

Exploring the Life and Times of **CUCULLANN**

UNIT 2 EXPLORING THE WORLD OF THE CELTS



**KEY STAGE 2
PUPIL WORKBOOK**

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WHO WERE THE CELTS?

THE EARLY CELTS WERE ONE OF THE GREATEST ANCIENT PEOPLES OF EUROPE.

THE CELTS LIVED IN INDIVIDUAL TRIBES AND SHARED A COMMON CULTURE AND LANGUAGE.

THEY WERE A PROUD AND HONOURABLE PEOPLE AND WERE WELLKNOWN FOR BEING FIERCE WARRIORS.



DEVELOPING IN THE ALPS OF CENTRAL EUROPE, THE CELTS SPREAD THEIR CULTURE ACROSS MODERN-DAY GERMANY AND FRANCE AND AS FAR AS TURKEY.

THEY ARRIVED IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND AROUND 500BC AND WITHIN A FEW HUNDRED YEARS, IRELAND'S BRONZE AGE CULTURE HAD ALL BUT DISAPPEARED, AND CELTIC CULTURE WAS IN PLACE ACROSS THE ENTIRE ISLAND.



THE EARLY CELTS ARE SOMETIMES CALLED **IRON AGE CELTS**.

THE IRON AGE LASTED FROM AROUND 700 BC TO AD 43. THIS TIME PERIOD IS CALLED THE IRON AGE BECAUSE THAT WAS WHEN PEOPLE STARTED MAKING ITEMS FROM IRON, SUCH AS PLOUGHS FOR FARMING, HELMETS, SHIELDS AND COINS.



GREEK MERCHANTS FIRST CAME ACROSS THE CELTS IN THE SIXTH CENTURY BC, AND CALLED THEM '**KELTOI**'.

THE WORD '**KELTOI**' PROBABLY CAME FROM THE CELTIC WORD '**CEILT**' MEANING SECRET, HIDDEN, COVERED.

THE WORD FOR THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL COSTUME - THE KILT - IS BASED ON THE SAME WORD.

THE CELTS GREATLY VALUED MUSIC, POETRY AND ORAL STORYTELLING OF ANCIENT HEROIC TALES.

ONE OF THE MOST LEGENDARY IRISH HEROES WAS **CÚ CHULAINN**, THE HOUND OF ULSTER, WHO WAS DESTINED TO BE THE GREATEST WARRIOR IN ALL OF IRELAND.



THE CELTS ARE ALSO WELL KNOWN FOR THEIR LA TÈNE ART. DATING FROM AROUND 500 B.C., THE LA TÈNE PERIOD WAS DISTINGUISHED BY BEAUTIFUL, INTRICATE DESIGNS AND KNOT PATTERNS.



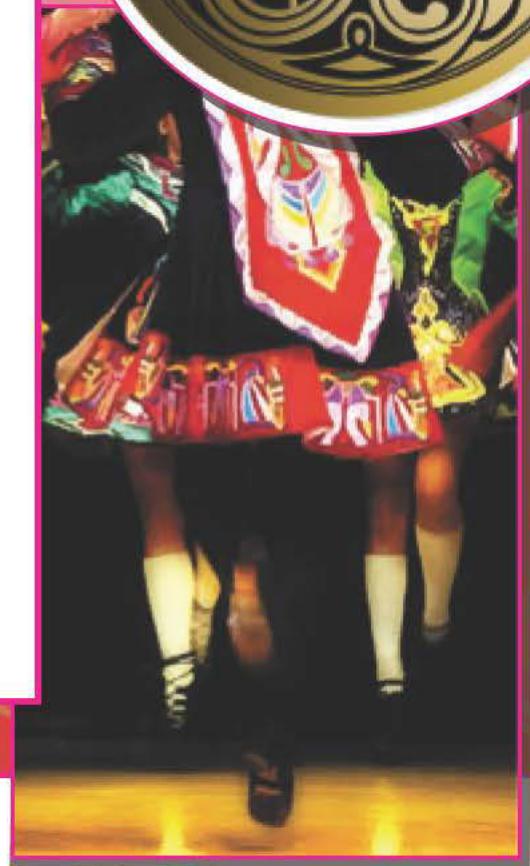
THEIR CULTURE LIVES ON IN LANGUAGE, MUSIC, SONG, ART, STORY AND DANCE.

THERE ARE AT LEAST 3.5 MILLION PEOPLE THAT STILL SPEAK A CELTIC LANGUAGE AS THEIR NATIVE TONGUE.

TODAY, THE CELTIC LANGUAGES ARE:

IRISH GAELIC;
SCOTTISH GAELIC;
WELSH (SPOKEN IN WALES);
BRETON (SPOKEN IN BRITTANY, ON THE NORTH-WESTERN COAST OF FRANCE);
MANX (ON THE ISLE OF MAN);
 AND **CORNISH** (IN CORNWALL, ON THE SOUTHWESTERN TIP OF ENGLAND).

CELTIC GAELIC IS ALSO SPOKEN IN NORTH AMERICA ON CAPE BRETON ISLAND, JUST NORTH OF NOVA SCOTIA ON THE EASTERN COAST OF CANADA.



CELTIC DRESS



THE THREE MOST COMMON PIECES OF CLOTHING WORN BY THE CELTS WERE:

KNEE-LENGTH **TUNICS** DYED AND EMBROIDERED IN BRIGHT COLOURS AND WORN WITH A GOLD OR SILVER-PLATED BELT

TROUSERS, CALLED '**BRACAE**'

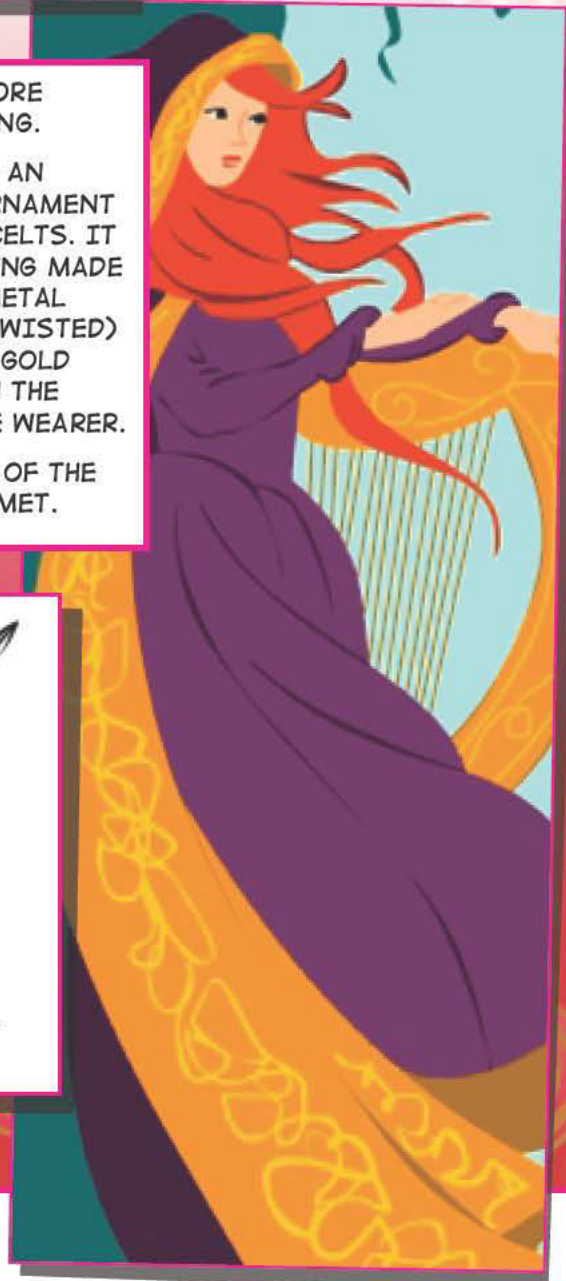
STRIPED **WOOLLEN CLOAKS** FASTENED BY A **BROOCH**.



BOTH SEXES WORE THEIR HAIR LONG.

THE **TORC** WAS AN IMPORTANT ORNAMENT WORN BY THE CELTS. IT WAS A NECK RING MADE OF A ROD OF METAL (SOMETIMES TWISTED) IN BRONZE OR GOLD DEPENDING ON THE WEALTH OF THE WEARER.

THE TWO ENDS OF THE TORC ALMOST MET.



CELTIC JEWELLERY

BOTH MEN AND WOMEN WORE JEWELLERY. IT SHOWED THEIR WEALTH.



THE BROUGHTER HOARD GOLD **TORC**, (50 BC) FOUND AT BROUGHTER, COUNTY DERRY, IRELAND

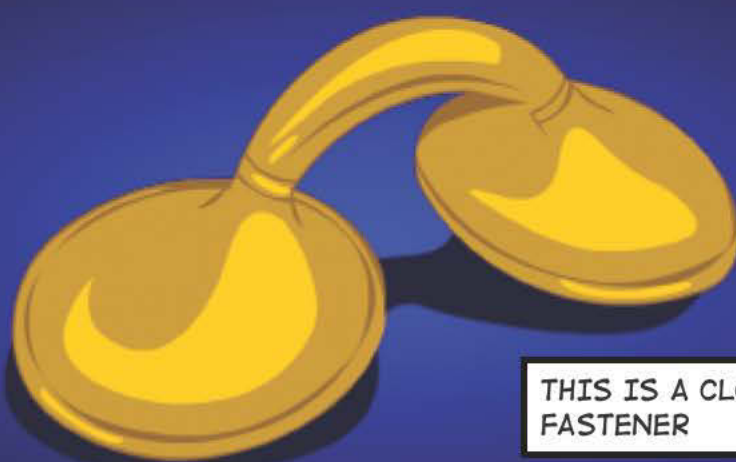
PRETTY THINGS LIKE THIS PENANNULAR BROOCH WERE PRACTICAL FOR TYING THEIR CLOAK.



TORC



HAIR PINS



THIS IS A CLOAK FASTENER

ART ACTIVITY: CELTIC BROOCHES



ARTISANS AND CRAFTSMEN WERE HIGHLY RESPECTED IN CELTIC SOCIETY. CELTIC CRAFTSMEN MADE BEAUTIFUL JEWELLERY OF GOLD AND PRECIOUS STONES AND WOULD HAVE DECORATED SWORDS AND SHIELDS.

CELTIC ART IS FULL OF PATTERNS, SPIRALS, ANIMALS AND COLOUR. LIKE THEIR DAILY LIFE, THEIR ART WAS LIVELY.

IN THIS ACTIVITY YOU WILL BE DESIGNING A CELTIC BROOCH, WHICH WAS WORN BY BOTH MEN AND WOMEN IN CELTIC SOCIETY TO FASTEN THEIR CLOAKS. TODAY CELTIC BROOCHES ARE VERY POPULAR AND ARE WORN PURELY FOR DECORATION.

HOW TO DESIGN A CELTIC BROOCH

1. CHOOSE ONE OF THE BROOCH DESIGNS BELOW AND COLOUR IT IN.
2. DECORATE YOUR COLOURED DESIGN WITH JEWELS, SEQUINS, AND GLITTER TO MAKE IT SPARKLE.
3. CUT OUT YOUR COMPLETED DESIGN.
4. PASTE YOUR CUT-OUT DESIGN ONTO A PIECE OF CARDSTOCK.
5. CUT OUT YOUR BROOCH AGAIN.
6. USE A SAFETY PIN TO FASTEN YOUR COMPLETED BROOCH TO YOUR TOP.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

SCISSORS, CARDSTOCK, COLOURED PENS, GLUE, LARGE SAFETY PINS, PLUS SEQUINS, GLITTER, OR JEWELS TO DECORATE.



BOG BODIES

ARCHAEOLOGY IS THE STUDY OF ARTEFACTS AND SOIL IN ORDER TO LEARN ABOUT HUMAN CULTURES OF THE PAST. ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS ARE OFTEN MADE BY ACCIDENT, FOR EXAMPLE WHEN FARMERS ARE CUTTING TURF.

