

VIRTUAL SCHOOL TOUR

School Worksheet

How to begin your EPIC Virtual School Tour

Before the Tour

- Print out a copy of this workbook if you can. If you don't have a printer, don't worry – just read through the questions and write down any prompts that you need so that you can answer the questions as you navigate each gallery
- Remember to also get a pen or pencil, and any extra paper that you need ready before your tour, so that you can fill out the answers as you go along

During the Tour

- Logon to **epicchq.com** from a computer, phone or tablet
- Check that your computer sound is working, so that you can hear the audio as you go along
- Click on the 'Virtual Tour' section on the homepage to begin
- Select play on the video that says 'EPIC Part 1 (Rooms 1 – 7)', and open this handout to Gallery 1
- Click on the small box in the bottom right hand of the screen to make the tour full screen.
- Following the layout of the museum, move forward by clicking on the circles on the floor in front of you
- Hover your mouse over any coloured pins that you come across to listen to and read the material on display
- Click, hold and drag on the left or right of your screen to see more of your surroundings
- Answer the questions in this worksheet for each gallery before moving on to the next gallery
- Once you have completed the first seven galleries, click 'Esc' on your keypad to return to the original screen
- Select play on the video that says 'EPIC Part 2 (Rooms 8 – 20)' and continue on the tour in the same manner

EPIC Part 1: Rooms 1 – 7

Departures Gallery

The story of Irish emigration began over 1500 years ago. In this gallery, we get ready to depart on this journey alongside those who left Ireland through the centuries.

Did you know... Among the first people to leave Ireland were monks in 500 AD, who departed on small wooden boats covered in animal skin, called currachs.

Can you spot... The 'Departures Board' behind the desk? This board lists some of the years that Irish people left the country, and some places that they may have journeyed to.

Trivia... Unscramble the letters below to list some of the countries named on the 'Departures Board'.

P N A A J

M N A A I A T S

U O H T S I F A A R C

Discuss... Why do you think people might have left Ireland through the years?

① An Open Island Gallery

Ireland is nicknamed the 'emerald isle', with many glorious green sights to behold. In this gallery, we see some of the memories of Ireland that the Irish might have taken with them on their journeys.

Did you know... There are lots of myths and legends tied to Ireland's national heritage sites, it is said that the Giant's Causeway was caused by a massive fight between Irish hunter-warrior Fionn mac Cumhaill and a Scottish giant called Benandonner.

Can you spot... The well-known landmarks on display in the gallery? You may be able to recognize the Giant's Causeway, Killarney National Park, and the Ring of Kerry, just to name a few!

Trivia... Unscramble the letters to discover the county in which the Giant's Causeway is located:

M A N I T R

Activity... You are a Seanchaí, an ancient Irish storyteller. Retell a myth or legend that you know in the space provided below. Don't forget to draw a picture from your story!

2 Leaving the Island Gallery

Irish people left on many different forms of transport over the years. In this gallery, you'll see a sculpture that shows some of the boats, ships, and planes that they journeyed on.

Did you know... During the Great Famine period of 1845 – 1852 many people left Ireland on ships known as 'coffin ships'. These ships were called this because many people died on board.

Meet... The Jeanie Johnston coffin ship. You can find her about half way up the sculpture. Unlike most of the other coffin ships, the Jeanie famously never lost a passenger during her 16 journeys across the Atlantic! You can learn more about the Jeanie and organise a visit by heading to www.jeaniejohnston.ie

Trivia... What is the most modern form of transport featured on the sculpture?

a) Ship ☐ b) Plane ☐ c) Train ☐

Discuss... Do you know any other stories or facts about any other famous ships, planes, captains or pilots?

3 Arriving in a New World Gallery

For many of the Irish that left, arriving in a new country proved challenging, as they were met with new cultures, attitudes and ways of living. In this gallery, meet the first of EPIC's featured emigrants.

Did you know... It is estimated that roughly 10 million people have left Ireland over the years – that's more than the entire population of Ireland today!

Meet... Annie Moore. You can hear her story on the first monitor on display. At just 16 years old, Annie Moore was the first person to emigrate to America through the newly opened immigration facility in Ellis Island, New York, in 1892.

Trivia... What prize did Annie Moore win for being the first immigrant to be processed through Ellis Island?

a) A certificate ☐ b) A house ☐ c) A \$10 gold piece ☐

Discuss... Emigrants leaving Ireland at the time of the Great Famine (1845 – 1852) would have only had a very small suitcase to bring with them. What do you think they filled it with, and how does this differ to what you would bring with you, if you had to leave today?

