

1. Welcome to the United Kingdom!

Explanation of the project

In this project concerning the United Kingdom you'll work in pairs. For this project you'll study the different parts of the United Kingdom and the different places of interest. In order to do so you get a lot of material which is enlisted below per chapter. Make sure you use the correct material per section.

The material for the different sections:

1. England:

a. Fill in the missing words:

- You get an envelope with pictures and the names of the monuments. Match the monuments with the correct name.
- Then write the name of the monument on the correct place in the text.

b. Places of interest:

- No extra material required

2. Wales

- No extra material required

3. Scotland

a. Fill in the missing words

- You can use the internet for this assignment.

b. Famous Scots

- You can use the internet for this assignment.

4. Northern Ireland

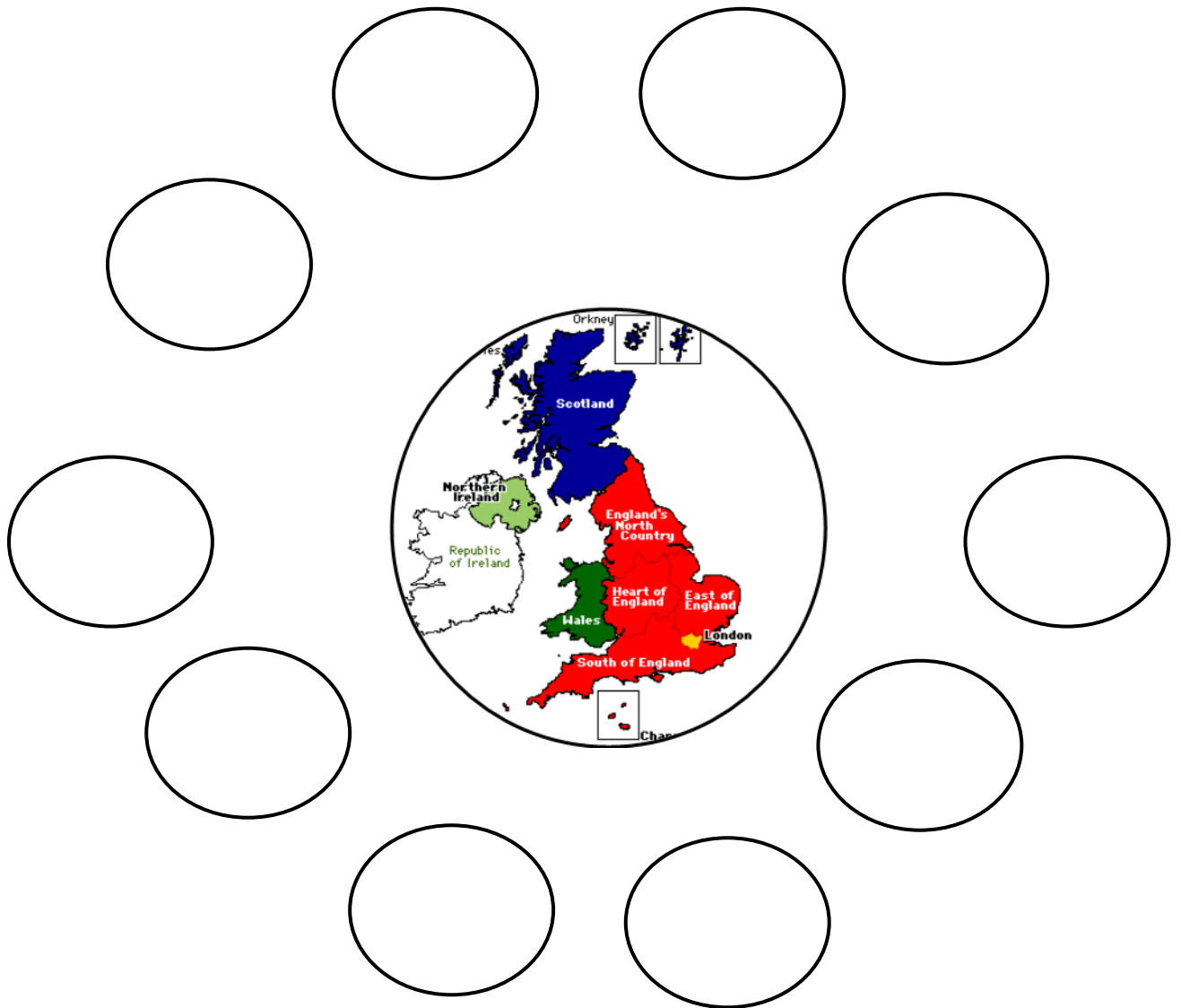
a. Reading

- You can use the internet for this assignment.

b. Listening

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgyVvoODWGA> can be used for the song

What do you know about the United Kingdom?



