within each small group
- To help children learn more about history, politics, and cultural identity
- To encourage them to work together as a team to inform one another – particularly relevant for inter-community groups

TIME:1 hour

EQUIPMENT:
Large saucepan; ball of wool cut into different lengths for the 'spaghetti'; scraps of paper; pens; pictures for picture round; symbols for symbol round; puzzles for puzzle round and prizes.

METHOD:

- You will need a large saucepan and a ball of wool cut up into different lengths of 'spaghetti'- from 3" to 23" and any length in between.
- Arrange the pieces in the pot with the ends hanging over the side, so that when you put the lid on, they all look the same length.
- When a team gets an answer right, someone is appointed to choose a piece of 'spaghetti' for their team.
- The pieces are all joined together, and at the end all the teams compare their lengths of wool.
- The team with the longest piece of wool 'wins'. The chance element keeps the suspense going and everyone interested.

ROUNDS

- Start with getting the large group into smaller teams of 6-8

- Ask the teams to choose a name by which they will be known

- Take turns to ask each team a question. If they get it right, one of them chooses a piece of 'spaghetti'. If they get it wrong offer a bonus to the next team

- Let the teams complete the answers on a piece of paper

- With the Drama round, award a piece of spaghetti for the effort of each team member 'taking the stage'

- With the Puzzle round award a piece of spaghetti for the first team to finish

- Try to mix the rounds and use any number of the following:-
  General Knowledge round 1
  Picture round
  Drama round
  Symbol round
  General Knowledge round 2
  Drawing round
  Puzzle round

- A music round is also possible. Find a CD/tape of music from a republican band and one from a loyalist band - see if you can find tapes that feature a common instrumental piece e.g. The Star of the County Down. Play both – can the teams tell which is which?

- Finish by asking the teams to join up all their pieces of 'spaghetti' and compare the lengths to find the winning team

- Award prizes as appropriate

1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE ROUND 1

1. Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated on
17th March; 1st May; 15th August
(17th March)

2. The Twelfth event is celebrated in
January; July; November
(July)

3. Saint Patrick was born in
Ireland; Britain; France
(Britain)

4. What event is being remembered on the Twelfth?
The life of Saint Patrick
The birth of Jesus
The battle of the Boyne
(The battle of the Boyne)

5. Was Patrick
Protestant; Catholic; Christian
(He was a Christian)

6. What do people spend months making for the 11th night, the evening before the Twelfth?
A Maypole
A bonfire
A cake
(A bonfire)

7. What plant is associated with St Patrick?
(The shamrock)

8. What plant is associated with the Twelfth?
(The orange lily)

2. PICTURE ROUND - The picture card is only an illustration. Feel free to change this. It will need to be updated! Here are the answers:-

1 Busted
2 Thomas the tank engine
3 Saint Patrick
4 The Tweenies (Jake, Bella, Milo, Fizz and Doodles)
5 Koala Brothers
6 Balamory
7 Shrek
8 King William III (King Billy)
9 Spud (from Bob the Builder)
10 Fimbles (Florrie; Fimbo and Pom)
11 Postman Pat and Jess
12 Bob the Builder

3. DRAMA ROUND – Cut the following into strips and let a member of each group choose one:

- Mime being part of an orange march on 12th July
- Mime playing one of the following
  Flute; Bodhran; Bagpipes; Uilleann pipes; Irish harp
- Mime Patrick telling people about the shamrock
- Mime a Scottish dance; Irish dance

Own team is allowed to guess first. If they get it wrong, offer a guess to the other team.

4. SYMBOL ROUND - See symbol card

5. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE ROUND 2

1. Was King William III
(a) Irish;
(b) British;
(c) Dutch
(He was Dutch)

2. The first time Patrick came to Ireland, he was
(a) Running away from home;
(b) Captured by pirates;
(c) Looking for a job
(He was captured by pirates)

3. How was William III related to James II? James was William's
(a) Uncle;
(b) Brother;
(c) Father-in-law
(He was his uncle and father-in-law)

4. What did Patrick do in Ireland?
(a) Travel around the country;
(b) Mind sheep;
(c) Tell people about Jesus
(He did all three)

