

CASTLE
HOUSE
MUSEUM



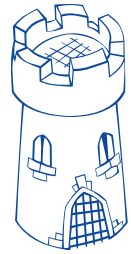
CASTLE HOUSE MUSEUM

A yellow lightbulb with a black base and several yellow lightning bolts around it, suggesting an idea or inspiration.

ACTIVITIES BOOKLET



Introduction:



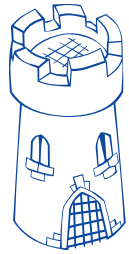
Thank you for planning a visit to Castle House Museum for your class/ educational group!

Please get in touch with us at info@castlehousemuseum.org.uk to allow us prior notice of your visit, and if you have any questions or accessibility queries. Our friendly team are happy to help.

This booklet has been compiled to help teachers conduct their visits to the Museum, and ensure each visit is an enjoyable and engaging experience for all.

The activities included within this booklet are best suited to children at Key Stage 2 of the Scottish Curriculum of Excellence. There are also more resources available at the Museum, including our Museum Bingo, History Detectives Trail, and Victorian Rooms Quiz. There are limited copies of these available on the day, so please let us know and we can forward these onto you in advance.

Castle House and CofE:



A visit to Castle House Museum aligns with the
Four Capacities of the Curriculum for
Excellence:

Successful Learners

- Considering local history/ national history from a local perspective.
- Take part in active learning within the Museum space, making links between physical objects and the past.
- Opportunities for independent/group learning, using their literacy/communication/ numeracy skills.

Confident Individuals

- Encouraged to engage and explore with the Museum space, asking questions and making connections.

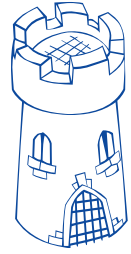
Responsible Citizens

- Understanding the importance of preserving local history- passing down tales and traditions as well as caring for objects and displays.

Effective Contributors

- Leading and working in groups, expressing ideas, thinking critically about the past.

Castle House and Social Studies:



Social Studies:

People,
Past Events &
Societies

People,
Place and
Environment

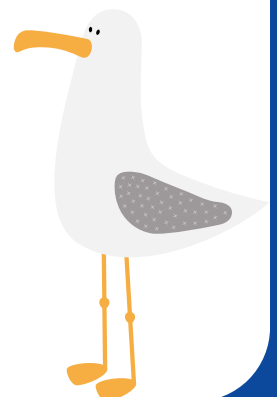
Castles

Experiences and Outcomes:

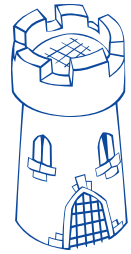
Develop an understanding of the history, heritage, and culture of Scotland, and an appreciation of their local and national heritage within the world.

Broaden their understanding of the world by learning about human activities and achievements in the past and present.

Learn how to locate, explore, and link periods, people, and events in time and place, locally and further afield.



Cross-Curriculum Links:



Literacy:

Listening &
Talking

Reading

Numeracy:

Number, Money
and Measure

Shapes, Position,
and Movement

Science:

Forces

Expressive Arts

Drama





Archaeological Adventures

An archaeologist is someone who looks at ancient places and objects to try and find out more about the past. Archaeologists use tools to try and dig up objects from the ground that will tell them more about how people lived. They are looking for clues, just like a detective!

Our archaeology cabinet is full of real objects found by archaeologists, as well as 'reconstructions' that show you how these objects could have been used.

These objects were found just outside of Dunoon in a place called Ardnadam (Art-nad-em) Glen. The archaeologists that set to work here found out that people lived at Ardnadam a long time ago, maybe even as long ago as five thousand years! They found clues that there was an Iron Age roundhouse at Ardnadam. But what was this?

The Iron Age was about three thousand years ago. This time is known as the Iron Age as people started to make their weapons and tools out of iron, and these tools were much better than what they had before. They would have used these tools to build their roundhouses.

People lived in roundhouses- a roundhouse was a building that was shaped like a circle with a pointy roof made out of straw and turf. The walls were made out of lots of sticks that had been put together, with lots of mud spread over this. There was a fire in the middle of the roundhouse that people used to cook and keep them warm.

There is a model of a roundhouse by the window. Have a look at it and then go back to the archaeology cabinet.

Time to go on an archaeological adventure!





Archaeological Adventures Activity

Look at all of the objects in the archaeology cabinet.
Pick your favourite and answer the questions below:

What is your favourite object?

Why do you like it?

Who do you think might have used it?