Many people use the word England when they actually mean the UK or Great Britain. However, England is only one part of the UK, together with Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Every part of the UK has got its own characteristics and places of interest. There are many differences between the people, their customs and habits, the landscape,.... Let's find out what is so special about each specific place.

The Union Jack (national flag of the UK)





1.1 England

St George's Cross (Flag of England)

Research question 1: Explore what places of interest you can find in England.

a. Places of interest in England

Assignment: Fill in the missing words. You'll get slips of paper of your teacher with the words you need.

The name England was given by the **Angles**, who came from **Denmark**, **The Netherlands** and **Germany** when they invaded England in the 5th century.

The capital of England and also of the UK is _____, which lies on the river _____. It is a vivid city, there are a lot of things to see and to do when you go on a city-trip to London.



At first there is of course the _____. However, people often use this name for the tower, while it actually refers to the largest of the five bells inside the clock tower. People listening to BBC radio can often hear the bells ring.

The building next to the Big Ben is called _____ and is officially a royal palace. This building is also known as the _____. The Big Ben is one of its towers.



_____ is the house of Queen Elizabeth II and some members of the Royal family. There are six hundred rooms, including a throne room a ball room, a picture gallery and even a swimming pool. Parts of the palace are open for visitors during the summer when the Royals aren't home.

When you visit the dark and creepy _____, you might be frightened because this "museum" is based on some cruel events in the history of London. One of the most terrifying characters in the dungeon is Jack the Ripper, a serial killer, who killed at least five women in 1888 and maybe six more from 1888 to 1891.

After such a horrible experience you can go visit _____. In this museum you can stand next to your favourite Hollywood star. Of course you can't kiss the real Johnny Depp, Keira Knightley,... only a wax version of them. Still it is fun to take pictures with the "real" celebrities.

If you like musicals you can go to West End, where you can see some famous musicals like: _____, _____, _____.



_____ is a famous square which was considered as the centre of the British Empire. The fountain with the statue of the Roman god Eros is still standing there.

When you have had enough of London you can always go and visit _____. This town lies on the meridian of Greenwich. A white line on the ground shows us where this meridian is situated. When you cross it you are in another time zone.

Real football fans should visit Manchester, where they can visit _____, the stadium of Manchester United.



_____, is a legendary prehistoric monument. Up till now people were unable to decipher the meaning of this circle of rocks. It is thought to be a centre for astronomy.

England is separated from Scotland by _____, a massive wall named after its creator the Roman Emperor Hadrian.

b. *Places of interest in London*

Assignment: Match the following pictures with the corresponding word.



1

Harrods (a)



2

Guards of Buckingham Palace (b)



3

Tower Bridge (c)



4

The London Eye (d)

1	2	3	4



1.2 Wales

Dragon of Cadwallader

Research question 2: What is so special about Wales?

Wales itself consists of 13 counties, but we will make a distinction between North, Mid and South Wales. Wales is different from the rest of the UK, but most striking is the difference in language. Welsh people speak Welsh, which is a hard language to speak, but it is even harder to write, because it is a Celtic language.



This part of the United Kingdom is linked to the legend of King Arthur. This mythical king is believed to live here together with his Knights of the Round Table, his wife Guinevere and of course the wizard Merlin. The emblem of the Knights, which was given by Arthur himself, was a dragon resting on a shield and holding a cross. This probably explains the dragon on the flag of Wales.

Wales is often called the land of the castles because there are so many of them.

a. *North Wales*

There are two places of interest in North Wales: Caernarfon and the Isle of Anglesey.



Caernarfon is the ancient capital of Wales. In Caernarfon castle, which was built in the 13th century, Prince Charles was crowned Prince of Wales. It is tradition that the Heir to the Throne becomes Prince of Wales.

The **Isle of Anglesey** is a charming island which has beautiful bays and beaches , but there are also houses and castles like Plas Newydd surrounded by an enormous park. But the Isles of Anglesey are most famous for having the longest place name in the UK: Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch.

b. *Mid Wales*

Not many people live in Mid Wales, the largest town is **Aberystwyth**, which is known as the centre of education in Wales. In that town you can find the University of Aberystwyth.

c. *South Wales*

When you visit South Wales you should definitely pay a visit to the **Brecon Beacons**, a mountain range. Waterfalls, caves, spectacular slopes and lovely valleys create a rather rough landscape.