5. How did William die?
(a) At the battle of the Boyne
(b) After falling off his horse
(c) Small pox
(He fell off his horse)

6. Where did Patrick die?
(a) Ireland
(b) Britain
(c) France
(Ireland)

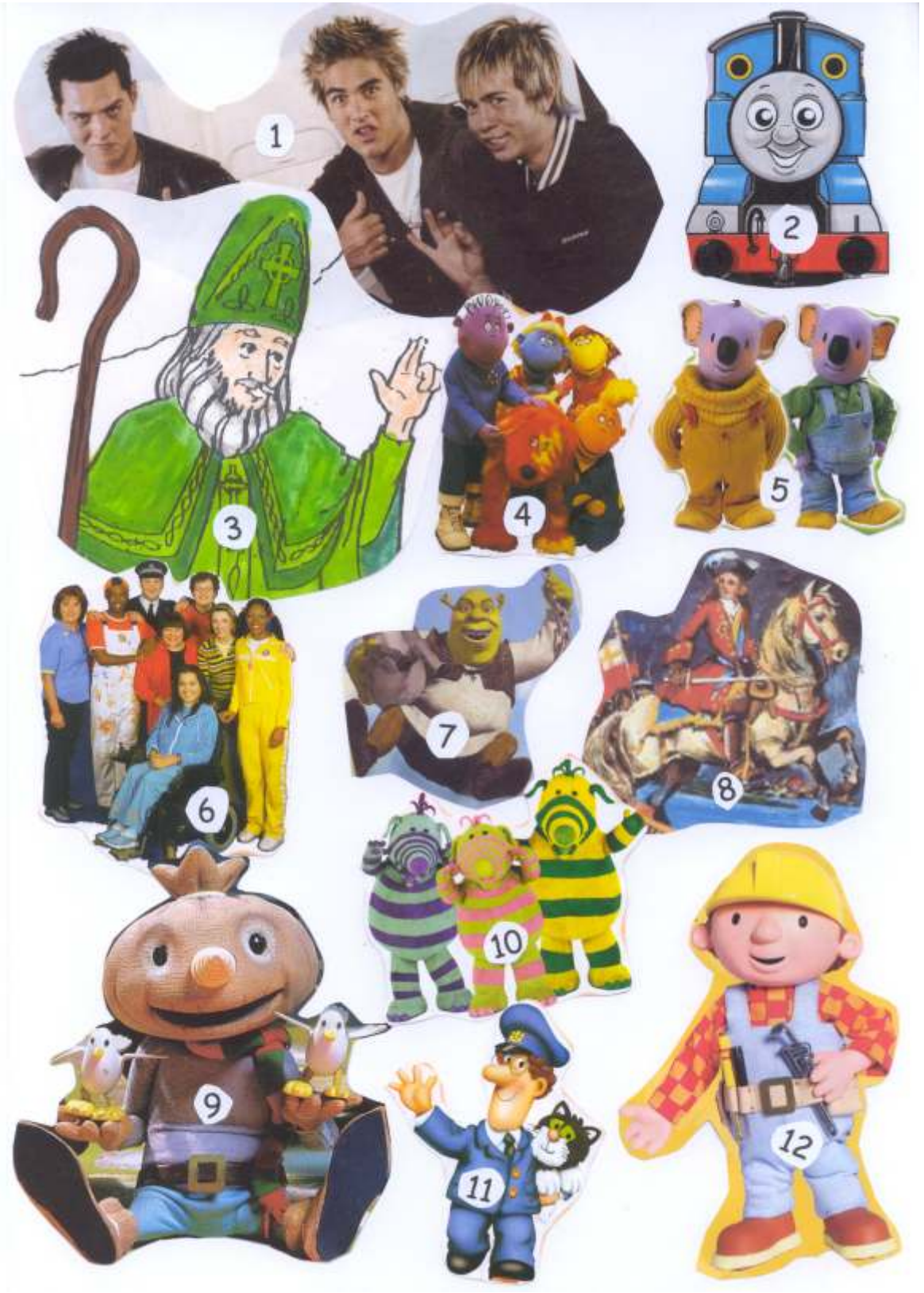
6. DRAWING ROUND - Cut the following into strips and let a member of each group choose one:

- Draw a symbol for St Patrick's Day
- Draw a symbol for The Twelfth

7. PUZZLE ROUND – Print out a Union Jack or Tricolour; or any other flag or banner connected with either St Patrick's Day or the Twelfth. Cut the picture into eight jigsaw pieces. Offer a set of pieces to each team and the first to finish wins.