4 Belief Gallery

Not every person who left Ireland did so because they had to, or because they were looking for opportunities. In this gallery, we discover the stories of the Irish that left out of a desire to help other people.

Did you know... Many Irish people emigrated because they wanted to make sure that children all around the world – just like you – had access to education.

Meet... Sr. Elizabeth Murphy, who worked in Zimbabwe in Africa as a teacher to children who had been involved in the Zimbabwe war of Independence. You can discover her story on the video in the 'Education' pod.

Activity... In the video in the 'Education' pod, the missionaries discuss what makes a good teacher. Using drawings and text, tell us all about your teacher, why you like them, and what makes them so inspiring. Do they make learning fun? How do they make your favourite subject more interesting?

MY TEACHER:

5 Hunger, Work, and Community Gallery

There are many reasons that Irish people left the country through the years, but three of the biggest were to avoid hunger, to find work, or to join a new community abroad. In this gallery, we explore these reasons in more depth.

Did you know... Over $\frac{1}{4}$ or 25% of the Irish population left Ireland during the Great Famine period (1845-1852).

Can you spot... The nurses on display on the right hand screen? Nursing was one of the most popular jobs for Irish emigrants during the 20th century, with many Irish leaving to work as nurses in the UK during the mid-1900s.

Trivia... Name the crop that most rural Irish lived on before the Great Famine of 1845?

a) Tomato ☐ b) Wheat ☐ c) Potato ☐

Discuss... Nursing was just one of many jobs that Irish people left to take up. Can you name any others?

6 Conflict Gallery

While Ireland was a neutral country during the world wars, many Irish left to fight in battalions all around the world. In this gallery, we discover some of their stories.

Meet... Brendan Finucane, a.k.a. Spitfire Paddy (1920 – 1942). A WWII war hero, he was much loved by British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and flew a spitfire in the famous *Battle of Britain*. Look for his picture on the right hand panel as you journey through the centre of the gallery.

Trivia... What symbol was painted on the side of Spitfire Paddy's plane?

a) shamrock ☐ b) harp ☐ c) potato ☐

Discuss... Some Irish, like Spitfire Paddy, left Ireland to fight alongside Britain during WW1 and WW2, as Britain ruled Ireland at the time. Other Irish people disagreed with this decision. Why do you think they disagreed?

7 State and Society Gallery

While laws are usually made to protect the citizens of a country, this is not always the case. In this gallery, we hear the stories of those who were forced to leave because of strict Irish laws.

Did you know... The Penal Laws, introduced to Ireland in the 16th and 17th centuries, were some of the harshest laws in Ireland's history. Many Irish were sent to prison for as little as practicing their religion, owning land, or stealing bread to survive.

Can you spot... The Tasmanian prison uniform in the display case? On top of working very hard for long hours in the heat, the Irish who ended up in this prison were made to wear this itchy wool uniform.

Trivia... What did the Penal Laws forbid Irish Catholics and Presbyterians from doing?

a) Buying a horse ☐ b) Practicing their religion ☐ c) Marrying ☐

EPIC Part 2: Rooms 8 – 20

8 Influence Gallery

Irish emigrants and their families have gone on to do amazing things around the world in every field imaginable – from sport and science; to music, art and technology! Who can you spot on the walls?

Did you know... Both the actors who played Dumbledore in the Harry Potter films – Richard Harris and Michael Gambon – are Irish!

Meet... Bram Stoker. He's on the left hand side wall of the gallery, opposite the big screen, holding a cross and wearing garlic around his neck. An Irish writer from Dublin, Stoker created the most famous vampire of all time: Dracula!

Can you spot... Any animals on the walls?

Discuss... These Irish went far and wide across the world and accomplished amazing feats. Why do you think it's important for us to celebrate what the Irish have done around the world?

9 Changing the Game Gallery

A love and talent for sport is common in Ireland; in this gallery, we discover the Irish that made great strides in international sports, such as baseball, boxing, horse racing, and even the Olympics!

Did you know... The Lucha Libre masks that are famous in Mexican wrestling, were actually started by an Irishman called Corbin James Massey, or Cyclone Mackey!

Can you spot... The 5 images hanging above the sports table? They each represent different types of sport. Can you guess which ones?

Meet... Sarah 'Fanny' Durack. Fanny was the first woman to compete in swimming in the 1912 Olympics – something that was frowned upon at the time, as it used to be considered indecent for women to be in swimwear in front of men!