A LACK OF OXYGEN AND ACID IN THE BOG KEEPS CERTAIN MATERIALS FROM DECAYING, SUCH AS LEATHER, WOOD, BONE AND TEXTILES WHICH EXPLAINS WHY THEY SURVIVE IN EXCELLENT CONDITION.

THE ABUNDANCE OF MATERIALS RECOVERED FROM IRISH BOGS MAKES IT POSSIBLE TO LOOK INTO THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVED IN OR NEAR WETLANDS AND TO BUILD A STORY OF THEIR SETTLEMENTS AND WAY OF LIFE.

ONE OF THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY FINDS MADE IN BOGS ARE 'BOG BODIES'.

OLD CROGHAN MAN AND CLONYCAVAN MAN ARE TWO IRON AGE BOG BODIES DISCOVERED IN IRELAND. THE CELTS USUALLY DID NOT BURY THEIR BODIES, THEY WERE USUALLY CREMATED. THIS TELLS US THAT THESE BOG BODIES PROBABLY DIED AN UNUSUAL DEATH.



OLD CROGHAN MAN
350-175 BC
FOUND IN COUNTY OFFALY, IRELAND
IN 2003

OLD CROGHAN MAN IS A TYPICAL IRON AGE BOG BODY. HE DIED A TERRIBLE DEATH, SUFFERING REPEATED WOUNDS BEFORE HIS BODY WAS CUT INTO PIECES BEFORE BEING BURIED.

OLD CROGHAN MAN WAS IN HIS TWENTIES WHEN HE DIED. HIS TORSO, THE ONLY PART OF HIM RECOVERED, REVEALS THAT HE WAS EXCEPTIONALLY TALL FOR HIS TIME, STANDING ROUGHLY 6 FEET AND 6 INCHES.

HIS FINGERNAILS WERE EXTREMELY WELL MANICURED WHICH INDICATED HE HADN'T DONE A DAY'S WORK IN HIS LIFE.

HE HAD A DIET RICH IN MEAT, BUT HIS STOMACH HAD BUTTERMILK AND CORN IN IT WHEN HE WAS FOUND, WHICH IS WHAT WAS OFTEN GIVEN TO PEOPLE AS A LAST MEAL BEFORE BEING SACRIFICED TO THE GODS.

CLONYCAVAN MAN
392 -201 BC
FOUND IN CLONYCAVAN,
COUNTY MEATH, IRELAND
IN 2003

CLONYCAVAN MAN WAS FOUND IN A PEAT HARVESTING MACHINE, WHICH COULD EXPLAIN WHY THE BOTTOM HALF OF HIS BODY IS CUT OFF.

HE HAS A MOHICAN HAIRSTYLE WHICH WAS KEPT IN PLACE WITH GEL WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPORTED FROM FRANCE OR SPAIN.

HIS DIET BEFORE HIS DEATH WAS RICH IN VEGETABLES.



DIRT DETECTIVE

IMAGINE YOU ARE AN ARCHAEOLOGIST. WHAT CLUES CAN THE BOG BODIES GIVE US ABOUT LIFE DURING THE IRON AGE?

STUDY THE INFORMATION ABOUT OLD CROGHAN MAN AND CLONYCAVAN MAN THEN ANSWER THE QUESTIONS. MAKE SURE YOU EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWERS BASED UPON THE EVIDENCE FOUND.

WHAT WAS
UNUSUAL ABOUT
MY DEATH? WHY DO
YOU THINK IT
HAPPENED?

OLD CROGHAN MAN



DO YOU
THINK I WAS A
POOR PEASANT OR
RICH WITH
SERVANTS?

WAS I RICH
OR POOR?

CLONYCAVAN MAN



DO YOU
THINK I DIED
DURING THE
WINTER OR
SUMMER?



BOG MAN RECONSTRUCTION

ACTIVITY

DRAW AN ILLUSTRATION OF WHAT CLONYCAVAN MAN OR OLD CROGHAN MAN MIGHT HAVE LOOKED LIKE WHEN THEY WERE ALIVE.

ARCHAEOLOGISTS CAN GUESS WHAT A PERSON LOOKED LIKE BASED ON WHAT EVIDENCE THEY HAVE FOUND IN THE DUG UP REMAINS AND THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE CULTURE OF THAT TIME PERIOD, FOR EXAMPLE HOW PEOPLE DRESSED.



WRITE YOUR NOTES BELOW

BOG MAN NAME:

HIS BUILD (TALL, SHORT, HEAVY, THIN, MUSCLES, LEAN):

HAIR STYLE AND COLOUR (LONG, SHORT, PLAITS, PONY TAIL, MOHICAN, SHAVED):

CLOTHING:

JEWELLERY/WEAPONS ETC. (HEADBAND, CROWN, TORC, BROOCH, BRACELETS OR CLIFFS, SWORD, SHIELD, SPEAR)

WHO WERE THE CELTS?



CIRCLE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

- | | | | |
|----|---|------|-------|
| 1 | THE FIRST CELTS CAME FROM SCOTLAND. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 2 | GREEK MERCHANTS WHO FIRST CAME ACROSS THE CELTS CALLED THEM 'KELTOI'. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 3 | THE EARLY CELTS ARE SOMETIMES CALLED BRONZE AGE CELTS. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 4 | THE CELTS WERE KNOWN FOR BEING FIERCE WARRIORS. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 5 | CELTIC ART IS CHARACTERISED BY DETAILED DESIGNS AND KNOT PATTERNS. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 6 | CELTIC GAELIC IS SPOKEN ON AN ISLAND ON THE EASTERN COAST OF CANADA. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 7 | THE TORC WAS A METAL BRACELET WORN ON THE ARM. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 8 | THE CELTS WORE TUNICS WHICH WERE USUALLY BRIGHTLY COLOURED. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 9 | THE CELTS USED RIBBONS TO FASTEN THEIR CLOAKS. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 10 | MANY ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS OF CELTIC PEOPLE AND OBJECTS ARE FOUND BY ACCIDENT. | TRUE | FALSE |

THE BIRTH OF SETANTA

PICTURE MATCH ANSWERS...

THE CHARACTERS BELOW ARE FROM THE STORY ABOUT THE BIRTH OF SETANTA. MATCH EACH PICTURE WITH ITS BEST DESCRIPTION BY DRAWING A LINE BETWEEN THEM.

LUGH

THIS IS SETANTA'S FATHER FROM ANOTHER WORLD, WHO WAS ALSO KNOWN AS THE GOD OF LIGHT.



SWANS

DECHTIRE AND HER 50 MAIDENS WERE TURNED INTO THESE CREATURES AT THE PARTY.



MAYFLY

THIS FLEW INTO DECHTIRE'S GOBLET AT THE PARTY IN EMAIN MACHA. IT WAS REALLY THE GOD LUGH IN DISGUISE.



EMAIN MACHA

THIS IS WHERE KING CONOR MAC NESSA HAD HIS PALACE. HE THREW A PARTY HERE FOR HIS SISTER DECHTIRE. THIS PLACE WAS THE ROYAL SEAT OF ULSTER FROM 700BC TO 500AD.



DECHTIRE

THE WOMAN WHO WAS TRANSPORTED TO THE WORLD OF THE GODS SO THAT SHE MAY BEAR A SPECIAL CHILD.



SETANTA

THE CHILD OF THE GODS WHO WAS DESTINED TO BECOME FAMOUS THROUGHOUT IRELAND.



SUALTAM

THE NOBLEMAN WHO WAS MARRIED TO DECHTIRE.



CELTIC RELIGION



THE IRON AGE CELTS HAD OVER 400 GODS AND GODDESSES.

THEY BELIEVED THAT EVERY TREE, EVERY BUSH, EVERY FLOWER, EVERY RIVER, ALMOST EVERYTHING HAD A LITTLE GOD LIVING IN IT.

SOME OF THEIR GODS AND GODDESSES WERE EXTREMELY POWERFUL. BUT MOST WERE LITTLE GODS OR GODDESSES.

THE ANCIENT CELTS DID NOT WORSHIP THEIR GODS. THEY DID NOT GO TO CHURCH. INSTEAD, THEY LEFT LITTLE OFFERINGS ALL OVER THE PLACE. SOME GIFTS OR MESSAGES WERE TIED TO TREES, OR TOSSED DOWN WELLS OR SPRINGS, A PRACTICE THAT STILL CONTINUES TO THIS DAY.

GODS AND GODDESSES

SOME OF THE MORE FAMOUS CELTIC GODS AND GODDESSES ARE: **DAGDA**, **DANU**, **BRIGID**, **LIR** AND **MANANNAN**, **LUGH**, AND **THE MORRIGAN**.

MANY CELTIC DEITIES WERE WORSHIPPED IN TRIUNE (TRIPLE ASPECT) FORM. THESE ASPECTS REPRESENT THREE DIFFERENT THINGS. FOR EXAMPLE BRIGID WAS THE GODDESS OF POETRY, HEALING AND SMITHCRAFT. THE MORRIGAN CAN TAKE THE SHAPE OF A RAVEN, A HAG OR A YOUNG MAIDEN.

THIS WAS ADOPTED BY CHRISTIANITY IN THE TEACHINGS OF THE HOLY TRINITY, THE FATHER, THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT. SAINT PATRICK USED A PIECE OF SHAMROCK TO EXPLAIN THIS TO EARLY CHRISTIAN CONVERTS.



THE CELTS BELIEVED THAT THE HUMAN SOUL HAD AN AFTERLIFE, SO WHEN THEY DIED THEY WERE BURIED WITH USEFUL OBJECTS LIKE A HELMET, SWORD AND SHIELD.

THE CELTS COUNTED ON THEIR PRIESTS, THE DRUIDS, TO KEEP THEM SAFE FROM TROUBLE.

THE **DRUIDS** WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL RELIGIOUS RITUALS, BECAUSE THE ONLY PERSON WHO COULD TALK TO A GOD WAS A **DRUID**.

CELTIC GODS AND GODDESSES



DAGDA

DAGDA WAS THE FATHER GOD OF THE CELTS. THEY CALLED HIM THE 'GOOD GOD' BECAUSE HE PROTECTED THEIR CROPS.

HE HAD A CAULDRON CALLED THE LINDRY WHICH SUPPLIED UNLIMITED FOOD AND A LIVING OAK HARP CALLED UAITHNE WHICH CAUSED THE SEASONS TO CHANGE IN THEIR ORDER.

DANU

DANU IS CONSIDERED THE FIRST GREAT MOTHER OF IRELAND, THE GODDESS WHO BIRTHED ALL THINGS INTO BEING.

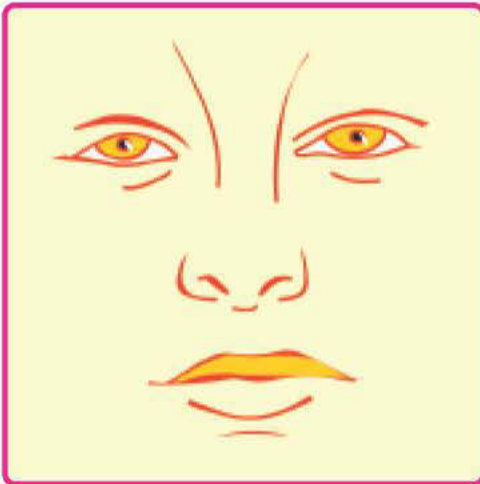
SHE IS AN EARTH GODDESS, ASSOCIATED WITH FERTILITY, GROWTH, PLENTY, ABUNDANCE, AGRICULTURE, CULTIVATION AND WITH NURTURING OF THE LAND.



BRIGID

BRIGID WAS THE GODDESS OF FERTILITY. SHE WAS THE MOTHER GODDESS WITH ONLY THE DAGDA ABOVE HER IN RANK.

SHE IS A TRIUNE GODDESS AND THAT IS WHY SHE HAS THREE ATTRIBUTES: POETESS, HEALER AND SMITH.



LUGH

LUGH WAS THE GOD OF LIGHT OR THE HARVEST. A FESTIVAL WAS HELD IN HIS HONOUR IN AUGUST CALLED **LUGHNASA**. AUGUST WAS HIS SACRED MONTH. HE WAS BELIEVED TO BE THE DIVINE FATHER OF CÚ CHULAINN.

