

Using library resources for classrooms:

1st and 2nd Class

Online and local library support

Class lessons, interactive games and activities, pictures, animations, audios, video clips, maps, experiments and teachers' notes for 1st and 2nd classes, all available as a free service on www.askaboutireland.ie.

An initiative of the public libraries, the Ask about Ireland website is a main online educational resource. The content has been developed for the new primary curriculum in co-operation with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment, the National Centre for Technology in Education, and the Primary Professional Development Service. Content has been prepared by teachers and educational advisors.



Ask about Ireland

Ask about Ireland Teacher Resources

1st and 2nd Class

1st and 2nd Class Subjects



Geography

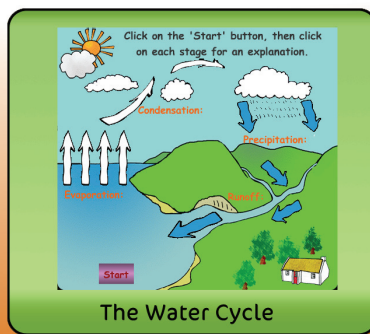
My Local Town, Ireland: Our Home, Children in Other Countries, Where does my Dinner Come From? Clothes People Wear, What are Clothes made of? Different types of Homes, Building a House, How do Maps Work? Looking at Water

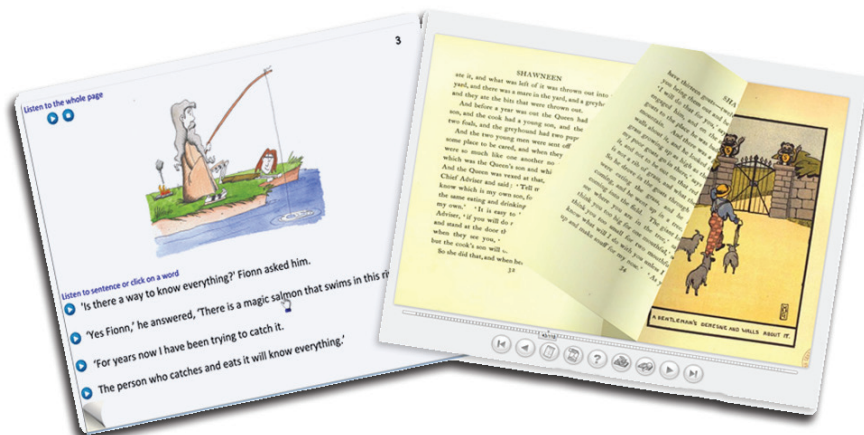
Irish

Scéalta simplí as Gaeilge leis an téacs agus an léitheoir (gach focal, abairt, leathanach agus an scéal go hiomlán), mar shampla: Oisín i dTír na nÓg, Clann Lir; Amhráin as Gaeilge le focail, amhránaí agus uirlisí (mar shampla: Beidh Aonach Amárach, An Poc ar Buile); Ár dTimpeallacht.

History

What is History? First People in Ireland, Clothes our Grandparents Wore, Homes and Houses in the Past, Cites and the Countryside, What was Life like when my Grandparents were Young? Families in the Past, St. Patrick, The Voyage of St. Brendan, Vikings, Normans, Kings and Queens.





Science

How to be a Scientist, Finding Light, Making Sound, Pushing and Pulling, What are things made of? Mixing Colours, Water, How my Body Works, My Skeleton, Parts of a Tree, Birds and Animals in Winter, Which is Hotter? Magnet Fun, Floating and Sinking, Using Electricity.

English

Simple stories with audio and pictures (examples: St Brigid's Cloak, The Salmon of Knowledge, The Magic Shoes). Each word, sentence or page can be played with the text, or the full story played in full.

Environment

Where Animals Live, Furry Friends, Bugs and Beasties, Feathered Friends, Leafy Lovelies, Watery Wonders, Caring for Our Environment, Litter, Saving our Water, Saving Electricity, Growing Our Own, Preparing our School Garden, Recycling and Composting, Feeding Birds, Nature each Month.



1st and 2nd Class Teaching Resources

Pictures

Locate photos for use in lessons from over 75,000 images in the search facility.

Songs

Teach favourite Irish songs in both English and Irish using the voice/instrumental accompaniment. Play/pause songs verse by verse.

Games

Play games on a lesson topic using PCs or an interactive whiteboard.

Ebooks

Access over 500 ebooks on the site. Locate books by county or by subject.

Eco Detectives

Discover climate change activities and teacher guides for 1st and 2nd class. Includes interactive games, resource cards, and the Eco Detectives game.

Months of the Year

Print the 12 Months of the Year posters, view animated versions, listen to descriptions for each month or play the month-themed game.

Interactive Activities

Play fun activities for each lesson topic, including extension activities, group work, inquiry-based activities.

