

## Key Stage 2

# Learning about the Northern Ireland Census

## Lesson 2: On the Map

- Time:** Activity 1: Household (20 minutes)  
Activity 2: Counties (20 minutes)  
Activity 3: River Bann (20 minutes)  
Activity 4: Urban Settlements (30 minutes)  
Activity 5: Look closer (30 minutes)

### Learning Intentions

Children will learn:

- the census shows us that our population is growing and getting older while households are getting smaller;
- Northern Ireland has six counties, but the population is not spread evenly across them;
- change happens at different speeds in different parts of our country;
- 61% of the population lives in an a settlement classified as urban; and
- patterns and trends in data help us make general statements and predictions about what may happen next.

### What you need

- *On the Map* presentation and notes
- *Resource 1: Counties*

Resources for this lesson are available at [www.ccea.org.uk/census](http://www.ccea.org.uk/census)

**Curriculum links:** Mathematics and Numeracy (Processes in Mathematics and Handling Data), Language and Literacy (Talking and Listening), Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (Mutual Understanding in the Local and Wider Community) and The World Around Us: Geography (Interdependence and Place).

### Activity 1: Households

Use the *On the Map* presentation slides (1–5) and notes.

- Recap learning from Lesson 1.
- Discuss how the population statistics have changed between the census in 2011 and the census in 2021.
- Round the average household sizes to the nearest whole number and discuss which numbers help to identify the trend towards smaller householders more quickly.



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### Activity 2: Counties

Use the *On the Map* presentation slides (6–9) and notes.

- Explore the counties of Northern Ireland and how they relate to Lough Neagh.
- Learn that the population of Northern Ireland is not evenly distributed across the counties.

### Activity 3: The River Bann

Use the *On the Map* presentation slides (10–13) and notes.

- Discuss how the river Bann almost divides the country in two (East and West of the Bann).
- Explore both population distribution and household size when the Bann is added to the graphic.

### Activity 4: Urban Settlements

Use the *On the Map* presentation slides (14–22) and notes.

- See if the children can identify Belfast as the capital city and roughly locate it on the map before exploring the population figures and the proportion that this represents of the whole.
- Work through the rest of the presentation slides gradually understanding the proportion of the population living in urban and rural settlements.
- Discuss the location of the 26 largest settlements in Northern Ireland.

### Activity 5: Look Closer

Use the *On the Map* presentation slides (23–27), *Resource 1: Settlements Data* and completed *Resource 2: Urban or Rural?*

- Explore the outcomes of the homework sheets together.
- Use the spreadsheet individually, in groups or as a class to identify the five greatest decreases and increases in settlement population.
- In groups or as a class, identify the reasons why the children think settlement populations increase and decrease.

Armagh	Antrim	Derry/Londonderry	Down	Tyrone
Fermanagh	Bann	capital	census	coast
counties	east	west	general statement	household
median	percentage	population	rural	urban
settlement	city	trend	decimal	whole number
Lough Neagh				

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### Curriculum links

#### Mathematics and Numeracy

- **Processes in Mathematics (Communicating Mathematically)**
  - understand mathematical language and use it to discuss their work and explain their thinking; and
  - present information and results clearly.
- **Processes in Mathematics (Mathematical Reasoning)**
  - recognise general patterns and relationships and make predictions about them; and
  - understand and make general statements.
- **Handling Data (Collecting, Representing and Interpreting Data)**
  - collect, classify and present data drawn from a range of meaningful situations, using graphs, tables, diagrams and ICT software; and
  - interpret a wide range of tables, lists, graphs and diagrams.

#### Language and Literacy

- **Talking and Listening**
  - participate in class and group discussions for a variety of curricular purposes; and
  - know, understand and use the conventions of group discussion.

#### Personal Develop and Mutual Understanding

- **Mutual Understanding in the Local and Wider Community**
  - playing an active and meaningful part in the life of the community and being concerned about the wider environment.