LIR

LIR WAS THE FATHER GOD OF THE SEA. HIS SON MANANNAN RULED THE WAVES AFTER HIM.

HE MARRIED AOBH AFTER HIS FIRST WIFE DIED AND SHE GAVE BIRTH TO THE FAMED CHILDREN WHO WERE TURNED INTO SWANS BY THEIR JEALOUS AUNT AND STEP-MOTHER AOIFE.



THE MORRIGAN

THE MORRIGAN WAS THE GODDESS OF WAR, LIFE AND DEATH. SHE THEREFORE HAD A HABIT OF APPEARING TO THE GREAT HEROES WHEN THEIR LIFE WAS IN DANGER.

CÚ CHULAINN HIMSELF ENCOUNTERED THE MORRIGAN IN A VARIETY OF FORMS. HER MOST WELL-RECOGNISED FORM WAS THAT OF A BLACK CROW.

TRIUNE... MEANS THREE IN ONE, LIKE THE MORRIGAN BEING HAG, MAIDEN AND CROW.

THE CELTIC GOD & GODDESS QUIZ

BELOW IS A LIST OF KEY WORDS AND PHRASES ASSOCIATED WITH SOME OF THE MOST FAMOUS CELTIC GODS AND GODDESSES.

CAN YOU DECIDE WHO THEY BEST DESCRIBE?

WRITE THE KEY WORDS UNDERNEATH THE BEST MATCH.



WAR, LIFE AND DEATH

MOTHER OF IRELAND

PROTECTOR OF CROPS

FATHER OF THE GOD OF WAVES

DANGER

GOD OF THE SEA

LUGHNASA FESTIVAL

MOTHER GODDESS

GAVE BIRTH TO ALL THINGS

GOD OF LIGHT & HARVEST

GODDESS OF FERTILITY

FATHER GOD

DAGDA



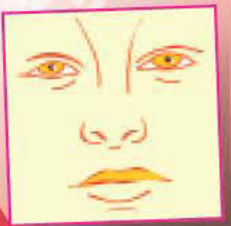
DANU



BRIGID



LUGH



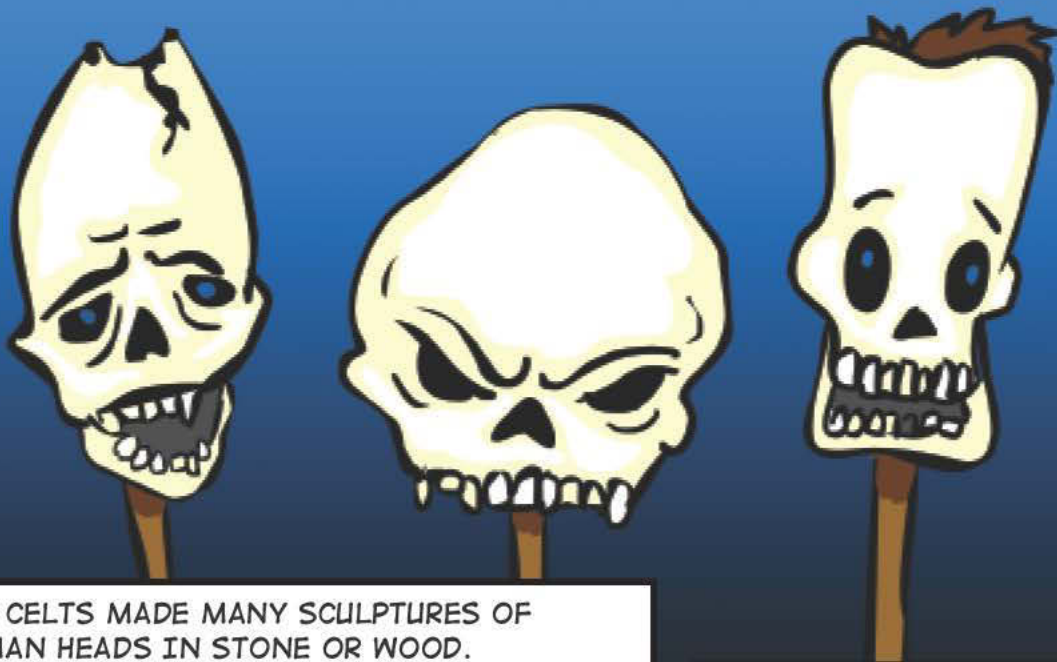
LIR



MORRIGAN



HUMAN HEAD HUNTERS



THE CELTS MADE MANY SCULPTURES OF HUMAN HEADS IN STONE OR WOOD.

THEY BELIEVED THAT THE HUMAN SOUL LIVED INSIDE THE HEAD. THEY BELIEVED THAT CAPTURING SOMEONE'S SOUL GAVE YOU REALLY POWERFUL MAGIC, WHICH IS WHY THEY COLLECTED THE HEADS OF THEIR ENEMIES KILLED IN BATTLES.

ROMAN HISTORIANS SAY THE CELTS CUT OFF THE HEADS OF THEIR ANCESTORS, AND EVEN THEIR ENEMIES, AND WORSHIPPED THE SKULLS. THEY NAILED THE HEADS OVER THE DOORS OF THEIR HUTS.

"In exactly the same way as hunters do with their skulls of the animals they have slain, they preserved the heads of their most high-ranking victims in cedar oil, keeping them carefully in wooden boxes."

WRITTEN BY DIODORUS, A ROMAN HISTORIAN.

CELEBRATING THE SEASONS

SAMHAIN

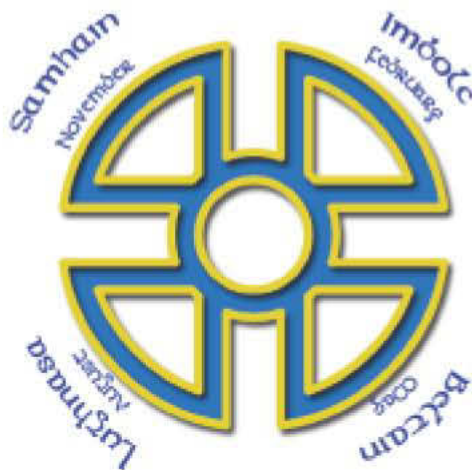
THE CELTIC YEAR BEGAN WITH SAMHAIN, CELEBRATED AROUND 31ST OCTOBER.

IT WAS A TIME WHEN THE VEIL BETWEEN THIS WORLD AND THE OTHERWORLD WAS THOUGHT TO BE SO THIN THAT THE DEAD COULD RETURN TO WARM THEMSELVES AT THE HEARTHES OF THE LIVING, AND SOME OF THE LIVING – ESPECIALLY POETS – WERE ABLE TO ENTER THE OTHERWORLD THROUGH THE DOORWAYS OF THE SIDHE, SUCH AS THAT AT THE HILL OF TARA IN IRELAND.

OUR MODERN **HALLOWEEN** STEMS FROM SAMHAIN, AND ONE EXPLANATION OF THE TRADITIONAL PUMPKIN LANTERNS IS THAT THE CELTS ONCE PLACED THE SKULLS OF ANCESTORS OUTSIDE THEIR DOORS AT THIS TIME. THE CHRISTIANS TOOK OVER THE CELTIC FESTIVAL AND TURNED IT INTO **ALL SAINTS DAY**. EVEN THE MODERN ENGLISH CELEBRATION OF **GLY FAWKES DAY** HAS ECHOES OF THE ANCIENT FIRE FESTIVAL.



THE CELTS CELEBRATED THE CHANGE OF THE SEASONS WITH GREAT FESTIVALS THAT SURVIVE TO THIS DAY IN DIFFERENT FORMS.



IMBOLC

COMING AT LAMBING TIME, AROUND 31ST JANUARY, IMBOLC (OR OIMELC) CELEBRATED THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF WINTER.

NEW LAMBS WERE BORN, AND A DISH MADE FROM THEIR DOCKED TAILS WAS EATEN.

WOMEN MET TO CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF THE MAIDEN ASPECT OF THE GODDESS. THIS SURVIVED INTO CHRISTIAN TIMES AS THE FEAST OF BRIGID: THE SAINT WAS A CHRISTIANIZED VERSION OF THE PAGAN GODDESS WHO WAS THE DAUGHTER OF THE DAGDA.



BELTAIN

BELTAIN, CELEBRATED AROUND 1ST MAY, WAS ANOTHER FIRE FESTIVAL, BUT WHEREAS SAMHAIN WAS ASSOCIATED WITH GOING TO GROUND AND WITHDRAWING, BELTAIN BURST FORTH WITH AN ABUNDANT FERTILITY.

CATTLE WERE LET OUT OF WINTER QUARTERS AND DRIVEN BETWEEN TWO FIRES IN A RITUAL CLEANSING CEREMONY THAT MAY HAVE HAD PRACTICAL PURPOSES TOO.

IT WAS A TIME FOR FEASTS AND FAIRS. AS NOTED ABOVE, FOR THE FIANNA, BELTAIN HERALDED THE START OF THE 'FIGHTING SEASON'.

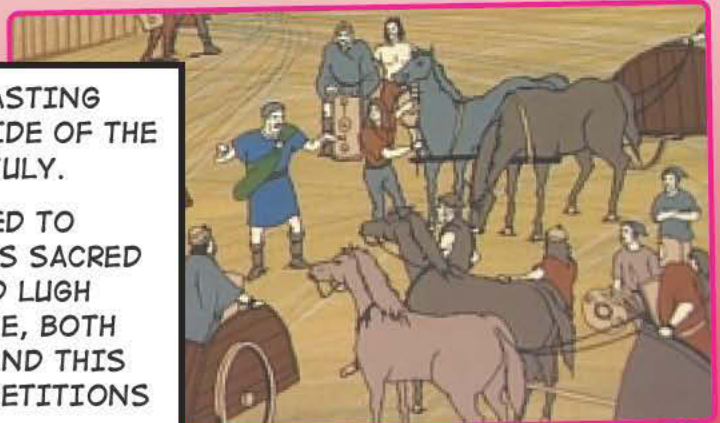


LUGHNASA

LUGHNASA WAS A SUMMER FESTIVAL LASTING FOR AS LONG AS TWO WEEKS EITHER SIDE OF THE DAY ITSELF, WHICH FELL AROUND 31ST JULY.

IT WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED TO IRELAND BY THE GOD LUGH, AND SO WAS SACRED TO THIS GOD. THE ROMANS IDENTIFIED LUGH WITH THEIR GOD MERCURY. AT ANY RATE, BOTH ARE GODS ASSOCIATED WITH SKILLS, AND THIS FESTIVAL WAS CELEBRATED WITH COMPETITIONS OF SKILL, INCLUDING HORSE-RACING.

THERE WAS HORSE-TRADING, TOO; PERHAPS THIS IS WHY THE FESTIVAL WAS ALSO LINKED TO THE FERTILITY GODDESS MACHA, WHO DIES IN CHILDBIRTH AFTER BEING FORCED TO RACE AGAINST THE KING'S HORSES. IN IRELAND THE FESTIVAL WAS ASSOCIATED WITH EMAIN MACHA, IN ULSTER, BUT WAS HELD IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS, INCLUDING THE ROYAL FORT OF TARA.



CELTIC SEASONAL GREETING CARDS

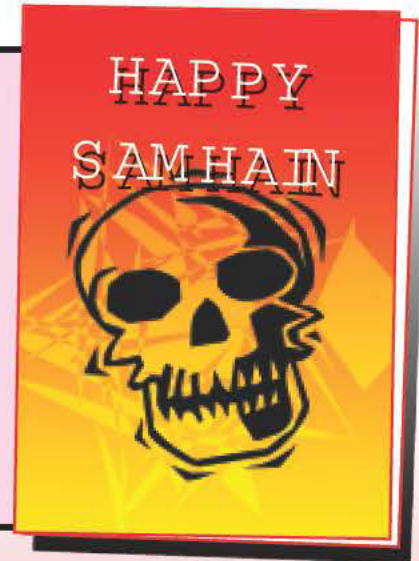
YOUR TASK IS TO DESIGN A SEASONAL GREETING CARD AROUND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CELTIC FESTIVALS:

SAMHAIN, IMBOLC, BELTAIN, OR LUGHNASA.