The capital of Wales, **Cardiff**, is known for Caerphilly castle, a gigantic stronghold bordered by a wide moat¹.

Llangollen is a small marketplace at the foot of the 12th century castle Dinas Bran. Every year the national eisteddfod is held in this small town. The Welsh word eisteddfod means "Let's sing together", it is an event where people from all over the world recite poetry, sing and dance together.

Assignment: Answer the questions in your own words.

1. Explain the origin of the dragon on the flag of Wales.

¹ slotgracht

2. Why is Wales called the land of the castles?

3. What is the longest place name in Wales?

4. What is an eistedfodd?



1.3 Scotland

Research question 3: Name some places of interest in Scotland.

Research question 4: Name 5 famous Scots and what they are famous for?

a. *Places of interest in Scotland*

Assignment: Choose a suitable word from the list to complete the text.

Glasgow Cathedral

Botanic

Clyde

Edinburgh castle

Kincaig Highland Wildlife Park

Loch Ness

Battle of Stirling

Melrose Abbey

Palace of Holyroodhouse

mountain range

Athens of the North

Nessie



There are two important cities in Scotland: Glasgow and Edinburgh. Despite being the largest city, Glasgow isn't the capital of Scotland.

The River _____ flows through Glasgow, which is a very lively city. When you visit Glasgow you are almost immediately struck by the architecture you see there. It shouldn't surprise us because _____ one of the world's most famous architects was born here. He built the _____, where you can study architecture, design, fine arts,...

In the historic part of Glasgow, you can find remarkable old buildings like _____. This is the oldest medieval church of Scotland. People who like flowers and nice parks can walk around in Glasgow's _____, where you can find Kibble Palace with its collection of orchids and other plants.



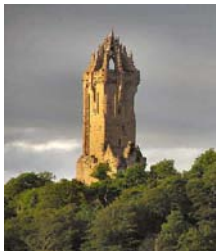
The capital of Scotland, Edinburgh, is the city of education, laws, and fabulous buildings. Many buildings are inspired by the ancient Greeks. In _____ you can see the Scottish Crown Jewels. The Queen has got a house in Scotland as well: _____.

Edinburgh is often called the _____, because the castle is, like the Acropolis, built on a hill in the city and there are many Greek inspired buildings.



There are a lot more things to see in Scotland. In Northern Scotland people often visit _____ because they hope to catch a glimpse of the monster _____. This lake is one of the four lochs belonging to the _____.

The Cairngorms is a _____, with its own ski centre, a weather station. In _____ wild bears, wolves, ... can wander around freely.



The city of Stirling is well-known because of the _____ in 1297 between the Scottish and the English. The _____ honors the Scottish leader, who led his troops to victory.

The red-pink ruins of _____, are the silent witnesses of the devastating English invasions. This abbey was built in 1136 as a home for six monks by David I.

b. Famous Scots

Assignment: Match each famous Scot with the correct description.

1 Andy Murray

2 Sean Connery

3 James Watt

4 Charles Mackintosh

5 William Wallace

Was a Scottish inventor. He invented the steam engine. His whole life he invented all kinds of machines.

Was a Scottish patriot, who fought at the Battle of Stirling (1297). He was executed by the English, because he resisted the dominion of the English.

Is a Scottish tennisplayer. At the Olympic Games of 2012 he won a golden medal.

Is a famous Scottish actor, who is most known for his performance as the original James Bond.

Was a famous Scottish architect, who built the Glasgow School of Arts, but also invented waterproof fabrics.



1.4 Northern Ireland

Research question 5: Name some of the places of interest in Northern Ireland.

Research question 6: Analyze the topic of "Bloody Sunday".

a. Places of interest in Northern Ireland

Assignment: Read the texts. Are the following statements true or false? Correct when false.

- ♣ The Giant's Causeway is said to be built by a Giant named Staffa.
- ♣ All the columns of the causeway have four sides.
- ♣ Queen's was founded in 1849.
- ♣ Queen's was founded by Queen Victoria.

- ♣ You can see seals near the Boathouse.
- ♣ There are three churches on Raithlin Island.
- ♣ In the park of Florence you can find the Walled Grounds and the Pleasure Garden.
- ♣ Florence Court was the home of the Cuilcagh family.

