

Activity Three

Who are the Ulster-Scots?

Suggested Learning Intentions

Children are learning:

- that many families in Ulster originally came from Scotland; and
- that there are different categories of surnames.

Suggested Learning and Teaching Activities

(These can be carried out over a series of lessons)

Read the *Who?*, *Where?* and *Legacy* sections of **The Plantation of Ulster and Ulster-Scots: What's it all about?** resource booklet.

Ask the children what is the first thing they usually ask/tell someone they meet for the first time. Consider what can be learned from a name.



Surnames (Resource 1)

(A) Examine the surnames that come from Scottish places and discuss the following:

- Are any of these names familiar?
- Find and label some of these places on a map of Scotland.
- Is there a pattern to where these places are on the map? (Lowland Scotland)

(B) Examine the surnames that originate from geographical features:

- Are any of these familiar?
- Play Pictionary: a child chooses a name from this list and draws a pictorial representation of it on the board. Repeat until all the names have been guessed.

(C) Look at the vocational/job related surnames

- Play charades: the children pick different surnames from the list and act out the associated profession.
- Imagine that a law is passed where all surnames must reflect a family profession or hobby. Ask the children to generate possibilities for their new surname.

(D) Study the descriptive surnames

- The children take it in turns to draw a picture to represent a name from this list on the board. The rest of the class must guess which name it is.
- If the children had to come up with a new descriptive surname for themselves and their descendants, what would they be known as? (Think about sport, hobbies, physical appearance, characteristics, and ask them to give reasons for their choice.)

(E, F, G) Examine the remaining surnames: Patronymic, Border Reiver and Miscellaneous Scottish and ask:

- Are any of these names familiar?
- Can you think of any famous people with these surnames?
- Can you think of any local shops/businesses with these surnames?