THE CARD CAN BE DRAWN OR CREATED ON THE COMPUTER USING A PAINT PACKAGE, MICROSOFT WORD OR COMIC LIFE SOFTWARE.

IF YOU ARE USING THE COMPUTER, YOU CAN DOWNLOAD PICTURES FROM THE INTERNET TO USE ON YOUR CARD, OR DRAW YOUR OWN PICTURES USING A PAINT PACKAGE.

THE COMPLETED CARD DESIGN CAN BE PRINTED OUT AND GLUED ONTO A FOLDED PIECE OF COLOURED CARDSTOCK.



PLANNING THE PROJECT...

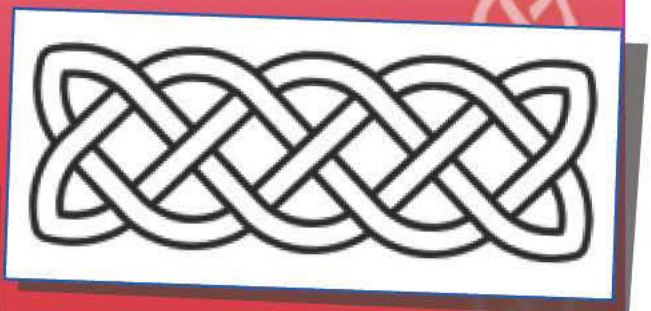
WHICH SEASON HAVE YOU CHOSEN?

WHAT PICTURES WOULD REPRESENT THIS SEASON?

WHAT TEXT WILL GO ON THE CARD?

USE CELTIC LETTERING AND KNOTWORK TO MAKE YOUR CARD LOOK MORE AUTHENTIC.

a b c d e f g h i j k l
m n o p q r s t
v w x y z



SETTLEMENTS

THERE WERE NO CITIES OR LARGE TOWNS IN IRELAND BEFORE THE CELTS ARRIVED.

LAND WAS MOSTLY FOREST, MEADOW AND PASTURE.

FORESTS WERE ABUNDANT WITH GAME TO KEEP CELTIC HUNTERS HAPPY AND WELL-FED: RED DEER, WOLVES, AND WILD BOAR WERE COMMON.

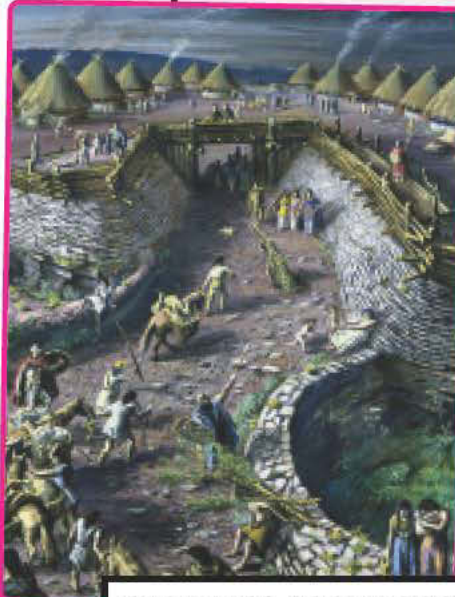
PEOPLE LIVED IN ROUND WICKER HUTS WITH THATCHED CONICAL ROOFS, THE MORE HUTS THE WEALTHIER THE FAMILY.

HILL FORTS WERE BUILT ON HIGH MOUNDS OF SOIL. SOMETIMES DITCHES WERE BUILT AROUND THEM AS PROTECTION FROM INVADERS.

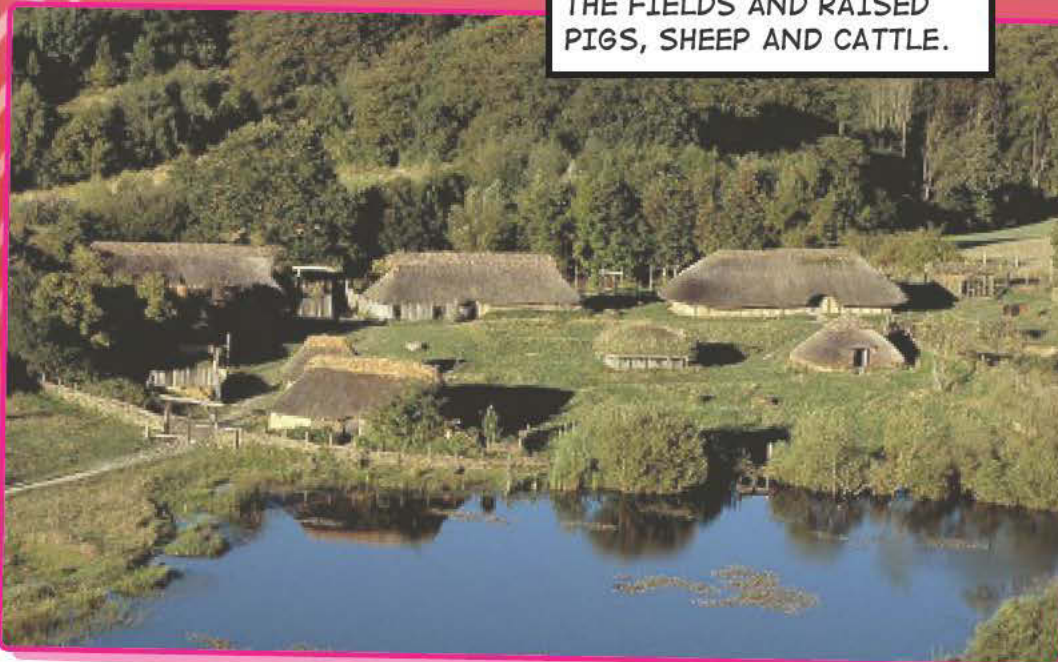
FAMILIES JOINED TOGETHER IN INDIVIDUAL SETTLEMENTS, WHICH USUALLY COMPRISED OF HUTS.



THE HUTS WERE PROBABLY DARK AND SMOKY INSIDE.



THE CELTS GREW CROPS IN THE FIELDS AND RAISED PIGS, SHEEP AND CATTLE.



INSIDE A CELTIC ROUNDHOUSE

THE CELTS LIVED IN ROUNDHOUSES WHICH WERE LOCATED IN THE CENTRE OF THE VILLAGE. MANY FAMILIES LIVED IN A SINGLE ROUNDHOUSE WHICH CONTAINED ONE LARGE ROOM. THE DOOR OF THE ROUNDHOUSE WAS DECORATED WITH SPECIAL CARVINGS AND PLANTS TO KEEP EVIL SPIRITS FROM ENTERING.



ROUNDHOUSES WERE BUILT AROUND A CENTRAL POLE WITH POLES RADIATING OUTWARDS FROM IT TO FORM THE ROOF, WHICH RESTED ON VERTICAL POLES. THEY USED MATERIALS FROM THE FOREST TO BUILD THEIR HOMES. THE WALLS WERE MADE OF WATTLE (WOVEN WOOD) AND DAUB (STRAW AND MUD) AND THE ROOFS WERE THATCHED.

A **FIRE** WAS ALWAYS BURNING IN THE CELTIC HOME TO WELCOME PEOPLE. THE FIRE HEATED THE HOME AND WAS USED FOR COOKING FOOD. A CLAY VASE WAS BUILT INTO THE CENTRE OF THE FLOOR WHICH PREVENTED ACCIDENTS AND ASHES BEING SPREAD AROUND. THE FIRE BURNED ALL DAY AND NIGHT AS IT WAS CONSIDERED DISGRACEFUL TO NOT HAVE A FIRE BURNING. THE CELTS OFTEN SAT AROUND THE FIRE TOGETHER ON DARK NIGHTS LISTENING TO STORIES.



OVER THE FIRE A **CAULDRON** WOULD HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED ON A TRIPOD WITH AN ADJUSTABLE CHAIN. CAULDRONS WERE USUALLY MADE OUT OF BRONZE, BUT RICHER CELTS WOULD HAVE IRON CAULDRONS. FOOD WAS COOKING MOST OF THE TIME AS IT WAS CUSTOM TO FEED GUESTS WHEN THEY ARRIVED.

THE CELTS WERE TALENTED CRAFTSMEN WHO WOULD HAVE CARVED SKILLFUL DECORATIONS INTO THEIR **FURNITURE**. AROUND THE WALLS INSIDE THE HUTS WERE BENCHES, WHICH ALSO DOUBLED UP AS BEDS. THEIR MATTRESSES WERE FILLED WITH HAY AND FEATHERS AND COVERED WITH SHEEPSKINS. OTHER FURNITURE INCLUDED STOOLS, LOW TABLES AND CHESTS MADE OUT OF WOOD AND LEATHER. SKINS SUCH AS SHEEP, COW AND DEER WERE MOST LIKELY USED TO COVER THE FLOOR.



THE CELTS WERE VERY GOOD AT **WEAVING** CLOTH, WHICH WAS DONE ON A WEAVING LOOM. THEIR DESIGNS WERE OFTEN BRIGHTLY COLOURED AND PATTERNED.

DIET AND COOKING FOOD

THE CELTS LOVED FOOD AND THEY LOVED TO HAVE FEASTS. THEY ATE PORK, BEEF, GAME, FISH, CHEESE, CURDS, MILK, BUTTER, AND PORRIDGE. THEY GATHERED NUTS AND SEEDS AND GREW THEIR OWN VEGETABLES. IRISH CELTS ATE SEAWEED WHICH WAS SAFE TO EAT, SUCH AS CARRAGEEN.



THE CELTS BOILED THEIR MEAT IN THE CAULDRON OR ROASTED IT OVER CHARCOAL, SOMETIMES ON **SPITS**. FOR WINTER USE, THEY PRESERVED MEAT AND FISH IN SALT. SALMON BAKED WITH HONEY AND HERBS WAS A FAVOURITE DISH.

THE CELTS LIKED TO DRINK **ALE** AND **WINE**. MEAD WAS A HONEY WINE THEY DRANK WHICH WAS MADE FROM HONEY AND WATER AND FLAVOURED WITH WILD HERBS AND FRUIT. THEY BREWED THEIR ALE FROM BARLEY, ALTHOUGH SOMETIMES FROM RYE OR OATS.



FOOD WAS GATHERED INTO **WILLOW BASKETS** WHICH THEY MADE BY WEAVING GREEN WILLOW INTO INTRICATE SHAPES BEFORE LEAVING TO DRY.

CLAY POTS WERE USED FOR STORING FOOD. SOME CONTAINED THE CREMATED REMAINS OF RELATIVES.

CLIPS AND BOWLS WERE MADE FROM OAK AND OTHER FINE WOODS. DRINKING HORNS WERE USED FOR DRINKING ALE AS THEY HELD LARGE AMOUNTS OF LIQUID. THE **DRINKING HORNS** WERE MADE OUT OF CATTLE HORNS AFTER THEY HAD BEEN SLAUGHTERED. THEY WOULD CLEAN THE HORNS AND POLISH THEM BEFORE DECORATING THEM WITH METAL MOUNTINGS. DRINKING HORNS WERE OFTEN BURIED WITH THEIR OWNERS.



A **QUERN** WAS MADE OF TWO HEAVY ROUND STONES AND WAS USED TO GRIND CORN OR WHEAT INTO FLOUR. THE FLOUR WAS THEN USED FOR MAKING BREAD IN THE OVEN.

ROUNDHOUSES WERE IDEAL PLACES FOR DRYING HERBS AND PRESERVING FOOD. HERBS WERE USED IN FLAVOURING FOOD AND MEDICINES. MEAT AND FISH WERE HUNG UP IN THE ROOF OF THE HOUSE WHERE IT WOULD PRESERVE AND GAIN FLAVOUR FROM THE WARMTH AND SMOKE.