Talking Ebooks

Practice reading and pronunciation with pupils, or just listen to stories played in full. A selection of the most popular traditional Irish stories are available in both English and Irish.

Maps

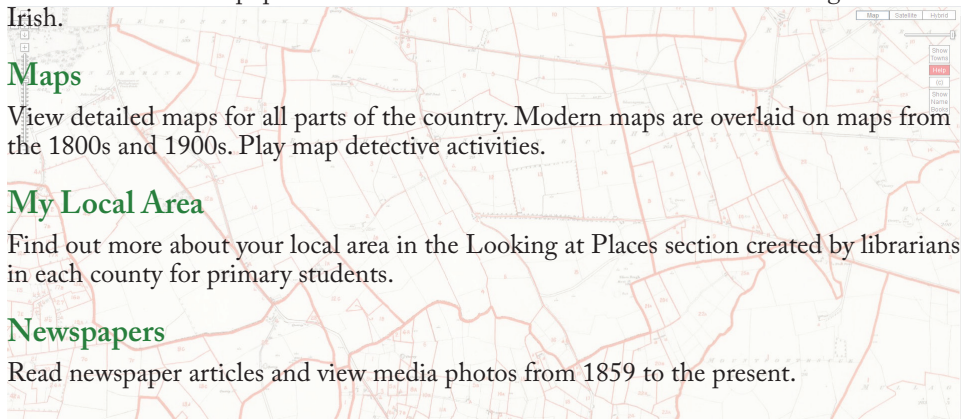
View detailed maps for all parts of the country. Modern maps are overlaid on maps from the 1800s and 1900s. Play map detective activities.

My Local Area

Find out more about your local area in the Looking at Places section created by librarians in each county for primary students.

Newspapers

Read newspaper articles and view media photos from 1859 to the present.



Field Guides

Explore your local environment using the school field guide series with practical information, activities, photos, games and classroom follow-up projects.

Fact Sheets

Locate a ready-made information sheet for pupils on a lesson topic. The environmental fact sheet series includes land and marine animals, trees and flowers. The sheets are also available for printing as posters or A4 handouts.

Videos

Find video clips to support a lesson. Collections of videos are available on: Ireland in the Early 1900s, the Easter Rising, the War of Independence, the Civil War, Significant Irish Events, Irish Crafts, School Gardens, Birds in Ireland, Irish Wildlife and Wildlife Drawing, Nature Walks, Trees, Irish cooking, Our Living Habitats, and Climate Change.

Posters

Print posters for your classroom from a range of topics. The most popular posters include How to do a Great Project, Steps to Greener Living and posters on recycling, rivers, farms, towns and gardens etc.

Stories

Listen to traditional Irish stories for children in both Irish and English. Play each word, sentence or page of a story individually.

Borrow Library Books Online

Access a single catalogue search for every library in the country. Find the item you want and request delivery to your nearest library for collection.

CultureNet

Plan a school trip or cultural outing for pupils using the listing of museums, galleries, heritage and cultural centres, theatres, libraries and archives by county. Includes descriptions for each.

Reference Sources

Irish Times Archive – all articles published by the newspaper from 1859 onwards.

Jstor – Irish journals in Arts, Humanities and Science from 1700s to the present.

Ordnance Survey Ireland Maps – includes Historic Maps Viewer.

Griffith's Valuation – records for tenants/landlords and maps identifying all dwellings in the country in the mid 1800s.



Project Focus

» History in My Local Place

What can I see in my town and county from long ago? What were these things used for?

Discover photos and information about local churches, round towers, high crosses, forts, stone circles, standing stones, castles and big houses.

» Going on a Nature Field Trip

What can we investigate in our local area?

Primary field guides, photos and activities on: Exploring a Hedgerow, Exploring Rocks and Soil, and Exploring a River.

» Exploring an Irish Museum

What can I find in a museum?

Enter the virtual museum and discover photos and 3D views of objects from the Stone Age onwards. Objects include stone carvings, books, boxes, collars, jugs, knives, glasses, swords, jewellery, silverware, tools etc.





Irish Music

What does Irish music sound like?



Listen to different types of Irish music, play the sound of each instrument, discover what each instrument looked like and learn simple Irish songs.



Work Long Ago

Did people use computers long ago? How were things made back then?



Photos, videos and descriptions of: how wool was made, building a thatched roof, how butter and flour was made, a blacksmith at work, how cobble stones were laid, working with leather.



Ireland over 100 Years Ago

What are the differences between photos taken today and over 100 years ago?

Compare photos of Ireland in 2011 with photos from a 1904 collection on: children, schools, work, music, holidays and families. Explore Irish postcards from the 1800s and 1900s.



Ask about Ireland is funded by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government.

The website is a free online service available at www.askaboutireland.ie. The Ask about Ireland team can be contacted at info@askaboutireland.ie.