



First Steps into Archaeology: Archaeology for Young Children - Teachers Resource Pack Where We Live- Kilkenny

This teachers resource pack is part of a series of 4 lesson plans focussed on teaching archaeology to young children. It is aimed at pre-school, and junior and senior infant classes in primary schools. This project is a joint initiative between the Heritage Office of Kilkenny County Council, the Kilkenny County Childcare Committee and Kilkenny Education Centre, with co-funding from the Heritage Council. For further information see www.kilkennycoco.ie/eng/Services/Heritage

This teachers resource pack is aimed at providing teachers / practitioners with the skills and resources to carry out an on-line study of an area such as their school or home. This resource is designed for use by teachers and practitioners in parallel with the series of archaeology lesson plans available at www.kilkennycoco.ie/eng/Services/Heritage. There are some excellent on line tools for people interested in researching the archaeology which surrounds them. The following is a list of the most useful and user-friendly sites available.

Much of the recorded information on archaeology and history is based on townlands. A townland is a small geographical division of land used in Ireland. The townland system is of Gaelic origin, pre-dating the Anglo-Norman invasion with most townlands believed to pre-date the invasion and many retaining their Irish Gaelic names. Some townland names and boundaries however derive from Anglo-Norman manors, plantation divisions, or later creations of the Ordnance Survey. There are currently over 61 thousand named townlands in Ireland, covering the whole island. Townland boundaries are most clearly defined on the first edition OS 6-inch maps which are online (see below). The civil parish and barony information for townlands can be found in the townlands index (www.seanruad.com). Be aware that there can be multiple townlands of the same name in the same county, so make sure you have the right one.

On line resources

- <http://www.archaeology.ie/media/archaeologyie/PDFS/Irish%20Field%20Monuments.pdf> (a downloadable pdf guide to Irish monuments available through the National Monuments Service)*
- www.archaeology.ie (archaeological monuments, searchable by area and type)
- <http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/NIAHPublications/> (inventories of architectural heritage available on a county basis)
- www.excavations.ie (archaeology excavation)
- www.logainm.ie/ (the Placenames database of Ireland)
- <http://maps.osi.ie/publicviewer/#V1,591271,743300,0,10> (Ordnance Survey of Ireland - Historic maps and aerial photographs) OSI maps are also viewable on scoilnet.com where broadband is available
- <https://maps.scoilnet.ie/Gallery/Eng/>
- Google maps (for finding your area)

* There are also two useful published books outlining monument types in Ireland:

Harbison, P. 1975. Guide to the national monuments in the Republic of Ireland; including a selection of other monuments not in state care. Gill & Macmillan Dublin (ISBN 0717107582).

Mulligan, P., 2005. *A short guide to Irish antiquities: sites shown on Discovery Series OS maps*. Wordwell: Sligo (ISBN 1869857992)

Local on line resources

- http://kilkennylibrary.kilkenny.ie/eng/Our_Services/Local_Studies/ Kilkenny County Library Service (Local Studies) have a wide selection of publications and other material relating to Kilkenny. You can also access a variety of books, journals and magazines on general archaeological topics through your local library.
- <http://www.askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/digital-book-collection/digital-books-by-county/kilkenny/> The Kilkenny Section of has a range of digitised books relevant to the county
- www.kilkennycoco.ie/eng/Services/Heritage/ Kilkenny County Council Heritage Office
- <http://rothehouse.com/> Rothe House (Museum and library)
- River Nore Heritage Audit http://www.kilkennycoco.ie/eng/Services/Heritage/Heritage_Audit_of_the_River_Nore_.html
- Stepping into Kilkenny's History <http://www.eckilkenny.ie/kilkennyhistory/>

Other useful on-line sources

- <http://tbreen.home.xs4all.nl/ireland.html> (academic on line resources)
 - www.scoilnet.com (lots of resources for school)
 - www.heritageweek.ie (annual week of heritage events throughout Ireland)
 - <http://www.m3motorway.ie/Archaeology/GlossaryofArchaeologicalTerms/> (glossary of archaeological terms)
- And of course: <http://www.itsabouttime.ie/primary/05resources.htm>