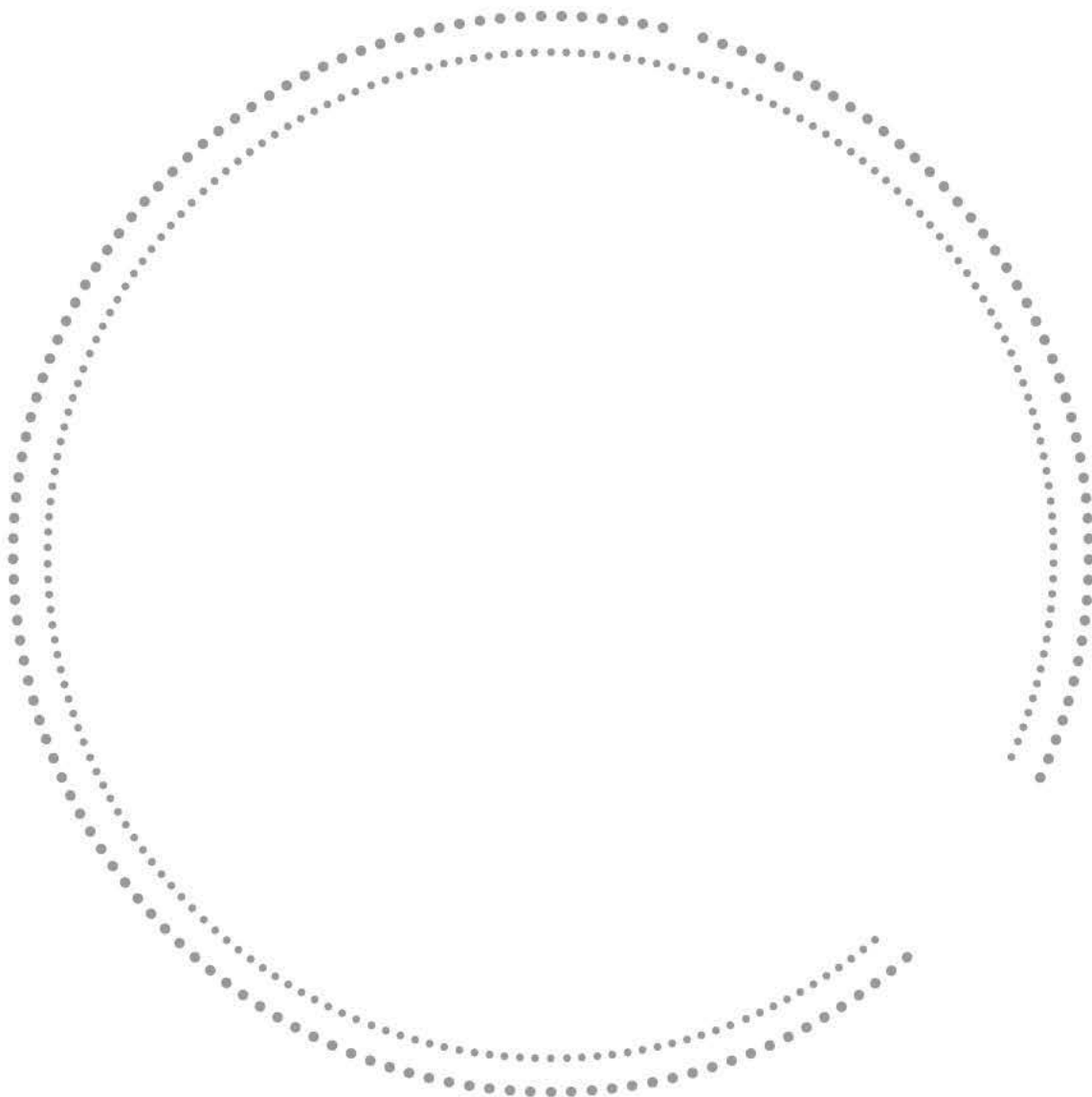
PLAN A ROUNDHOUSE



BASED ON WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED ABOUT LIFE IN A ROUNDHOUSE, DRAW A FLOOR PLAN OF A TYPICAL CELTIC ROUNDHOUSE AND THE OBJECTS YOU WOULD FIND INSIDE.

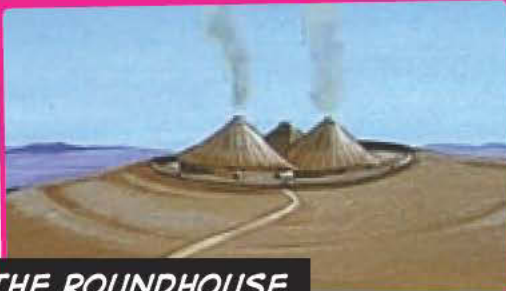
SOME ITEMS YOU MIGHT WANT TO INCLUDE: CENTRAL POLE, FRONT DOOR, PLANTS, FIRE, BENCHES, BEDS, OVEN, CAULDRON, ANIMAL SKINS, HANGING HERBS, STOOLS, TABLES, CHESTS, QUERN, CUPS, BOWLS, DRINKING HORNS, HANGING MEAT AND FISH, WEAVING LOOM, CLAY POTS, BASKETS OF FOOD, PEOPLE.

THINK ABOUT WHAT MATERIALS WERE USED TO MAKE CERTAIN ITEMS WHEN CHOOSING YOUR COLOURS.



FROM A ROUNDHOUSE... TO YOUR HOUSE

COMPARE LIFE IN
AN ANCIENT CELTIC
ROUNDHOUSE TO YOUR
HOUSE TODAY.



DRAW A PICTURE OF YOUR HOUSE HERE

THE ROUNDHOUSE

HOW THE HOME WAS BUILT

FURNITURE

COOKING AND FOOD

HEATING

ENTERTAINMENT

MY HOUSE

HOW THE HOME WAS BUILT

FURNITURE

COOKING AND FOOD

HEATING

ENTERTAINMENT

LIFE IN A ROUNDHOUSE QUIZ

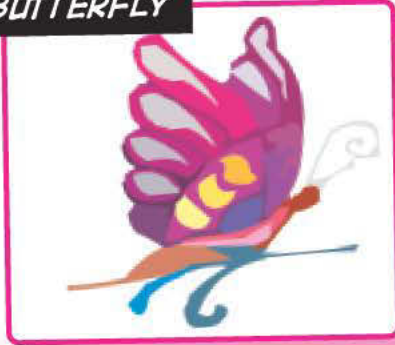
FILL IN THE BLANKS WITH THE CORRECT ANSWER.

CRAFTSMEN	ROUNDHOUSE	WILLOW
WATTLE AND DAUB	FEASTS	HERBS
QUERN	CAULDRON	WEAVING LOOM
CLAY POTS	FIRE	HILL FORTS
CARVINGS	DRINKING HORNS	MEAD

- 1 SOME CELTS LIVED INSIDE WHICH WERE BUILT ON HIGH MOUNDS OF SOIL WITH DITCHES AROUND THEM TO PROTECT THEM FROM INVADERS.
 - 2 MANY FAMILIES OFTEN LIVED IN A SINGLE WHICH HAD ONE LARGE ROOM.
 - 3 THE WALLS OF THEIR HOMES WERE MADE WITH OR WOVEN WOOD, STRAW AND MUD.
 - 4 THE CELTS USED A TO WEAVE CLOTH INTO BRIGHTLY COLOURED PATTERNS.
 - 5 THE CELTS COOKED THEIR FOOD IN A WHICH HUNG OVER THE FIRE.
 - 6 BASKETS WERE MADE BY WEAVING FRESH INTO SHAPE BEFORE LEAVING TO DRY.
 - 7 WERE OFTEN USED FOR DRINKING ALE BECAUSE THEY COULD HOLD A LOT OF LIQUID.
 - 8 WERE USED TO FLAVOUR FOOD AND FOR MEDICINE.
 - 9 AS THE CELTS WERE TALENTED, THEIR FURNITURE WAS OFTEN DECORATED WITH SKILLFUL CARVINGS.
 - 10 THE CELTS LOVED TO HAVE WHERE THEY WOULD EAT ROASTED MEATS AND DRINK ALE.
 - 11 THEY LOVED TO SIT AROUND THE IN THE EVENING LISTENING TO STORIES.
 - 12 A WAS MADE OF TWO HEAVY ROUND STONES AND WAS USED TO GRIND CORN AND WHEAT.
 - 13 WERE USED FOR STORING FOOD AND FOR HOLDING THE CREMATED REMAINS OF RELATIVES.
 - 14 THE DOOR OF THE ROUNDHOUSE OFTEN HAD SPECIAL TO KEEP AWAY EVIL SPIRITS.
- THE CELTS LIKED TO DRINK WHICH WAS MADE OUT OF HONEY, WATER, FRUIT AND HERBS.

POWER ANIMALS

BUTTERFLY



THE **BUTTERFLY** REPRESENTS TRANSFORMATION, INSPIRATION AND REBIRTH.

THE BUTTERFLY CAN BE HELPFUL IN TIMES OF CHANGE. THEY WERE SEWN ONTO BIRTHING GOWNS AND BLANKETS TO WELCOME NEW BABIES INTO THE VILLAGE.

BULL



THE **BULL** REPRESENTS A STRONG WILL AND BEING STUBBORN, HENCE THE TERM 'BULL-HEADED'. THE BULL ALSO SYMBOLISED RICHES AND WEALTH, AS IT WAS A GREAT FOOD SOURCE FOR THE CELTS.

DOG



DOGS REPRESENT LOYALTY AND BEING A DEVOTED FRIEND. IN THE VILLAGE A DOG ALSO REPRESENTED GOOD LUCK. THEY WERE USED FOR HUNTING SO WERE MUCH NEEDED AND HIGHLY REGARDED ANIMALS.

DEER



THE **DEER** WAS THE OLDEST CREATURE IN EXISTENCE ACCORDING TO THE CELTS. IT IS ASSOCIATED WITH NATURE, HUNTING, WOODLAND AND ABUNDANCE. THE ANTLERS WERE OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH TREES AND THE SOWING AND HARVESTING OF GRAINS. WHITE STAGS OFTEN APPEAR IN CELTIC MYTHS WHEN A BIG CHANGE IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN TO A CHARACTER.

RAVEN



RAVENS COULD BE A SIGN OF DEATH. RAVENS SOMETIMES FLEW OVER CELTIC BATTLEFIELDS AS A GOD IN DISGUISE.

SALMON

THE SALMON REPRESENTS **KNOWLEDGE** AND **WISDOM**.

CÚ CHULAINN MUST CROSS A SALMON LEAP BEFORE HE CAN LEARN THE ART OF WAR FROM SCÁTHACH.

TODAY CHILDREN ARE OFTEN TOLD TO EAT FISH TO INCREASE THEIR INTELLIGENCE.

A BIRD NOTED FOR WISDOM AND LONG LIFE IN CELTIC CULTURES. IT REPRESENTS SWIFTNESS, STRENGTH, KEEN SIGHT, AND THE KNOWLEDGE OF MAGIC.

EAGLE**SWAN**

IN CELTIC MYTH GODS OFTEN TOOK THE FORM OF **SWANS** WHEN APPEARING IN THE MORTAL WORLD.

THEY REPRESENT GRACE, BEAUTY AND LOVE. SWANS OFTEN KEEP THE SAME MATE FOR LIFE.

THE **HORSE** REPRESENTS STABILITY, HONOUR, TRUST, INTELLIGENCE AND STRENGTH. YOU WOULD CALL UPON THE HORSE IN SITUATIONS WHERE COURAGE OR CONFIDENCE WAS NEEDED.

HORSE**CAT**

CATS WERE SEEN AS BEING GUARDIANS OF THE OTHER WORLD. THEY ARE CRAFTY AND CLEVER AND GOOD AT KEEPING SECRETS.

WARRIORS & THEIR POWER ANIMALS

IN CELTIC MYTHS, HEROES ARE OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH POWER ANIMALS.

CELTIC WARRIORS OFTEN DECORATED THEIR HELMETS, SWORDS AND SHIELDS WITH THEIR POWER ANIMALS.