#### World around Us: Geography

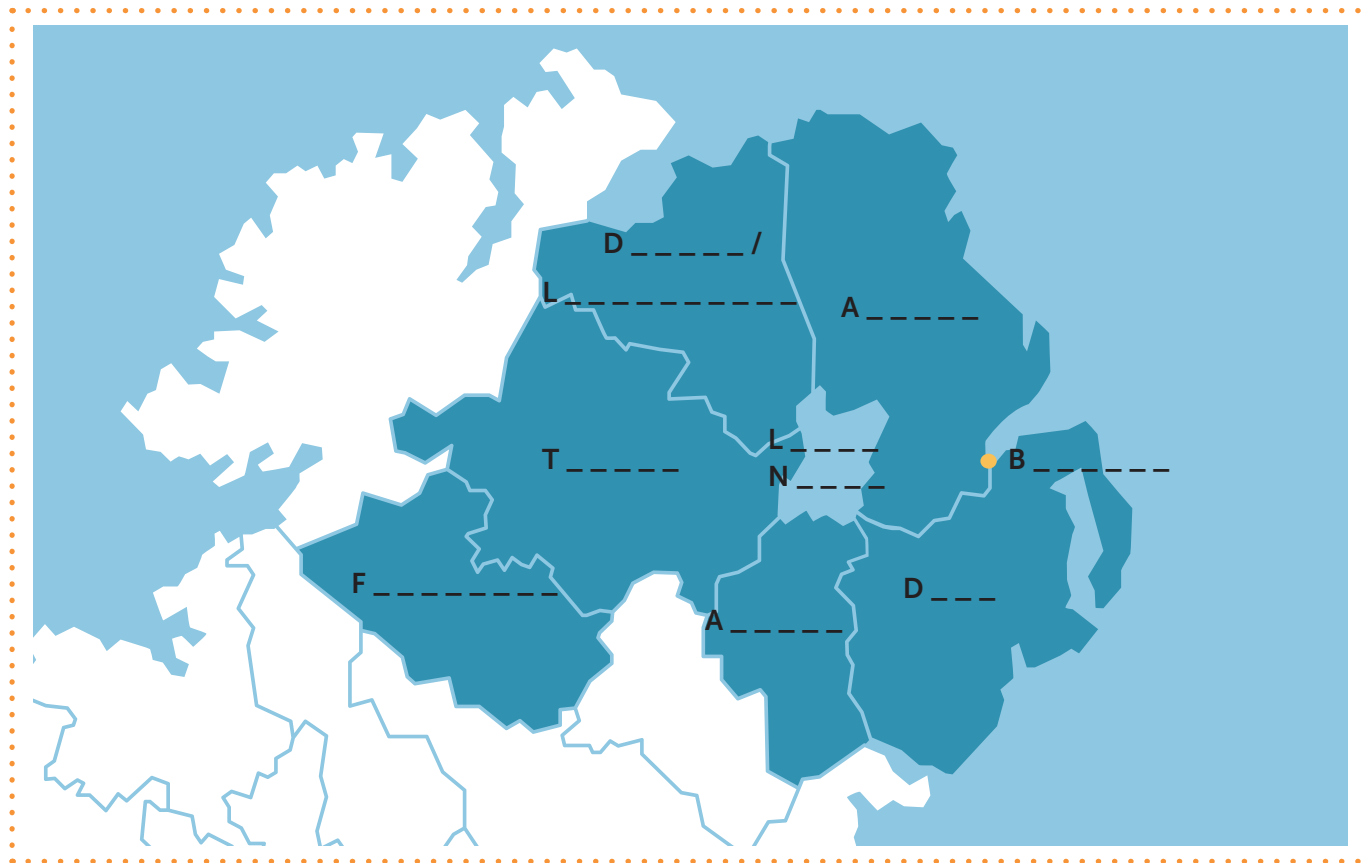
- **Interdependence**
  - the effect of people on the natural and built environment over time.
- **Place**
  - how place influences the nature life; and
  - positive and negative effects of natural and human events upon a place over time.

#### Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities

- **Managing Information**
  - select, classify, compare and evaluate information; and
  - use a range of methods for collating, recording and representing information.
- **Being Creative**
  - Making new connections between ideas and information.

Resource 1  
Counties

Complete the labels on the map below using the word box to help you.



Antrim	Armagh	Belfast	Derry/Londonderry
Down	Fermanagh	Lough Neagh	Tyrone

Answer the following questions. Each county name is used once.

1. Which is the largest county? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Which is the smallest county? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Which county does not share a boundary with Lough Neagh? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Belfast sits on the border between which counties? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
5. Which county has two names? \_\_\_\_\_