

Very Young Learners

Material needed for this activity:

- Paper, colored markers, scissors, glue and adhesive tape.
 - Find the menu of activities on the first slide.
 - Select an activity by clicking on the leprechaun's head
- Use L1 to explain sts why St. Patrick's day is celebrated

Why Saint Patrick's Day?

Saint Patrick's Day has come to be associated with everything Irish: anything green and gold, shamrocks and luck. Most importantly, to those who celebrate its intended meaning, St. Patrick's Day is a traditional day for spiritual renewal and offering prayers for missionaries worldwide.

Symbols

Tell sts they are going to learn some symbols related to this holiday.

Slides 2-9: Drill the piece of vocabulary presented on each slide; Try to exploit the pictures by asking questions such as 'What colours can you see on the rainbow?', 'What's in the pot of gold?'; 'What's the leprechaun wearing?'; 'What colour is the pipe?' etc.

Key: a shamrock, a (green) hat, the rainbow, gold coins, a pot of gold, a pipe and a **leprechaun (see story below)**

The story behind the leprechaun
A **leprechaun** is a type of fairy in Irish folklore, usually taking the form of an old man, clad in a red or green coat, who enjoys partaking in mischief. Like other fairy creatures, leprechauns have been linked to the Tuatha Dé Danann of Irish mythology. The Leprechauns spend all their time busily making shoes, and store away all their coins in a hidden pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. If ever captured by a human, the Leprechaun has the magical power to grant three wishes in exchange for their release.

Slides 10-11: Review the vocabulary you've just introduced; pause every time you click to ask sts the name of the object that has faded in;

Slides 12: Tell sts they are going to make their own shamrocks to bring them good luck; If time allows, ask sts to make shamrocks (more), gold coins, a rainbow, a pipe etc; Then, decorate the room;

Games

Slide 13-18: Where's the leprechaun? Exploit the pictures with sts; try to elicit the words 'tree', 'pot of gold', 'rainbow', 'bushes', 'sky', 'clouds'; Then, Ask sts where they think the leprechaun is hiding; If you think it is too hard, ask sts questions to make it easier for them such as 'Is he on the pot of gold?', 'Is he on the tree?', 'Is he behind the bushes?' etc; Invite them to touch the board so as to point out where they think the leprechaun is hiding; tell them not to move their fingers; Click to reveal the leprechaun's hideout; Then, click again to make him fade out; Repeat procedures for the next slides; **Key:** slide 13 (on the pot of gold); slide 14 (on the tree); slide 15 (on the rainbow); slide 16 (behind the bushes); slide 17 (on the cloud)

Slide 19: Internet games. Click on the '@' to open up the web page where the games can be found; make sure you give every student a chance to play.