WHAT DO YOU THINK WAS CÚ CHULAINN'S POWER ANIMAL?

HOW DID CÚ CHULAINN' GET HIS NAME?

WHAT ARE THE TRAITS OF HIS POWER ANIMAL?

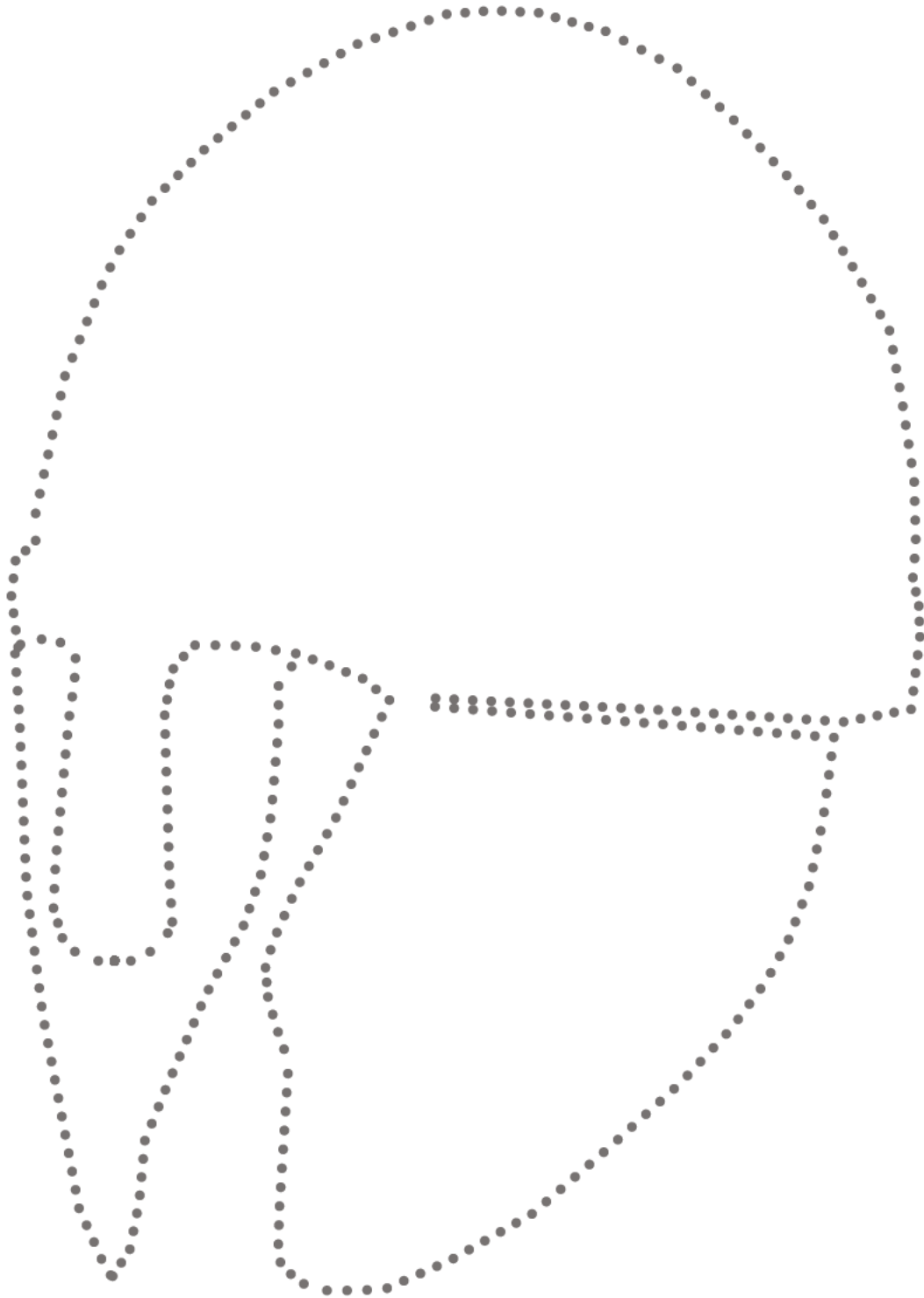
DO YOU THINK THOSE TRAITS DESCRIBE CÚ CHULAINN? EXPLAIN.

IF YOU COULD HAVE THE POWER, QUALITIES OR GIFTS OF A POWER ANIMAL, WHICH ANIMAL WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

DESCRIBE HOW HAVING THIS POWER ANIMAL COULD BE USEFUL TO YOU...

DESIGN A WARRIOR'S HELMET

DECORATE THIS CELTIC HELMET WITH YOUR CHOSEN POWER ANIMAL, USING THE CELTIC ANIMAL DESIGNS AS A GUIDE. ADD SOME CELTIC KNOTS AND SPIRALS TO ADD MORE DETAIL, THEN COLOUR IN YOUR COMPLETED DESIGN.



CELTIC WARRIORS

WARFARE WAS COMMON DURING THE IRON AGE AND MANY HILL FORTS (FORTIFIED SETTLEMENTS) WERE BUILT AT THAT TIME.

CELTIC WARRIORS WERE FEARLESS. THEY WERE OFTEN HANDSOME, INTELLIGENT, EDUCATED AND BOASTED OF THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. HONOUR AND RESPECT WERE VERY IMPORTANT TO WARRIORS.

MOST CELTIC WARRIORS USED SPEARS AND DAGGERS BUT PREFERRED LONG, SLASHING SWORDS, WORN AT THE SIDE OR ON THE BACK. THEY WERE PROTECTED BY LONG SHIELDS MADE OF LEATHER AND WOOD OR IRON. SOME WORE CHAIN MAIL.

SOME WARRIORS FOUGHT NAKED TO SHOW THEY WERE NOT AFRAID OF GETTING INJURED OR KILLED.

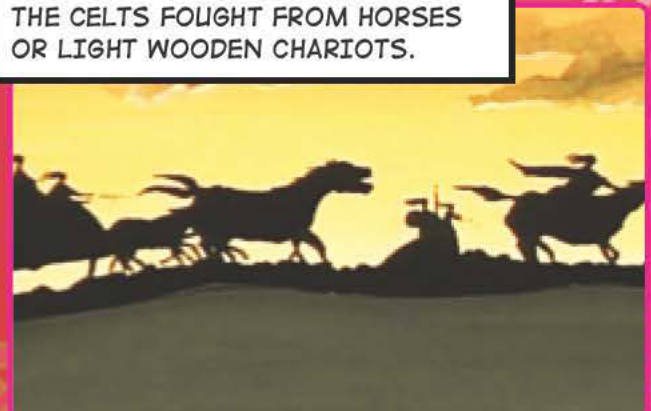


SOME WARRIORS TATTOOED THEIR SKIN WITH PATTERNS USING BLUE DYE CALLED WOAD TO SCARE THEIR ENEMIES.

LIME WAS USED TO SHAPE THEIR HAIR INTO SPIKES.



THE CELTS FOUGHT FROM HORSES OR LIGHT WOODEN CHARIOTS.



SOME CELTIC HELMETS HAD HORNS TO SCARE THE ENEMY.

WE CAN GET AN IDEA OF WHAT CELTIC WARRIORS MAY HAVE DRESSED LIKE FROM FINDS ON ANCIENT SITES AND MATERIALS THAT WE KNOW WERE AVAILABLE TO THEM LIKE WEAPONS, WOOL AND LEATHER.

DRESS THE WARRIOR

**DRESS THE WARRIOR
IN HIS UNIFORM AND
THEN COLOUR HIM IN.**

**YOU MAY WANT TO ADD
SOME OF THESE:**

SPEAR, SWORD, SHIELD,
BLUE DYE TATTOOS (WOAD),
DAGGER, KNIFE BELT,
HELMET, WOOLLEN TUNIC,
LEATHER SHOES, TORC,
CLOAK, CLOAK FASTENER,
BROOCH.



CELTIC SOCIETY

MUCH OF OUR INFORMATION ABOUT CELTIC SOCIETY COMES FROM FAMOUS CELTIC LEGENDS AND MYTHS, SUCH AS CU CHULAINN.

THE SMALLEST UNIT OF CELTIC SOCIETY WAS THE 'FINE', A CLOSEKNIT GROUP OF EXTENDED FAMILY. ONE OR MORE 'FINE' WERE GROUPED TOGETHER TO FORM A 'TUATH' OR CLAN. EACH CLAN WAS LED BY THEIR OWN 'RI' OR A CHIEFTAIN, KING OR QUEEN. EACH CLAN HAD THEIR OWN LAWS.

CELTIC SOCIETY WAS A HIERARCHY AND PEOPLE WERE CLASSED INTO DIFFERENT GROUPS WITH SOME BEING SEEN AS HIGHER OR LOWER THAN OTHERS. THE THREE GROUPS OF CELTIC SOCIETY WERE THE NOBLES, THE PEOPLE OF ART AND LEARNING, AND THE COMMONERS.

THE NOBLES



THE **NOBLES**, OR THE WARRIOR CLASS, INCLUDED THE WARRIORS AND LANDOWNERS. THIS WAS THE HIGHEST CLASS AND WAS HEADED BY A KING, QUEEN OR A CHIEFTAIN. THE NOBLES WERE THE LANDOWNERS AND OWNED MOST, IF NOT ALL, OF THE LAND, HERDS, AND WEALTH OF THE TRIBE OR CLAN.

WHEN THE NOBLES WERE NOT AT WAR THEY SPENT THEIR TIME DOING BUSINESS, PLAYING BOARD GAMES, WATCHING YOUTHS PLAYING FIELD GAMES, TAKING PART IN CONTEST OF SKILL AND STRENGTH, HUNTING AND FEASTING.

THE AES DANA, PEOPLE OF ART AND LEARNING

BELOW THE NOBLES WERE THE **AES DANA** OR THE PEOPLE OF ART AND LEARNING. THIS CLASS INCLUDED PEOPLE OF PROFESSIONS WITH ARTISTIC SKILL, SPEECH AND KNOWLEDGE. THE LAWMAKERS, DOCTORS, MUSICIANS, POETS AND RELIGIOUS MEN, THE DRUIDS, BELONGED TO THIS CLASS.

ARTISANS AND SKILLED CRAFTSMEN WERE HIGHLY RESPECTED. THEY DID NOT OWE ANY MILITARY SERVICE TO THE NOBLES. THEY DID NOT WORK IN THE FIELDS. IF THEY WERE TALENTED, THEY GAINED WEALTH AND COMFORT. THEY WERE FREE TO TRAVEL AND SELL THEIR GOODS TO OTHER CLANS. ARTISTS WERE APPRECIATED AND ENCOURAGED.

SKILLED CRAFTSMEN INCLUDED BLACKSMITHS (WORKING WITH IRON), BRONZE SMITHS, CARPENTERS, LEATHER WORKERS AND POTTERS. METALWORKERS WERE THE MOST IMPORTANT OF THE CRAFTSMEN.



THE COMMONERS



MOST OF THE CELTS WERE THE **COMMONERS**, WHO WERE CLASSED BELOW THE AES DANA, PEOPLE OF ART AND LEARNING. THE COMMONERS WERE FREE BUT DID NOT OWN LAND. MANY WERE FARMERS WHO RAISED CROPS AND BRED ANIMALS.

WOMEN IN CELTIC SOCIETY

IN CELTIC SOCIETY, WOMEN WERE A LOT BETTER OFF THAN IN MOST SOCIETIES OF THAT TIME. WOMEN COULD GO INTO ANY PROFESSION, CHOOSE THEIR OWN HUSBAND, AND OWN THEIR OWN PROPERTY.

WOMEN TRAINED HEROES, WENT INTO BATTLE AND SOME EVEN LED ARMIES. THE WAY WOMEN WERE TREATED REFLECTED THE EARLY CELTS' RESPECT FOR THE LAND AND THE ARTS OF MAGIC AND CREATIVITY WHICH THEY ASSOCIATED WITH WOMEN.



