

St.Patrick's Day in primary school (teacher's notes)

1. Lead-in 3 min

Aims: to set the context and get acquainted with the history of St.Patrick Day.

Tell about St.Patrick's Day and its history yourself (you may do it in Russian) or ask one of your students to prepare a report on in advance.

Example:

Saint Patrick's Day is a big party in Ireland - the part of Great Britain. It is celebrated on the 17 of March. Saint Patrick is a patron saint of Ireland. It's said he brought Christianity to the Irish people. The symbols of Saint Patrick's Day are the green colour, a shamrock, a harp, a snake, a pot of gold, a leprechaun. Some symbols came from the pagan legends.

The leprechaun is a small Irish fairy who dresses like a shoemaker. Leprechauns are unfriendly little men who live alone in the forest, spending time making shoes and guarding their gold treasures. If you catch a leprechaun, he'll be forced to tell you where he hides his pots of gold. However, the leprechaun must be watched at all times. If his captor looks away, the leprechaun will vanish along with his treasure.

2. Vocabulary work (Activity 1) 7 mins

Aim: to introduce new vocabulary on the topic "St.Patrick Day".

Procedure: Ask students to repeat words after you: harp, snake, Ireland, hat, leprechaun, shamrock, pot.

Then students put the words in the order of the rainbow colours and write down the words in the crossword to get the name of the holiday.

Key: Patrick.

3. Vocabulary practice (Activity 2) 2 mins

Aim: to practise new vocabulary on the topic "St.Patrick Day".

Procedure: Students count the objects and answer the question: How many things are there?

4. Listening practice (Activity 3) 5 mins

Aim: to practise listening for general information.

Procedure: Pre-teach the necessary vocabulary (bow, clap).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZhtsF0vczw>

Students listen to the song and order the pictures.

Key: dance, bow, clap, jump.

Then they sing the song and do the actions.

5. Reading practice (Activity 4) 5 mins

Aim: to practise reading for detailed information.

Procedure: Pre-teach the necessary vocabulary (fight, cry, want).

Students answer the questions to learn what leprechaun they are. Conduct open class feedback and ask 'kind / evil / sad / happy leprechauns' raise hands.

6. Speaking practice (Activity 5) 5 mins

Aim: to practise asking/answering questions in the Present Simple Tense.

Procedure: Mingling activity: students stand up, come to classmates, ask the questions to fill in the table. They also answer questions from their classmates.

After the exercise, some students report on their results. The teacher draws a table on the board and finds out how many sad, happy, evil and kind leprechauns are in the class.

If necessary, ask extra questions: Are you happy today? When are you sad?

7. Listening practice (Activity 6) 3 mins

Aim: to practise listening for gist.

Procedure: Ask students to read the list of the ingredients, look at the pictures and guess what they mean. Use L1 if necessary.

Students watch a video about a rainbow slime and tick the ingredients they need to make it.

Play the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hzA-B7rYypI>

Key: glue, shaving foam, contact solution, food paints.

8. Reading practice (Activity 7) 7 mins

Aims: to reading for detailed information, to practise using prepositions.

Procedure: Print the cards in advance, write the instructions according to the places you want to put them in, hide the cards.

In the lesson, elicit the prepositions (on, under, behind, between, above, in).

Students in groups (or one by one) go around the class and search for cards. They need to read them and follow the instructions on the cards to find a treasure (it can be just a picture or something sweet for each kid).

9. Homework explanation 3 mins

At home, students are to write 4 things, that make them happy.