What do you think the object is made of?

Stone

Metal

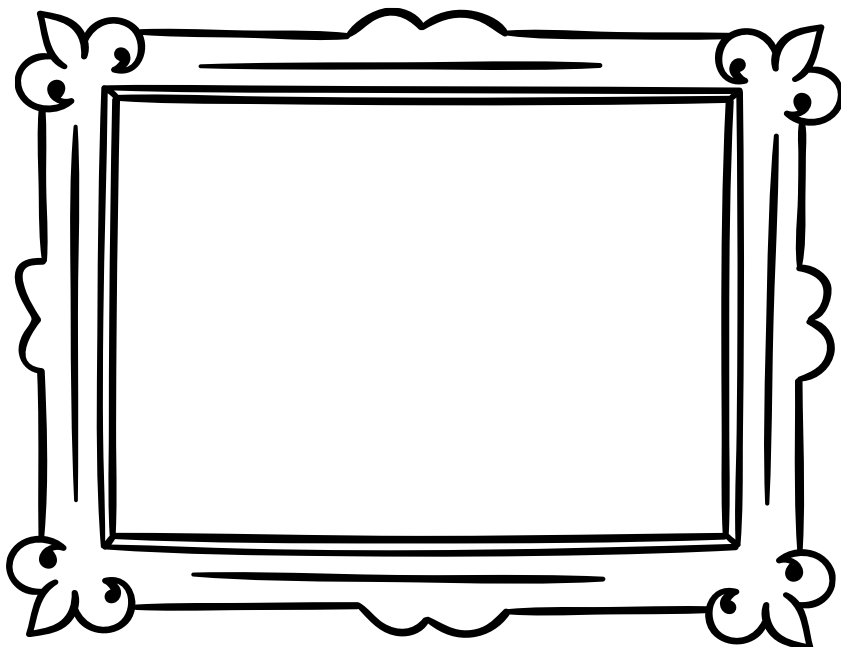
Toothpaste

Glass

Candyfloss

Wood

Draw a picture of the object in the frame. Can you write down some words that the object makes you think of?



Words:



Archaeological Adventures Activity

Head over to the model of the iron age roundhouse.

Can you fill in the blanks in the sentences below?

The iron age roundhouse model at the Museum is very ____.

The roundhouse is shaped like a _____ with a _____ roof.

I peeked in the roundhouse and there is only ___ room.

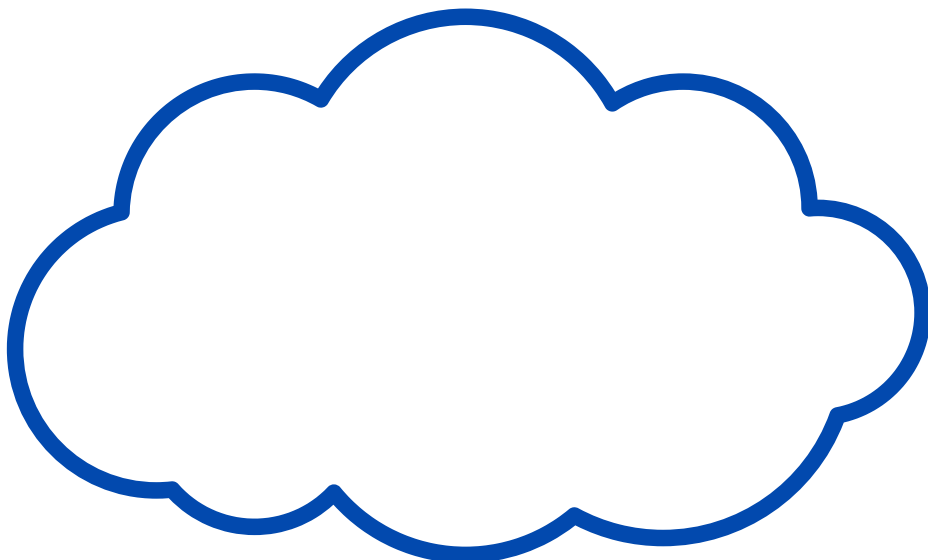
The roof is made from sticks and special grass called ____.

There are lots of people in and around the roundhouse, and lots of _____ too.

_____ would live there and grow crops, as well as keep cows and other animals.

farmers cool roof turf
circle
one pointy animals

What do you think it might be like to live in a roundhouse?
Write down some words in the cloud below. Would it be:
weird, dark, tiny, smelly, different?





Clan-tastic!