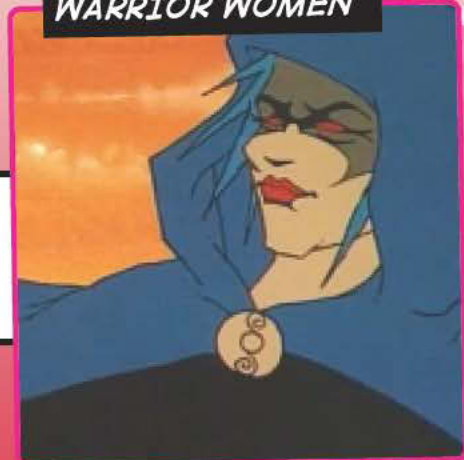
DANU



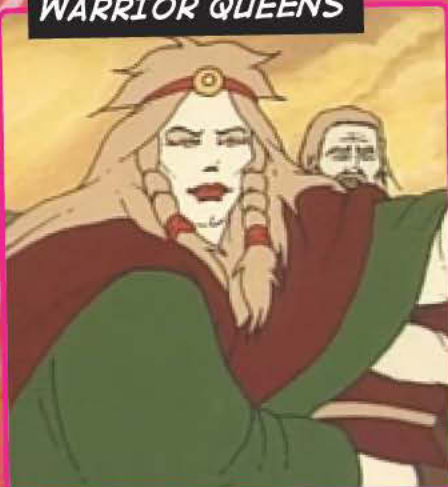
DANU, THE FIRST GREAT MOTHER OF IRELAND, THE GODDESS WHO BIRTHED ALL THINGS INTO BEING.

CÚ CHULAINN RECEIVED TRAINING IN THE ARTS OF FIGHTING FROM THE WARRIOR **SCATHACH** ON THE ISLE OF SKYE. SCATHACH WAS DESCRIBED AS 'THE BEST WARRIOR IN THE WORLD'.

WARRIOR WOMEN



WARRIOR QUEENS



IN THE CÚ CHULAINN LEGEND 'THE CATTLE RAID OF COOLEY', **QUEEN MAEVE** OF CONNACHT LEADS FIFTY THOUSAND TROOPS AGAINST ULSTER, ALL OF WHOM ARE DEFEATED BY THE GREAT WARRIOR CÚ CHULAINN.

CELTIC SOCIETY QUIZ

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE SOCIAL STRUCTURE OF CELTIC SOCIETIES.
IN WHICH CLASS WOULD THESE CHARACTERS HAVE BELONGED?

DRAW THE CHARACTERS OR WRITE THEIR NAMES INTO THE CORRECT BOXES BELOW.



CÚ CHULAINN



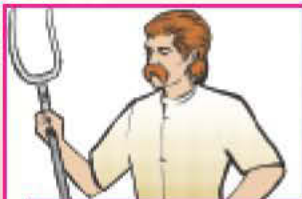
**CULANN
THE BLACKSMITH**



KING CONOR



QUEEN MAEVE



FARMER



POTTER



DRUID



FARMER'S WIFE

CELTIC SOCIETY

THE NOBLES

THE AES DANA, PEOPLE OF ART AND LEARNING

THE COMMONERS

'THE LIFE OF A CELT' PRESENTATION

YOUR TASK IS TO MAKE A PRESENTATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF A CELT USING COMPUTER SOFTWARE SUCH AS POWERPOINT OR SLIDESHOW.

GUIDE TO MAKING YOUR PRESENTATION

YOUR PRESENTATION MUST HAVE AT LEAST **TEN INDIVIDUAL SLIDES**.

THE **FIRST SLIDE** SHOULD BE YOUR **TITLE SLIDE** CONTAINING THE NAME OF THE PRESENTATION AND YOUR NAME.

EACH SLIDE SHOULD COVER A **DIFFERENT ASPECT** ABOUT THE CELTS, FOR EXAMPLE CELTIC DRESS, WARRIORS, ETC...

EACH SLIDE SHOULD HAVE **AT LEAST ONE PICTURE** TO ILLUSTRATE THE TEXT. THESE PICTURES MAY BE PROVIDED BY YOUR TEACHER, DOWNLOADED FROM THE INTERNET OR DRAWN AND SCANNED INTO THE COMPUTER.



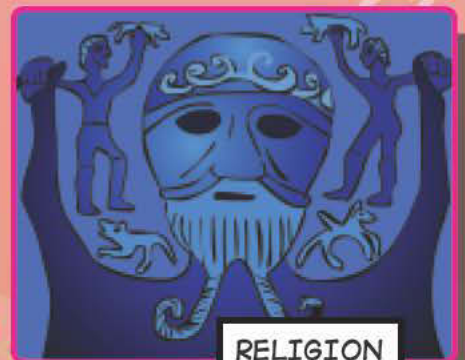
WARRIOR

POSSIBLE TOPICS:

THE ORIGIN OF THE CELTS
 CELTIC LANGUAGE
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS
 BOG BODIES
 DRESS
 JEWELLERY
 ART
 SETTLEMENTS
 ROUNDHOUSES
 FOOD
 CELTIC SOCIETY
 WOMEN IN CELTIC SOCIETY
 POWER ANIMALS
 WARRIORS
 CELTIC WARFARE
 CELTIC ARMOUR
 RELIGION
 FESTIVALS
 HEAD HUNTERS

OR ANYTHING ELSE YOU'VE LEARNED!

JEWELLERY



RELIGION

'THE LIFE OF A CELT' PRESENTATION PLAN

FILL IN THE BOXES WITH INFORMATION WHICH YOU HAVE LEARNED ABOUT THE CELTS. IF YOU NEED MORE ROOM CONTINUE ON THE BACK OR ON ANOTHER SHEET OF PAPER.



WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED ABOUT THE CELTS?

WHERE AND WHEN THE CELTS ORIGINATED...

SETTLEMENTS AND HOUSING...

SOCIETY...

CLOTHING AND JEWELLERY...

RELIGION AND BELIEFS...

FESTIVALS...

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS...

WARRIORS...

ANY OTHER INFORMATION YOU WANT TO ADD...

GLOSSARY

AES DANA. BELOW THE NOBLES IN CELTIC SOCIETY WERE THE AES DANA OR THE PEOPLE OF ART AND LEARNING. THIS CLASS INCLUDED PEOPLE OF PROFESSIONS WITH ARTISTIC SKILL, SPEECH AND KNOWLEDGE. THE LAWMAKERS, DOCTORS, MUSICIANS, POETS AND RELIGIOUS MEN, THE DRUIDS, BELONGED TO THIS CLASS.

ARCHAEOLOGY. THE STUDY OF ARTEFACTS AND SOIL IN ORDER TO LEARN ABOUT HUMAN CULTURES OF THE PAST.

BELTAIN. BELTAIN, CELEBRATED AROUND 1 MAY, WAS ANOTHER FIRE FESTIVAL; BUT WHEREAS SAMHAIN WAS ASSOCIATED WITH GOING TO GROUND AND WITHDRAWING, BELTAIN BURST FORTH WITH AN ABUNDANT FERTILITY. CATTLE WERE LET OUT OF WINTER QUARTERS AND DRIVEN BETWEEN TWO FIRES IN A RITUAL CLEANSING CEREMONY THAT MAY HAVE HAD PRACTICAL PURPOSES TOO. IT WAS A TIME FOR FEASTS AND FAIRS. AS NOTED ABOVE, FOR THE FIANNA, BELTAIN HERALDED THE START OF THE 'FIGHTING SEASON'.

BOG BODY. BODIES WHICH HAVE BEEN FOUND PRESERVED IN BOGS. OLD CROGHAN MAN AND CLONCAVAN MAN ARE TWO IRON AGE BOG BODIES DISCOVERED IN IRELAND. A LACK OF OXYGEN AND ACID IN THE BOG KEEPS CERTAIN MATERIALS FROM DECAYING, SUCH AS LEATHER, WOOD, BONE AND TEXTILES WHICH EXPLAINS WHY ARTEFACTS FOUND IN BOGS SURVIVE IN EXCELLENT CONDITION.

BRACAE. A TYPE OF TROUSERS WORN BY CELTIC MEN.

BRIGID. BRIGID WAS THE GODDESS OF FERTILITY. SHE WAS THE MOTHER GODDESS WITH ONLY THE DAGDA ABOVE HER IN RANK. SHE IS A TRIUNE GODDESS AND THAT IS WHY SHE HAS THREE ATTRIBUTES: POETESS, HEALER AND SMITH.

BROOCH. A DECORATIVE PIECE OF JEWELLERY USED TO FASTEN CLOAKS

CAULDRON. IN THE CELTIC HOME A CAULDRON HUNG OVER THE FIRE WHICH WAS SUSPENDED ON A TRIPOD WITH AN ADJUSTABLE CHAIN. CAULDRONS WERE USUALLY MADE OUT OF BRONZE, BUT RICHER CELTS WOULD HAVE IRON CAULDRONS. FOOD WAS COOKING MOST OF THE TIME IN THE CAULDRON AS IT WAS CUSTOM TO FEED GUESTS WHEN THEY ARRIVED.

CELT. THE CELTS WERE A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO LIVED IN INDIVIDUAL TRIBES AND SHARED A COMMON CULTURE AND LANGUAGE. DEVELOPING IN THE ALPS OF CENTRAL EUROPE, THE CELTS SPREAD THEIR CULTURE ACROSS MODERN-DAY GERMANY AND FRANCE AND AS FAR AS TURKEY. THEY ARRIVED IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND AROUND 500BC AND WITHIN A FEW HUNDRED YEARS, IRELAND'S BRONZE AGE CULTURE HAD ALL BUT DISAPPEARED, AND CELTIC CULTURE WAS IN PLACE ACROSS THE ENTIRE ISLAND. THEY WERE A PROUD AND HONOURABLE PEOPLE AND WERE WELL-KNOWN FOR BEING FIERCE WARRIORS.

CHARIOT. THE CELTS FOUGHT FROM LIGHT WOODEN CHARIOTS WHICH WERE PULLED BY HORSES.

CLAN. THE BOUNDARY OF THE SCREEN, ONE OF THE MANY SINGLE PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES IN A MOTION PICTURE.

CLOAK. THE CELTS WORE THESE DRAPED AROUND THEIR ARMS TO KEEP THEM WARM. THEY WERE USUALLY MADE OF WOOL AND FASTENED WITH A BROOCH.

COMMONERS. IN CELTIC SOCIETY, MOST OF THE CELTS WERE THE COMMONERS, WHO WERE CLASSED BELOW THE AES DANA, PEOPLE OF ART AND LEARNING. THE COMMONERS WERE FREE BUT DID NOT OWN LAND. MANY WERE FARMERS WHO RAISED CROPS AND BRED ANIMALS.

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CÚ CHULAINN. CÚ CHULAINN WAS BORN SETANTA AND WAS THE SON OF HUMAN PARENTS, SUALTAM THE WARRIOR HERO AND DECHTIRE HALF SISTER TO CONCHOBAR THE KING OF ULSTER. HE WAS AN ANCESTOR OF THE DAGDA – THE GOOD GOD, AND SON OF LUGH THE SUN GOD OR GOD OF LIGHT. HE WAS DESTINED TO BE IRELAND'S GREATEST WARRIOR. SETANTA RECEIVED THE NAME CÚ CHULAINN, THE HOUND OF CULANN, AFTER DEFEATING THE FIERCE HOUND OF THE BLACKSMITH CULANN. HE PROMISED TO ACT AS A GUARD FOR CULANN UNTIL HE FOUND HIM ANOTHER HOUND AND TRAINED IT.

DAGDA. DAGDA WAS THE FATHER GOD OF THE CELTS. THEY CALLED HIM THE GOOD GOD BECAUSE HE PROTECTED THEIR CROPS. HE HAD A CAULDRON CALLED THE LINDRY WHICH SUPPLIED UNLIMITED FOOD AND A LIVING OAK HARP CALLED UAITHNE WHICH CAUSED THE SEASONS TO CHANGE IN THEIR ORDER .