No visit to Belfast would be complete without stopping by the lunar landscape of the **Giant's Causeway**. This geological wonder has baffled visitors for thousands of years and is called The Giant's Causeway because ancients believed it was the work of giant Finn McCool, an Ulster warrior who built the enormous highway to escort his lady-friend Staffa across from the Hebrides to Ulster.

The Causeway is, in fact, a mass of basalt columns packed tightly together. The tops of the columns form stepping stones that lead out from the cliff foot and disappear under the sea. Altogether there are 40,000 of these stone columns, mostly hexagonal but some with four, five, seven and eight sides.

Founded by Queen Victoria, the **Queen's University** in Ireland, was designed to be alternative to Trinity College Dublin which was controlled by the Anglican Church.

The University was made up of three Queen's Colleges - in Cork, Galway and Belfast. Although it was the first University in the north of Ireland, Queen's drew on a tradition of learning which goes back to 1810 and the foundation of the Belfast Academical Institution.

Founded in 1845, Queen's opened in 1849 when the first students entered the magnificent new college building designed and built by Charles Lanyon.

The ferry to **Raithlin Island** travels just six miles across the "Sea of Moyle". This island is six miles long, one mile wide, "L" shaped and home to a small population of around seventy people.

In the harbour is the Boathouse, where visitors can discover some of the exciting history, learn about present day island life and see some artefacts from shipwrecks around the island. A short walk around to Mill Bay there is a colony of seals, who are fun to just sit and watch!

At the other side of the harbour are two churches where visitors can sit quietly or just admire the architecture. At the west of the island is the renowned RSPB Seabird Centre, where puffins, guillemots, razorbills and kittiwakes can be viewed during the summer months. It is also home to some magnificent views, on clear days Donegal, the North Antrim coastline, the island of Islay and the Mull of Kintyre can be seen. Throughout the year special occasions are celebrated with ceilidhs.

Florence Court is a truly welcoming home, around 8 miles from Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh. The house, formerly the home of the Cole family, Earls of Enniskillen, is surrounded by a large area of parkland, garden and woodland, with breathtaking views to Benaughlin and the Cuilcagh Mountains. Discover many serene and beautiful corners by exploring the Pleasure Grounds and the Walled Garden in this magnificent demesne.

With its classical style and exquisite rococo plasterwork, Florence Court is one of Ulster's most important 18th-century houses. With its warm and gentle atmosphere and fine Irish furniture collection it is set against a stunning backdrop of the Cuilcagh mountains. You can enjoy glorious walks around the grounds which include a pretty walled garden and holiday cottage. Other interesting features include a sawmill, ice house and summer house.

b. *Bloody Sunday*



Belfast was known in the past for the violent attacks of the IRA (Irish Republican Army). Northern Ireland is part of the UK, but many Irishmen want to belong to Southern Ireland. When you walk around in Belfast nowadays you can still see some traces of the old battle in the streets. On the outside walls of some houses murals are painted. These were used for propaganda and to express how people felt.

However it weren't only the Irish who attacked people. In January 1972 British soldiers shot on Catholics, who were demonstrating in Londonderry. It was after this event, known as **Bloody Sunday** that the IRA became really focused on driving the British out of Ireland.

The Irish band U2 wrote a song about this dreadful event in Irish history.

Assignment: Listen to the song. Fill in the missing words.

Yes

I can't believe the _____ today
Oh, I can't close my eyes and make it go away

How long, how long must we sing this _____?
How long? How long?
'Cause tonight we can be as one, tonight

Broken bottles under children's _____.
Bodies strewn across the dead end streets
But I won't heed the battle call
It puts my back up, puts my back up against the _____.

Sunday, Bloody Sunday
Sunday, Bloody Sunday
Sunday, Bloody Sunday

And the battle's just _____
There's many lost but tell me who has won
The trench is dug within our hearts
And mothers, children, brothers, sisters torn apart

Sunday, Bloody Sunday
Sunday, Bloody Sunday

- 1 The Lake in Scotland, in which a mysterious monster lives.
- 2 An island belonging to Northern Ireland, which is only six miles long and one mile wide.
- 3 A mountain range in South Wales.
- 4 A mass of columns, which is said to be built by Finn McCool.
- 5 The palace of Queen Elizabeth in London.
- 6 A park in Glasgow known for its orchids.
- 7 A festival held in Llangollen.
- 8 The stadium of Manchester United.
- 9 A dreadful event in the history of Ireland, when Catholics were shot by British soldiers.
- 10 The capital of England and the UK.