Between the years of 1100 and 1746, Scotland was ruled by lots of powerful groups known as 'clans.' A clan is like a family, but they are not related by blood. Our local clan is called the Clan Lamont. They were one of Scotland's oldest Clans, and ruled most of this area for hundreds of years.

The different clans would fight a lot, and lots of the clan chiefs had big stone castles built to keep them safe. Toward Castle was built in the 1400s, and this is where the Chief of the Clan Lamont lived, Sir James Lamont.

The Castle had a big tower-house so guards could keep a lookout for attackers from high up. It had high stone walls, and was near the water.

Clan castles had lots of different rooms, like a Dining Room, a Great Hall, lots of bedrooms, a Kitchen, a Dungeon, and a Vault. We don't know exactly what Toward Castle looked like inside, but we know that James Lamont made the castle bigger and fancier for when Mary Queen of Scots visited in 1563. This is when he added in the rooms and a Great Hall. Mary Queen of Scots planted a tree when she visited, which stood near the castle for over 250 years until it was cut down. The Castle was captured and set on fire by another Clan, the Clan Campbell. It is now a ruin.

There is also the ruin of Dunoon Castle, which sits on top of Castle Hill. It was built in the 1200s. You can see it from the Museum windows in the main exhibition area. It was also a Lamont Castle, but became a royal castle and was taken over by the Clan Campbell.

Archaeologists have been to the ruins of both Castles to try and find out more about them. Now its your turn!

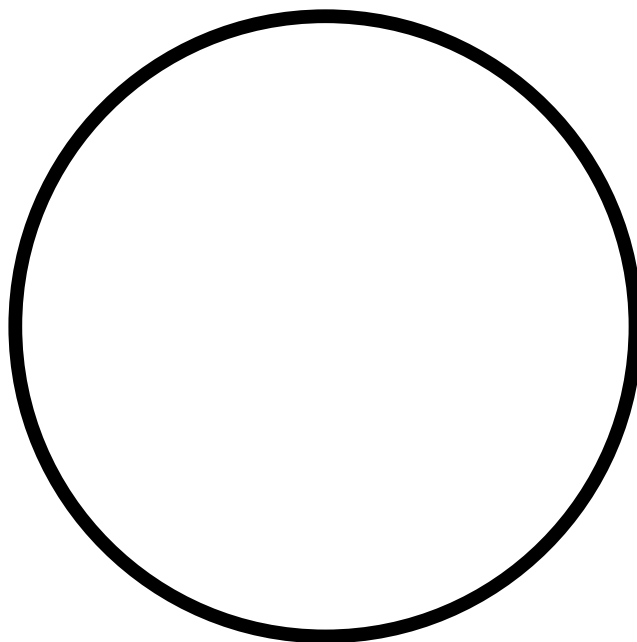
Clan-tastic! Activity

The Clan Lamont crest looks like this:



When the Lamonts designed the crest, they used pictures and words that were important to them. The Clan Chief at the time wanted to use the picture of the hand, and their clan motto is in a very old language called Latin.

