

The Story of St. Patrick

Patrick was born in Wales sometime in the third or fourth century. His mother was Welsh and his father was an important Roman official. Patrick had a happy childhood, his family was rich and he was good at school. The Romans brought Christianity to England, so Patrick was a Christian.

One day Patrick was on the beach. A pirate ship came into the bay. The owner of the ship was an Irish man and his name was 'Niall of the Nine Hostages'. 'Niall of the Nine Hostages' was not a nice man, he kidnapped children and sold them as slaves. He saw Patrick on the beach and kidnapped him. He brought him to Ireland and sold him to a farmer in Co. Antrim called 'Muirdeabhar'. This man had land and a lot of sheep on the Antrim hills, and Patrick worked as his shepherd.

At this time there were many different religions in Ireland. The Romans did not come to Ireland, so it was not a Christian country. Patrick was very religious and wanted to convert Irish people to Christianity, but he was a slave, a prisoner, so this was only a dream.

After many years Patrick's dream came true. He escaped and went back to Wales. Then he went to Rome in Italy and became a holy man, a bishop. After many years he came back to Ireland to convert people to Christianity. First Patrick converted the King of Ireland who lived in Tara, Co. Meath. Then he travelled around the country and converted many more people to his religion.

The national symbol of Ireland is the shamrock. This is because one day St. Patrick explained the Holy Trinity, the idea of three people in one God, with a shamrock. The people did not understand the Holy Trinity. They said, 'How can there be three people in one?'. St. Patrick looked down at the ground and he saw a shamrock. He picked it up and explained that just as the shamrock had three leaves and one stem, so there was only one God but there were three people in this God.

St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland and we celebrate his feast day on 17th March every year.

The Story of St. Patrick

Read the story of St. Patrick.

There are three Irish names in the story. What are they?

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____

Which one of the names above is not a modern Irish name?

Two Irish counties are mentioned in the story. What are they? Co. means County, for example, Co. Kerry means County Kerry.

1. _____ 2. _____



Happy St.Patrick's Day !

True or False?

Are these sentences TRUE or FALSE? If a sentence is false, write the true statement: -

EXAMPLE: St. Patrick was born sometime in the sixth or seventh century.

FALSE: St. Patrick was born sometime in the third or fourth century.

1. St. Patrick was born in Ireland.

2. St. Patrick's family was very poor.

3. St. Patrick moved to Ireland because he wanted to work as a priest.

4. St. Patrick worked as a shepherd.

5. The farmer called Muirdeabhar released St. Patrick after many years.

6. A 'shamrock' is a special type of stone from Co. Meath.

Grammar Questions

Which different irregular verbs are used in The Story of St. Patrick (do not write the same verb two times). Write the **infinitive** and **past tense** of these verbs.

Infinitive	Past tense	Example sentence
be	was	Patrick was born in Wales.
have	had	Patrick had a happy childhood.

Which irregular verb is used most in the story?

Grammar Questions

Which different **regular verbs** (ending in **-ed**) are in The Story of St. Patrick (do not write the same verb two times). Write the **infinitive** and **past tense** of these verbs.

Infinitive	Past tense	Example sentence
work	worked	Patrick worked as a shepherd.
happen	happened	