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St. Patrick's Day

Saint Patrick's Day honors the patron saint of Ireland. Although he was not the first Christian missionary to Ireland, Patrick was chiefly responsible for converting the Irish to Christianity. Use this webquest to learn more about this saint, the holiday that bears his name, and Ireland.

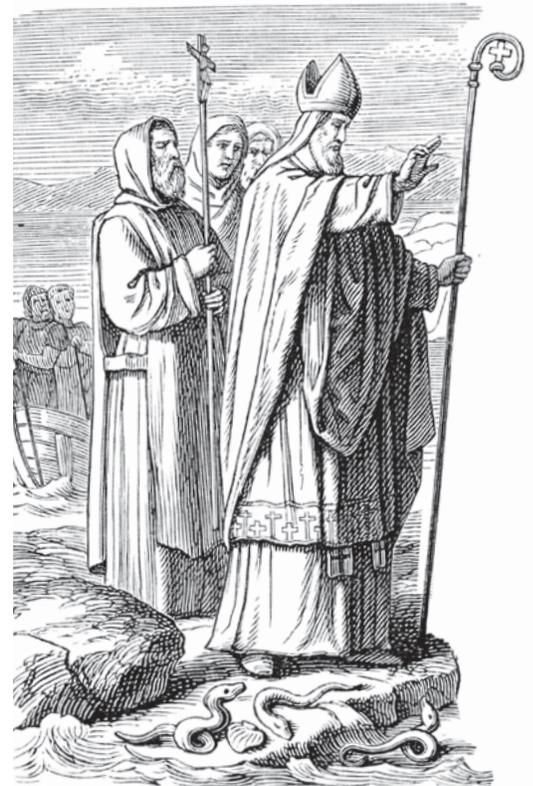
First, log onto **www.worldbookonline.com**

Then, click on "Advanced." If prompted, log on with your ID and password.

Find It!

Find the answers to the questions below by using the "Search" tool to search key words. Since this activity is about St. Patrick's Day, you can start by searching the key word "St. Patrick's Day."

Write the answers on the lines provided or below the question.



1. When is St. Patrick's Day celebrated each year?
2. Saint Patrick is the patron saint of which country?
3. Saint Patrick was a missionary in the A.D. _____.
4. According to legend, what did Saint Patrick use the shamrock to explain?
5. Where and when was the first St. Patrick's Day celebration held in what is now the United States?

Saint Patrick

Go to the "Saint Patrick" article and answer these questions about the patron saint of Ireland.

6. What happened to Patrick when he was 16 years old?
7. What happened to Patrick after he had been a slave for 6 years?

***Users of the Advanced database can find extension activities at the end of this webquest.**

8. What happened in 431 that affected Patrick's life?
9. Patrick is considered to have established more than _____ churches in Ireland and baptized more than _____ people.
10. What did Patrick do about 450?
11. According to legend, Patrick drove the _____ out of Ireland.
12. Why is the date March 17 significant to Saint Patrick?
13. Because of Saint Patrick, what is the traditional symbol of Ireland?

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Ireland

Go to the "Ireland" article and answer these questions about the country where Saint Patrick served for decades as a missionary.

14. What is Ireland's capital and largest city?
15. What happened in Ireland in the 1840's that caused the deaths of about 1 million people?
16. What are Ireland's two official languages?
17. Why is Ireland called the *Emerald Isle*?
18. What is Ireland's longest river? How long is it?
19. Which country ruled Ireland for centuries before Ireland gained its independence in the 1920's?
20. Find the image "Ireland flag and coat of arms." What do the 3 vertical stripes represent?
 - a. Green _____
 - b. Orange _____
 - c. White _____

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Find It!

Learn more about Ireland by answering these questions.

21. What is the Blarney Stone? According to folklore, what happens to anyone who kisses the stone? (Hint: For this question see the “Blarney Stone” article.)

22. What is hurling? (Hint: For this question see the “Hurling” article.)

23. What was the Easter Rising? (Hint: For this question see the “Easter Rising” article.)

24. What is the Book of Kells? (Hint: For this question see the “Book of Kells” article.)

25. Who was Finn MacCool? (Hint: For this question see the “Finn MacCool” article.)

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Extension Activity 1

Imagine that you are a travel agent who wants to promote your new vacation spot—Ireland! Create a travel brochure for prospective travelers that includes pictures and descriptions. Below are suggested topics to include in your brochure:

1. The kind of climate and environment the travelers should expect to experience.
2. The recreational activities the travelers might try.
3. The kinds of foods the travelers will eat.
4. The tourist sites the travelers will want to visit.
5. Any other information that you think a visitor would want to know.

Use your imagination, but make sure that the information is accurate.

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Extension Activity 2

Imagine that you could interview Saint Patrick. What three questions would you ask him? Explain why you asked him those questions. How do you think he will answer your questions?

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Extension Activity 3

Be a researcher! Saint Patrick is a national hero of Ireland. Who is a hero of the country you live in? Use a key-word search to find the *World Book Encyclopedia* articles on that person. Write a report on that person and his or her accomplishments.