DANU. DANU IS CONSIDERED THE FIRST GREAT MOTHER OF IRELAND, THE GODDESS WHO BIRTHED ALL THINGS INTO BEING. SHE IS AN EARTH GODDESS, ASSOCIATED WITH FERTILITY, GROWTH, PLENTY, ABUNDANCE, AGRICULTURE, CULTIVATION AND WITH NURTURING OF THE LAND.

DAUB. A MATERIAL MADE FROM STRAW AND MUD WHICH WAS USED TO BUILD CELTIC HOMES.

DECHTIRE. SETANTA'S MOTHER, SHE WAS TRANSPORTED TO THE WORLD OF THE GODS SO THAT SHE MAY BEAR A SPECIAL CHILD.

DRINKING HORN. DRINKING HORNS WERE USED FOR DRINKING ALE AS THEY HELD LARGE AMOUNTS OF LIQUID. THE DRINKING HORNS WERE MADE OUT OF CATTLE HORNS AFTER THEY HAD BEEN SLAUGHTERED. THEY WOULD CLEAN THE HORNS AND POLISH THEM BEFORE DECORATING THEM WITH METAL MOUNTINGS. DRINKING HORNS WERE OFTEN BURIED WITH THEIR OWNERS.

DRUID. THE CELTS COUNTED ON THEIR PRIESTS, THE DRUIDS, TO KEEP THEM SAFE FROM TROUBLE. THE DRUIDS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL RELIGIOUS RITUALS, BECAUSE THE ONLY PERSON WHO COULD TALK TO A GOD WAS A DRUID.

EMAIN MACHA. THIS IS WHERE KING CONOR MACNESSA HAD HIS PALACE. HE THREW A PARTY HERE FOR HIS SISTER DECHTIRE. THIS PLACE WAS THE ROYAL SEAT OF ULSTER FROM 700BC TO 500AD.

FINE. THE SMALLEST UNIT OF CELTIC SOCIETY WAS THE 'FINE', A CLOSEKNIT GROUP OF EXTENDED FAMILY.

HEAD HUNTER. ROMAN HISTORIANS SAY THE CELTS WERE HEAD HUNTERS WHO CUT OFF THE HEADS OF THEIR ANCESTORS, AND EVEN THEIR ENEMIES, AND WORSHIPPED THE SKULLS. THEY NAILED THE HEADS OVER THE DOORS OF THEIR HUTS.

HELMET. PART OF A WARRIOR'S UNIFORM TO PROTECT THE HEAD. SOME CELTIC HELMETS HAD HORNS TO SCARE THE ENEMY.

HILL FORT. HILL FORTS WERE BUILT ON HIGH MOUNDS OF SOIL. SOMETIMES DITCHES WERE BUILT AROUND THEM AS PROTECTION FROM INVADERS.

IMBOLC. COMING AT LAMBING TIME, AROUND 31 JANUARY, IMBOLC (OR OIMELC) CELEBRATED THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF WINTER. NEW LAMBS WERE BORN, AND A DISH MADE FROM THEIR DOCKED TAILS WAS EATEN. WOMEN MET TO CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF THE MAIDEN ASPECT OF THE GODDESS. THIS SURVIVED INTO CHRISTIAN TIMES AS THE FEAST OF BRIGID: THE SAINT WAS A CHRISTIANIZED VERSION OF THE PAGAN GODDESS WHO WAS THE DAUGHTER OF THE DAGDA.

LA TÈNE ART. DATING FROM AROUND 500 B.C., THE LA TÈNE PERIOD WAS DISTINGUISHED BY BEAUTIFUL, INTRICATE DESIGNS AND KNOT PATTERNS.

LIR. LIR WAS THE FATHER GOD OF THE SEA. HIS SON MANANNAN RULED THE WAVES AFTER HIM. HE MARRIED AOBH AFTER HIS FIRST WIFE DIED AND SHE GAVE BIRTH TO THE FAMED CHILDREN WHO WERE TURNED INTO SWANS BY THEIR JEALOUS AUNT AND STEP-MOTHER AOIFE.

LUGH. THE GOD LUGH WAS THE GOD OF LIGHT OR THE HARVEST. A FESTIVAL WAS HELD IN HIS HONOUR IN AUGUST CALLED LUGHNASA AS AUGUST WAS HIS SACRED MONTH. HE WAS REPUTED TO BE THE DIVINE FATHER OF CÚ CHULAINN. SEASONS TO CHANGE IN THEIR ORDER.

LUGHNASA. LUGHNASA WAS A SUMMER FESTIVAL LASTING FOR AS LONG AS TWO WEEKS EITHER SIDE OF THE DAY ITSELF, WHICH FELL AROUND 31 JULY. IT WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED TO IRELAND BY THE GOD LUGH, AND SO WAS SACRED TO THIS GOD. THE ROMANS IDENTIFIED LUGH WITH THEIR GOD MERCURY. AT ANY RATE, BOTH ARE GODS ASSOCIATED WITH SKILLS, AND THIS FESTIVAL WAS CELEBRATED WITH COMPETITIONS OF SKILL, INCLUDING HORSE-RACING. IN IRELAND THE FESTIVAL WAS ASSOCIATED WITH EMAIN MACHA, IN ULSTER, BUT WAS HELD IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS, INCLUDING THE ROYAL FORT OF TARA.

MEAD. MEAD WAS A HONEY WINE THE CELTS DRANK WHICH WAS MADE FROM HONEY AND WATER AND FLAVOURED WITH WILD HERBS AND FRUIT

MORRIGAN. THE MORRIGAN WAS THE GODDESS OF WAR, LIFE AND DEATH. SHE THEREFORE HAD A HABIT OF APPEARING TO THE GREAT HEROES WHEN THEIR LIFE WAS IN DANGER. CÚ CHULAINN HIMSELF ENCOUNTERED THE MORRIGAN IN A VARIETY OF FORMS, HER MOST WELL RECOGNISED FORM WAS THAT OF A BLACK CROW.

NOBLES. THE NOBLES, OR THE WARRIOR CLASS, INCLUDED THE WARRIORS AND LANDOWNERS. THIS WAS THE HIGHEST CLASS AND WAS HEADED BY A KING, QUEEN OR A CHIEFTAN. THE NOBLES WERE THE LANDOWNERS AND OWNED MOST, IF NOT ALL, OF THE LAND, HERDS, AND WEALTH OF THE TRIBE OR CLAN.

POWER ANIMALS. DIFFERENT ANIMALS WERE USED TO SYMBOLISE DIFFERENT POWERS, GIFTS OR PERSONALITY TRAITS (SUCH AS STRENGTH, COURAGE, PATIENCE). CELTS WOULD CALL UPON THESE 'POWER ANIMALS' TO BRING THEIR POWERS OR QUALITIES INTO THEIR LIVES.

QUEEN MAEVE OF CONNACHT. IN THE CÚ CHULAINN LEGEND 'THE CATTLE RAID OF COOLEY', QUEEN MAEVE OF CONNACHT LEADS FIFTY THOUSAND TROOPS AGAINST ULSTER, ALL OF WHOM ARE DEFEATED BY THE GREAT WARRIOR CÚ CHULAINN.

QUERN. A QUERN WAS MADE OF TWO HEAVY ROUND STONES AND WAS USED TO GRIND CORN OR WHEAT INTO FLOUR. THE FLOUR WAS THEN USED FOR MAKING BREAD IN THE OVEN.

ROUNDHOUSES. THE CELTS LIVED IN ROUNDHOUSES WHICH WERE LOCATED IN THE CENTRE OF THE VILLAGE. MANY FAMILIES LIVED IN A SINGLE ROUNDHOUSE WHICH CONTAINED ONE LARGE ROOM. ROUNDHOUSES WERE BUILT AROUND A CENTRAL POLE WITH POLES RADIATING OUTWARDS FROM IT TO FORM THE ROOF, WHICH RESTED ON VERTICAL POLES. THEY USED MATERIALS FROM THE FOREST TO BUILD THEIR HOMES. THE WALLS WERE MADE OF WATTLE (WOVEN WOOD) AND DAUB (STRAW AND MUD) AND THE ROOFS WERE THATCHED.

SAMHAIN. THE CELTIC YEAR BEGAN WITH SAMHAIN, CELEBRATED AROUND 31 OCTOBER. IT WAS A TIME WHEN THE VEIL BETWEEN THIS WORLD AND THE OTHERWORLD WAS THOUGHT TO BE SO THIN THAT THE DEAD COULD RETURN TO WARM THEMSELVES AT THE HEARTHES OF THE LIVING, AND SOME OF THE LIVING – ESPECIALLY POETS – WERE ABLE TO ENTER THE OTHERWORLD THROUGH THE DOORWAYS OF THE SIDHE, SUCH AS THAT AT THE HILL OF TARA IN IRELAND. OUR MODERN HALLOWEEN STEMS FROM SAMHAIN.

SCATHACH. CÚ CHULAINN RECEIVED TRAINING IN THE ARTS OF WAR FROM THE WARRIOR SCATHACH ON THE ISLE OF SKYE. SCATHACH WAS DESCRIBED AS 'THE BEST WARRIOR IN THE WORLD'.

SETANTA. SEE CÚ CHULAINN.

SETTLEMENT. FAMILIES JOINED TOGETHER IN INDIVIDUAL SETTLEMENTS, WHICH USUALLY COMPRISED OF HUTS. THERE WERE NO CITIES OR LARGE TOWNS IN IRELAND BEFORE THE CELTS ARRIVED. LAND WAS MOSTLY FOREST, MEADOW AND PASTURE.

SUALTAM. THE NOBLEMAN WHO WAS MARRIED TO DECHTIRE, SETANTA'S MOTHER.

TORC. A NECK RING MADE OF A ROD OF METAL (SOMETIMES TWISTED) IN BRONZE OR GOLD DEPENDING ON THE WEALTH OF THE WEARER. THE TWO ENDS OF THE TORC ALMOST MET.

TRIUNE. TRIUNE MEANS THREE IN ONE. MANY CELTIC DEITIES WERE WORSHIPPED IN TRIUNE (TRIPLE ASPECT) FORM. THESE ASPECTS REPRESENT THREE DIFFERENT THINGS. FOR EXAMPLE BRIGID WAS THE GODDESS OF POETRY, HEALING AND SMITHCRAFT. THE MORRIGAN CAN TAKE THE SHAPE OF A RAVEN, A HAG OR A YOUNG MAIDEN.

TUNIC. A TYPE OF CLOTHING WORN BY THE CELTS. THEY COVERED THE UPPER BODY AND WENT DOWN TO THE KNEES. THEY WERE USUALLY DYED AND EMBROIDERED IN BRIGHT COLOURS AND WORN WITH A GOLD OR SILVER-PLATED BELT.

WARRIOR. WARFARE WAS COMMON DURING THE IRON AGE AND MANY HILL FORTS (FORTIFIED SETTLEMENTS) WERE BUILT AT THAT TIME. CELTIC WARRIORS WERE FEARLESS. THE CELTIC WARRIORS WERE OFTEN HANDSOME, INTELLIGENT, EDUCATED AND OFTEN BOASTED OF THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. HONOUR AND RESPECT WERE VERY IMPORTANT TO WARRIORS. MOST CELTIC WARRIORS USED SPEARS AND DAGGERS BUT PREFERRED LONG, SLASHING SWORDS, WORN AT THE SIDE OR ON THE BACK. THEY WERE PROTECTED BY LONG SHIELDS MADE OF LEATHER AND WOOD OR IRON. SOME WORE CHAIN MAIL. SOME WARRIORS FOUGHT NAKED TO SHOW THEY WERE NOT AFRAID OF GETTING INJURED OR KILLED.

WATTLE. A MATERIAL MADE FROM WOVEN WOOD WHICH WAS USED TO BUILD CELTIC HOMES

WEAVING LOOM. THE CELTS WERE VERY GOOD AT WEAVING CLOTH, WHICH WAS DONE ON A WEAVING LOOM. THEIR DESIGNS WERE OFTEN BRIGHTLY COLOURED AND PATTERNED.

WOAD. SOME WARRIORS TATTOOED THEIR SKIN WITH PATTERNS USING BLUE DYE CALLED WOAD TO SCARE THEIR ENEMIES.