Discuss... Do you know any Irish sports stars around the world? Why do you think that many Irish had to emigrate in order to play certain sports?

10 Playing the World Gallery

Ireland has its own unique set of sports – hurling, camogie, rounders and Gaelic football – that are played not only in Ireland, but have spread all around the world through the journeys of Irish emigrants.

Did you know... Hurling has been a part of Irish history for approximately 3,000 years, appearing in the legendary tale of the Irish mythical hero, Cú Chulainn!

Can you spot... The GAA jerseys on display at the right of the gallery? You can see team uniforms and colours from a variety of places, such as New York, Abu Dhabi, Germany, and Argentina.

Discuss... While sports are fun to play, they also played an important role in helping the Irish who emigrated to settle into their new communities. Why and how do you think sports might have helped?

11 Discovering and Inventing Gallery

Many great discoveries and inventions were made by the Irish abroad – from vaccinations and new types of stars, to submarines and cars! Meet some of the Irish behind these achievements here.

Can you spot... The blue sculpture at the centre of the gallery? This represents all the messages being sent along the synapses and nerves inside the human brain.

Meet... Explorer Ernest Shackleton, who went on three expeditions to the Antarctic! You can learn more about him by watching the video in this gallery.

Trivia... Which 'Pole' was Ernest Shackleton racing to reach?

a) The North Pole ☐

b) The South Pole ☐

c) The electricity pole ☐

Activity... Become an inventor! You have 1 minute to design an object related to 'travel' in the box below. Be creative – your invention could be a new type of transport, an addition to something already invented (like a cookie dispenser for your plane), or perhaps even something related to time travel, or space!

12 Leading Change Gallery

Quite a few Irish emigrants went on to campaign for change in their new home countries. In this gallery, we discover some of these – the politicians, rabble-rousers, fearless leaders and revolutionaries!

Meet... Mother Jones, nicknamed the 'most dangerous woman in America' for leading many protests with her passionate speeches! You can discover more about her by watching the video on the right-hand side of the gallery.

Trivia... 22 U.S. Presidents have Irish ancestry! Which of these is not an American President?

a) Barack Obama ☐

b) Donald Trump ☐

c) Liam Neeson ☐

Discuss... The role of women in Ireland has changed massively over the last century, largely due to protests by women known as 'suffragettes'. Name some things that women can do now, that they couldn't do 100 years ago.

13 Achieving Infamy Gallery

Not all Irish emigrants are renowned for their good qualities and wonderful achievements – some are more well-known for their dastardly deeds and nefarious natures! Discover their stories here.

Meet... The curse of the Caribbean, Irish pirate Anne Bonny! In a time when women were considered bad luck on board a ship, she not only joined a pirate crew, but was considered one of their most fearsome leaders.

Did you know... Anne Bonny's pirate husband, Captain Calico Jack, was the inspiration for Captain Jack Sparrow in the Pirates of the Caribbean films.

Trivia... Anne Bonny came from which county in Ireland?

a) Cork

☐

b) Dublin

☐

c) Wexford

☐

14 Music and Dance Gallery

There aren't many people around the world who wouldn't recognise an Irish jig or Riverdance! In this gallery, we explore the importance of music and dance in Irish emigrants' lives.

Meet... Chief Francis O'Neill, the Chicago police officer responsible for publishing one of the largest collections of Irish traditional music ever assembled! You can find out more about him by watching the video on the first screen.

Can you spot... The gold funnel-like objects on the left-hand wall as you make your way through the gallery? These are gramophones, a popular type of music recorder and player in the early 1900s.

Trivia... What famous show first introduced Riverdance to the world?

a) Eurovision Song Contest

☐

b) The Super Bowl

☐

c) Britain's Got Talent

☐

Discuss... In this gallery we discovered that there are Irish forms of music and dance, such as Riverdance and Irish traditional music. Can you name any other types of dancing or singing around the world and the cultures that they are associated with?

15 Eating and Drinking Gallery

What do you think of as 'traditional Irish food'? Is it potatoes, cabbage and stew, or perhaps strawberries... or maybe even Tayto crisps? It's probably not hot chocolate, boar, and hazelnuts! The history of Irish food through the years might surprise you.

Did you know... The first Irish people of 15,000 years ago were hunter gatherers, which meant that they collected and ate what was growing already on the land and in the water. They caught salmon and shellfish in the rivers and animals such as wild boar in the woods. They also ate things such as seeds, flowers and hazelnuts, and fruits like apples and berries.