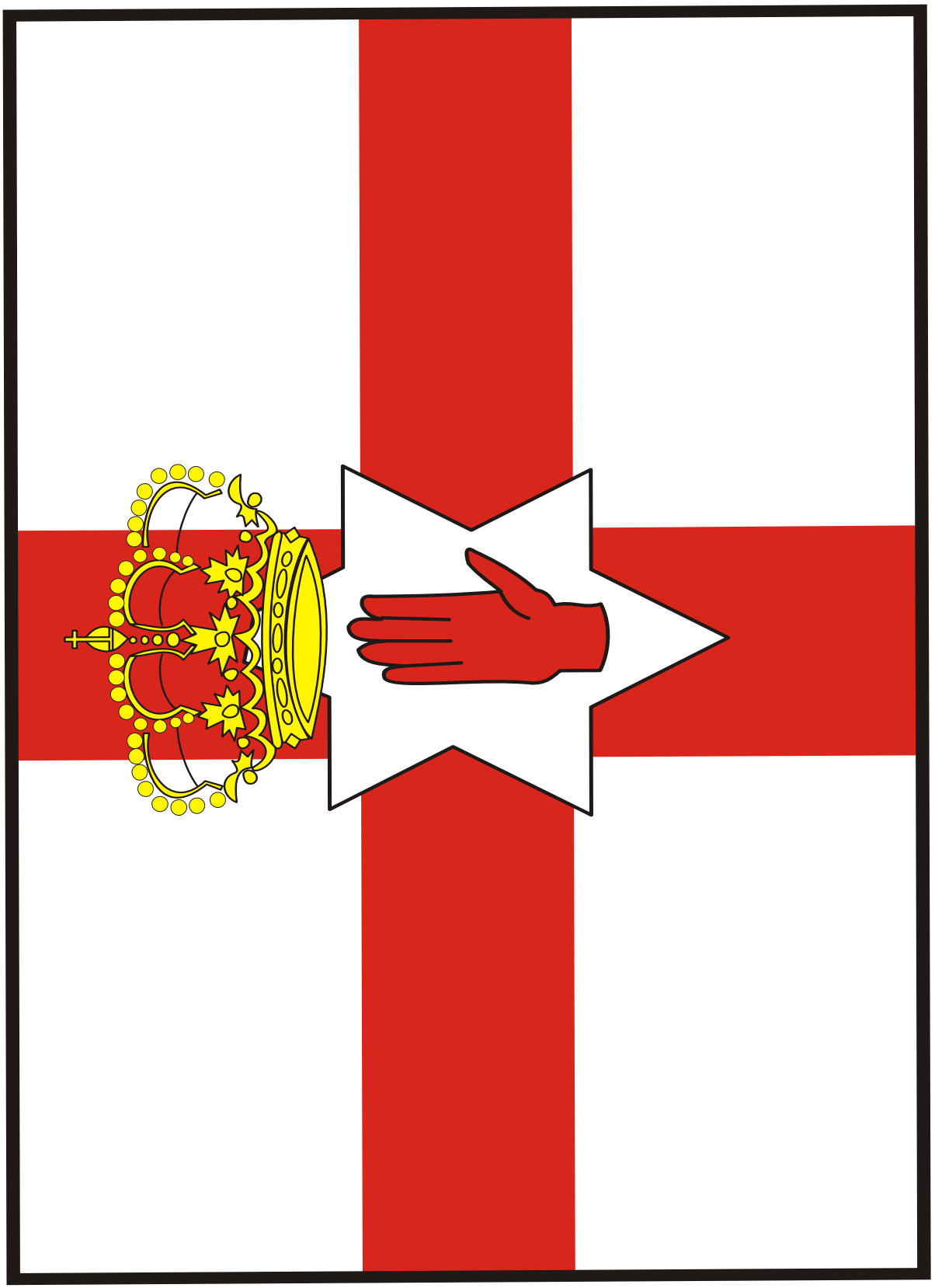
SYMBOL ROUND

Which of these pictures/symbols might you see on Saint Patrick's Day?

