

Seallaibh Curaigh Eòghainn (Look at Owen's Boat)

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1. Introduction

Welcome to the WACI Toolkit for Gaelic Song.

The online toolkit contains 4 videos and downloadable resources which have been designed by the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland's WACI team. This is to assist teachers in teaching school pupils about traditional music in learning to sing in Gaelic where pupils can accompany the songs in real time with body percussion and actions.

The videos can be watched as part of one lesson, or as four separate lessons, but they should be watched in order. Feel free stop and start the videos so that the class can learn at a pace that suits them. Optional exercises can also be delivered alongside the videos to provide some context. Otherwise, the videos can be watched on their own.

We hope you enjoy this toolkit and we look forward to hearing all about your lessons.









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2. CfE Outcomes

Literacy outcomes

I enjoy exploring and playing with the patterns and sounds of language, and can use what I learn.

LIT 0-01a / LIT 0-11a / LIT 0-20a

Music

I enjoy singing and playing along to music of different styles and cultures.

FXA 0-16a

I can sing and play music from other styles and cultures, showing growing confidence and skill while learning about musical notation and performance directions.

EXA 1-16a







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3a. What Is Gaelic?

Before playing the first video, this short exercise will provide some context for the Gaelic language used in the song.

Explain

Today we are going to be learning a song in Gaelic

Ask

What does Gaelic mean?

Explain

- Gaelic is a language spoken in modern Scotland
- It is one of the three native languages of Scotland English, Scots and Gaelic
- Most of modern Scotland was once Gaelic-speaking
- These days, nearly 60,000 people speak the language
- The highest percentage of Gaelic speakers lives in

Na h-Eileanan an Iar, also known as the Western Isles









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3b. Gaelic Words

Ask

Does anyone know any Gaelic words?

Ask

Does anyone know what the Gaelic name for Scotland is?

Answer

Alba

Explain

Lots of places in Scotland and around the world take their names or part of their names from Gaelic words.





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3c. Gaelic Words cont.

Ask

Can you think of any places with these Gaelic words in their names?

Auch-

from the Gaelic word 'achadh' Which means: a field

Ard-

from the Gaelic word 'aird' Which means: a height

Bal-

from the Gaelic word 'baile' Which means: town

Dal-

from the Gaelic word 'dail'
Which means: meadow

Drum-

from the Gaelic word 'druim'
Which means: ridge

Dun-

From the Gaelic word 'dun' Which means: fort

Inver-

from the Gaelic word 'inbhir' Which means: river mouth

Kil-

from the Gaelic word 'cill' Which means: a churchyard

Kin-

from the Gaelic word 'ceann' Which means: head













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3d. Gaelic Place Names

Resource: You can find Gaelic forms of place names here www.ainmean-aite.scot

Examples

Auch-

Auchinleck

Auchentoshan

Auchterarder

Dal-

Dalkeith

Dalbeattie

Dalry

Inver-

Inverclyde

Inverleith

Inverness

Ard-

Ardrossan

Ardnamurchan

Ardtun

Drum-

Drumnadrochit

Drumchapel

Drumblade

Kil-

Kilmarnock

Kilwinning

Killin

Bal-

Balgowan

Balgay

Balmaha

Dun-

Dunfermline

Dundee

Dunblane

Kin-

Kinlochleven

Kinross

Kinloch

Ask

Does anyone know the Gaelic name for our town, city or village?









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4. Song Lyrics

Seallaibh curaigh Eoghainn
Look at Owen's coracle
Is coig ramh fichead oirre
With five and twenty oars on her
Seallaibh curaigh Eoghainn
Look at Owen's coracle
'S i seachad air a Rudha Bhan
Passing by the White Point

Bi Eoghainn, bi Eoghainn
And it's Owen, it's Owen
Bi Eoghainn na sgiobair oirr
It's Owen who'll be skipper on her
Bi Eoghainn, bi Eoghainn
And it's Owen, it's Owen
'S i seachad air a Rudha Bhan
Passing by the White Point







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5a. Video 1: Key Words

Now play the first video.

You can print off the lyrics on Card 4 if feel you this will help your class.

After the first video - check for understanding:

- Where does this song come from?
- Why do so many Gaelic songs mention the sea?

Discussion points

Do you know anyone who speaks Gaelic?







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5b. Video 2: Lyrics and Melody

Video 3: Body Percussion & Actions

Now play the second and third videos.

After the third video – check for understanding:

What is the song about?

Discussion points

- Were there any Gaelic words you found difficult to pronounce?
- Why do you think they were so difficult?
- What do you think the message of the song is?





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5c. Video 4: Arranging and Performing

Now play the fourth and last video.

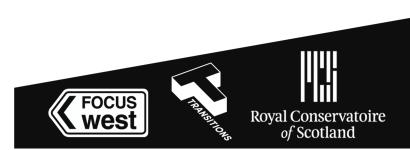
This video features arranging and performing our song.

After the fourth video - check for understanding:

- What are dynamics?
- Why are they used?

Discussion points

- Do you know any percussion instruments?
- What instruments could be used to accompany this song?







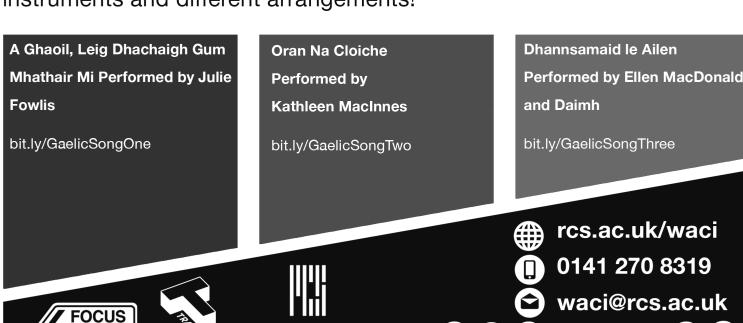
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6. Gaelic Song Resources

If your class enjoyed learning this Gaelic Song there are many more out there that might interest them. Here is a useful Gaelic Song resource for teachers and pupils:

Fèis Rois Foglam: www.feisroisfoghlam.org

Below are a few Gaelic songs performed by professional musicians. It may interest your class to watch performances that include instruments and different arrangements!



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