Meet... Sir Hans Sloane. An Anglo-Irish man, Sloane discovered a recipe for hot chocolate while on his travels in Jamaica in the 18th century. Yum!

Trivia... Irish food has played a very important role in emigration through the years. Fill out the blanks to discover the crop that failed in 1845, leading to a great famine in Ireland.

P T O

Activity... Create your own Irish dinner menu!

Using what you have discovered in this gallery, design a menu for a 'traditional' Irish dinner: (Hint: Have a look at the tables for some inspiration)

Starter

Main

Desert

16 Creating and Designing Gallery

The Irish are well-known for being very creative. In this gallery we learn all about the Irish artists, designers, photographers and architects that have made their mark on the world.

Did you know... Painting used to be an Olympic sport? The Irish artist Jack B. Yeats – on display in this gallery – won a silver medal for painting in the 1924 Olympics!

Meet... Philip Treacy. Treacy is a hat designer, also known as a milliner. His hats are renowned around the world, and have been worn by many celebrities, including Lady Gaga!

Trivia... Unscramble the letters to discover the magical films in which Philip Treacy's hats appear.

RRHAY RPOETT

17 18 Storytelling Galleries

The Irish love stories, and Ireland has some of the world's greatest storytellers. In these galleries, we highlight the books, films, shows and performances in which the Irish played a starring role.

Meet... C.S. Lewis, the author of *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Lewis was born in Belfast, Ireland, on 29th November 1898, but spent most of his life in Oxford, England.

Can you spot... Our famous whispering library? In here we have books such as *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift; *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis; *Ulysses* by James Joyce; and *Dracula* by Bram Stoker!

Trivia... What animal is a major character in *The Chronicles of Narnia*?

a) Tiger ☐ b) Bear ☐ c) Lion ☐

Discuss... Stories are an important part of every culture in the world. They have changed over the centuries from being spoken out loud to being written down, and now also appear in other forms of media such as films, TV shows, and comics. Why do you think stories are so important? What is your favourite type of storytelling, and why?

19 Celebrations Gallery

No matter where they are in the world, one thing that the Irish have in common is a love of celebrating being Irish! In this gallery, you'll learn all about the Irish festivities that take place, from Dublin to Dubai.

Did you know... Over 400 landmarks were lit up green around the world for St. Patrick's Day in 2019!

Can you spot... Any landmarks that you recognise in the 'Global Greening' video, on the far left-hand side of the gallery?

Trivia... Where is the largest yearly Irish celebration held?

a) Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA ☐ b) Milltown, New Jersey, USA ☐ c) Manhattan, New York, USA ☐

Discuss... Using what you have learned during your journey through EPIC today, why do you think Irish culture is one of the most celebrated around the world?

20 Connections Gallery

Congratulations, you have made it to the end of our tour! In this gallery, we consider how the Irish continue to stay connected around the world – from visits to postcards, and beyond!

Did you know... Today, more than 70 million people around the world consider themselves Irish in some way, shape or form!

Trivia... What does EPIC stand for?

a) Every Person is Cultured ☐

b) Every Person is Connected ☐

c) Every Person is Cool ☐

Discuss... In this gallery, we have an interactive table where visitors can send digital postcards instantly to their friends and relatives anywhere in the world. How do you think the Irish that were alive during the Great Famine used to keep in touch years ago? And how does that differ from the ways in which we keep in touch now?

Activity... Write or draw your own postcard to a family member or friend in the box below!

Post-visit Questions

We hope that you enjoyed your *EPIC Virtual School Tour*! Answer these final questions to complete your experience.

1. Now that you have visited EPIC, what do you think 'emigration' means?

2. What was your favourite part of EPIC?

3. List two interesting things that you discovered on your visit to EPIC today.

1.

2.

4. Using whatever materials are available to you, research and fill out the below fact file for one character you met on your journey that you found interesting or inspiring.

Name:

Date of Birth:

Born:

Emigrated to:

Gallery they were in:

What they did:

Why I liked them:

5. Pretending that you are this person, write out a diary entry describing an important moment in their life.

Get in touch

Can't find something? Need extra support? We're here to help! Contact us on groups@epicchq.com if you need any further advice before, during, or after your tour. And don't forget to let us know any feedback that you may have, too!

We also have general primary pre- and post-visit resource packs, which include a range of activities, including character biographies, discussion questions, research prompts, and art and craft activities, easily adaptable for students of all ages and abilities!

EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum
CHQ, Custom House Quay, Dublin 1.

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OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
10am—6:45pm (last entry 5pm)

BOOK ONLINE
epicchq.com

    
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