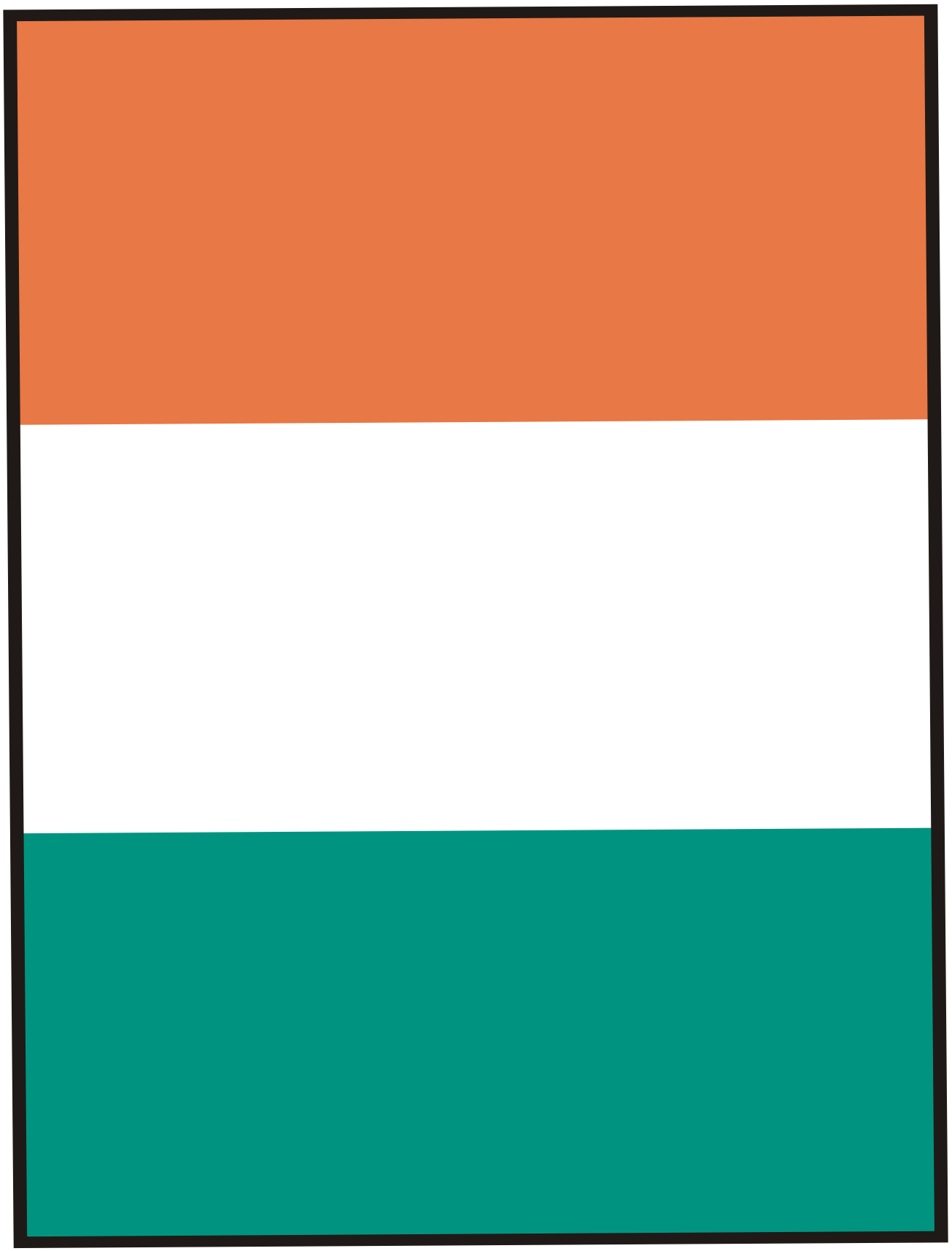


Picture Round

Flags



Flags



Flags

Flags