St Patrick's Day



Activity One – What Is St Patrick's Day?

- Have you heard about it?
- Do you know what it is?
- Do you know which country celebrates it as their national day?

For younger kids story with flashcards For older kids presentation and online research.

Flashcards - **Shamrock Leprechaun Snake Green Hat Pinch me Ireland Pot of Gold Rainbow**

St. Patrick's Day commemorates the patron saint of Ireland, Bishop Patrick, who in the year 432 left his home to bring Christianity to Ireland. Tradition says that Patrick drove the snakes from Ireland, but biologists say there were none in the country at the time. Shamrocks are associated with St. Patrick's Day because the Bishop used the three leaves to illustrate the Trinity.

The holiday, March 17th, is marked by parades in cities across the United States. The largest of these, held since 1762, is in New York City, and draws more than one million spectators each year. In Ireland, it is a religious holiday similar to Christmas.

Shamrock Facepaint...

Some **Songs** for St Patrick's day



Sung to I'm a Little Teapot"

I'm a little leprechaun
Dressed in green,
The tiniest man
That you have ever seen.
If you ever catch me, so it's told,
I'll give you my pot of gold.

Sung to "Bingo"

There is a colour
That I say
Represents St. Patrick's Day
G-R-E-E-N
G-R-E-E-N
G-R-E-E-N
And Green is that colour

Activity Two **Hunt the Leprechaun** - Leprechauns are little make-believe fairies that live in Ireland. They are the shoemakers for the fairies. The story is that if you catch one you can make him tell you where he hides his gold. No one has caught one yet....but start looking today!!

Activity Three **Musical Shamrocks** - Stand on a shamrock when the music stops or you will be eliminated.

Activity Four **Draw Your Own Leprechaun**- Draw what you imagine a leprechaun looks like and then compare your artistic impressions…

Activity Five **Leprechaun Marionette**- Now make a little green man of your own!

Activity Six – **St Paddy's Worksheets**.

Activity Seven – **Saint Patrick and the Snakes:**

Another tale about Patrick is that he drove the snakes from Ireland. Different versions of the story, tell of him standing upon a hill, using a wooden staff to drive the serpents into the sea, banishing them forever from Ireland.

One version says that an old serpent resisted banishment, but that Patrick outwitted him. Patrick made a box and invited the snake to enter. The snake insisted it was too small and the two argued. Finally to prove his point, the snake entered the box to show how tight the fit was. Patrick slammed the lid closed and threw the box into the sea.

Although it's true that Ireland has no snakes, this likely had more to do with the fact that Ireland is an island and being separated from the rest of the continent the snakes couldn't get there. The stories of Saint Patrick and the snakes are likely a metaphor for his bringing Christianity to Ireland and driving out the pagan religions (serpents were a common symbol in many of these religions).

Now let's make our very own Rainbow Snake because both RAINBOWS and SNAKES are important on St Pat's day !!!!!!

First – let's sing the rainbow song!

Why are rainbows important on St Patrick's Day?

Red and yellow and pink and green
Purple and orange and blue
I can sing a rainbow,
sing a rainbow,
sing a rainbow too.

Listen with eyes,
Listen with your ears,
and sing everything you see,
I can sing a rainbow,
sing a rainbow,
sing along with me.

Red and yellow and pink and green,
Purple and orange and blue,
I can sing a rainbow,
sing a rainbow,
sing a rainbow too!

Let's have some **ONLINE FUN**!

http://www.akidsheart.com/holidays/stpat/differencestpat.htm

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OCbuRA_D3KU

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqqehfbqFPs