

Blarney: A Game of Deception



Game Rules:

1. Cut out the cards on the next page. You will need one sheet of cards for each player (8 cards per person).
2. Shuffle the cards and deal until none are left. The goal is to be the first player to get rid of all your cards.
3. Each player takes a turn placing up to four cards face down in the center of the game.
4. Once a player puts down their cards, they must make a claim as to what the cards are. You may lie about what cards you put down.
5. The other players then each have an opportunity to yell out "Blarney!" if they think you are lying.
6. If "blarney" is called, the player must reveal their cards to the other players. If the player was lying, they must pick their cards back up and play continues to the next person. If the player was telling the truth, then the person who called "blarney" must pick up all the cards in the middle.
7. Continue until someone wins by getting rid of all their cards.

Legend of the Blarney Stone: Where the Name Comes From

Blarney is an Irish term that means a kind of speech full of nonsense or the ability to convince people of anything. You might be wondering where the Irish got such a word.

Long ago in Ireland, a man named Cormac MacCarthy was summoned to court to face a lawsuit against him. Desperate for a way to get out of this, Cormac begged Cleena, a queen of the banshees, for help. Cleena told Cormac that, on the morning of the trial, he must kiss the first stone he saw. On the morning of his trial Cormac did exactly that, and when he made it to court he was able to plead his case so well that he won the trial. Afterwards he took the stone, named it "The Blarney Stone" and had it built into his castle.



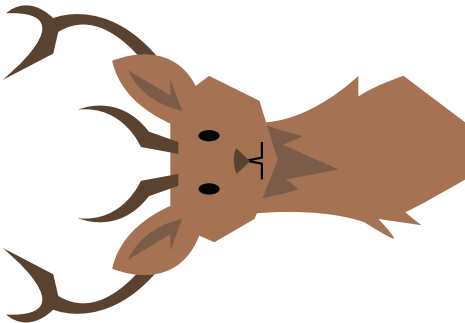
Although the story itself may sound like a lot of blarney, the Blarney Stone is a real stone! Hundreds of people travel to Blarney Castle each year to kiss it. If you want to kiss the Blarney Stone, you must climb to the highest point of the castle. Once you reach the top you must then hang upside-down over the edge of the castle in order to get close enough to kiss it. It can be very scary to do this, but it is said that anyone who kisses the rock will get the gift of blarney that Cormac used to win his court trial hundreds of years before.

Name _____

Date _____

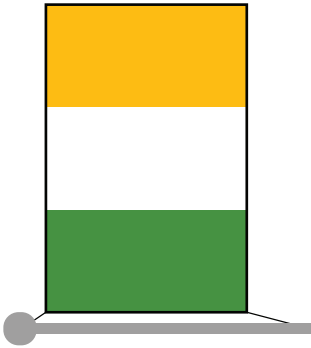
Blarney: A Game of Deception

Cut out the cards by cutting along the dotted lines. If you need help ask an adult.



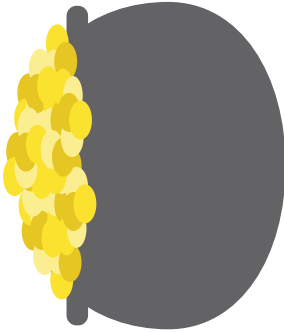
Red Deer

The red deer is one of the most common animals in Ireland.



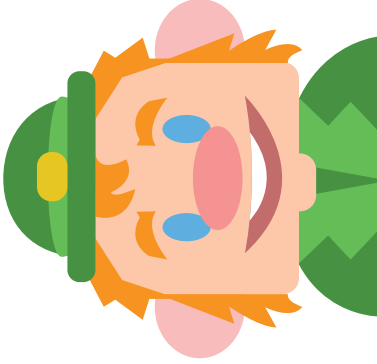
Flag

This became Ireland's national flag in 1937.



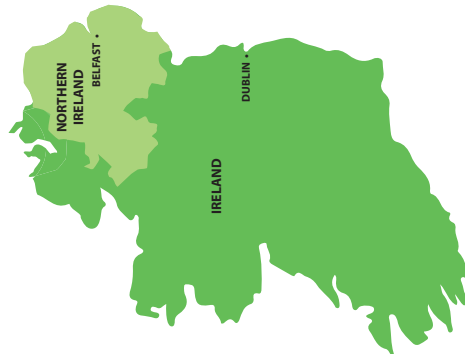
Pot o' Gold

The treasure that the leprechaun hides at the end of a rainbow.



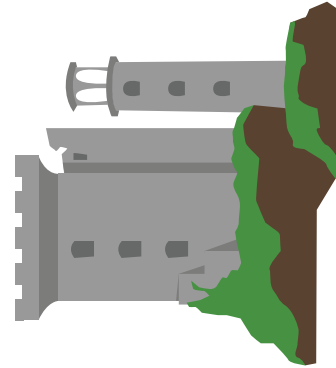
Leprechaun

An Irish fairy that fixes shoes and loves gold.



Ireland

The capital city of Ireland is Dublin.



Blarney Castle

The castle that is home to the famous Blarney Stone.



Clover

The four leaf clover is said to bring the holder good luck.



Celtic Knot

A knot design used in the art of the Celtic people of Ireland.