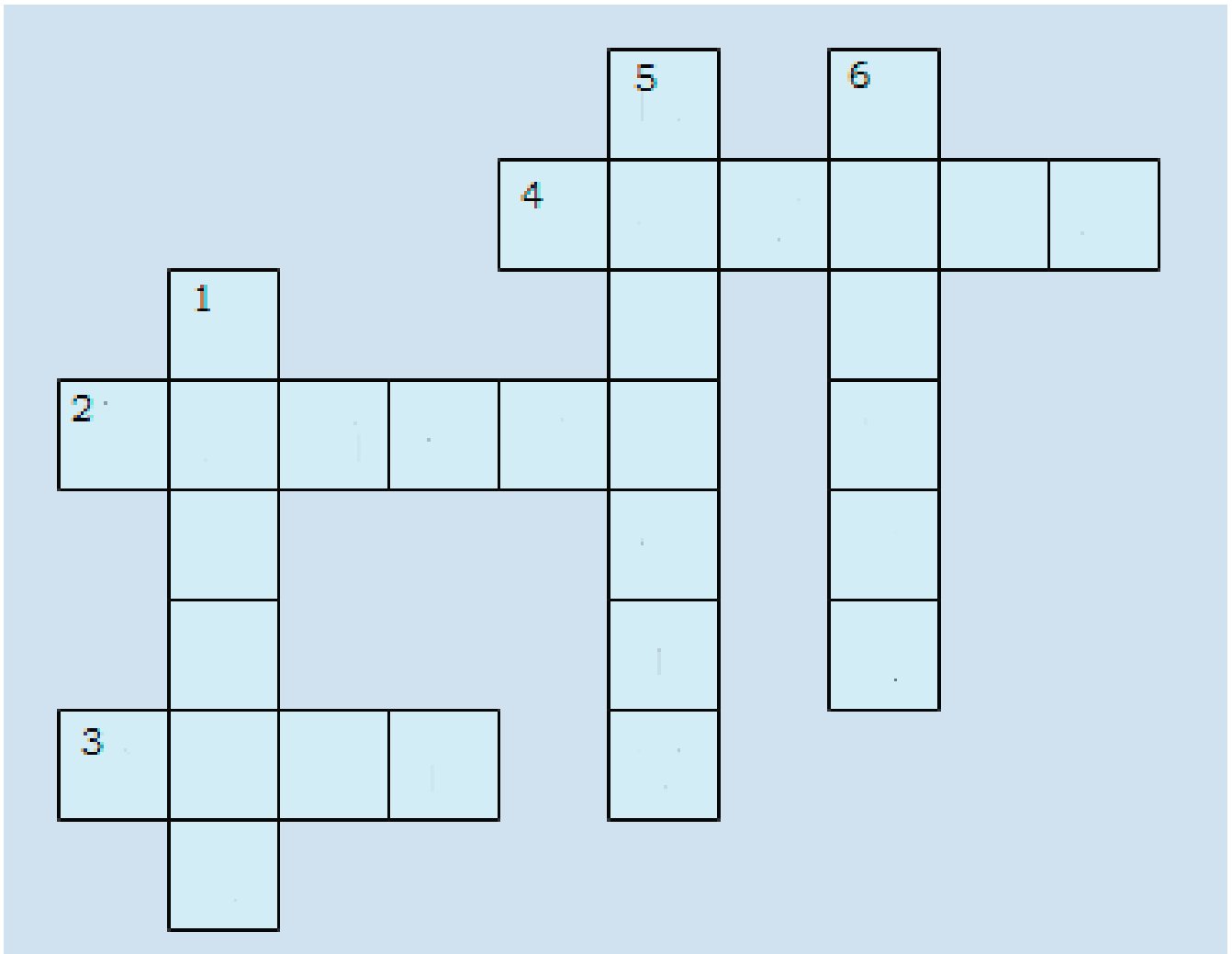
Design your own crest! You can draw and write anything that is important to you- for example your hometown, your favourite food, favourite characters.



Clan-tastic! Activity

Look in the small white cabinet that is across from the archaeology display to help you fill this in.

Castle Word Scramble



1 (Down) A type of Medieval building where the head of the Clan would live. There are still ruins at Dunoon and Toward.

2 (Across) The name of the Clan that lived at Toward.

3 (Across) The types of powerful groups that ruled Scotland.

4 (Across) The name of the village where the Lamonts lived.

5 (Down) You will find two pieces of me in the white cabinet, found in the 16th/17th century at Toward Castle.

6 (Down) I am green, blue, and white. You can find me in the white cabinet.

Clan-tastic! Activity Answers:

1 (Down) **CASTLE**

2 (Across) **LAMONT**

3 (Across) **CLAN**

4 (Across) **TOWARD**

5 (Down) **POTTERY**

6 (Down) **TARTAN**

smelly
dark scary cold
odd **weird**
funny
unusual

What do you think
it would have been like to be part
of a clan centuries
ago? Talk to your classmates
about this.



The Story of Highland Mary: Dunoon's Famous Daughter

Highland Mary
Painting by Thomas
Faed (1857)



Plaque for Highland
Mary



The display in front of you shows Highland Mary's farmhouse. Highland Mary is the little girl, and the lady is her mum, Agnes. There is a big statue of Highland Mary on Castle Hill. You can see her out of the window that is opposite. But who was Highland Mary?

Highland Mary was born on Auchamore Farm in Dunoon. A plaque on Auchamore Road marks where the farmhouse was. Her real name was 'Margaret Campbell.' Mary moved across the water to Ayr and met Robert Burns. They got married in an old Scottish ceremony known as a 'handfasting' ceremony. They had to tie their hands together with rope over a stream of running water and put give each other a bible. Mary and Burns wanted to move away together. She went to Greenock to look after her brother who had a disease called typhus. She caught the disease and died. Burns was really sad and wrote lots of songs and poems about her. He became a very famous poet, known as the National Bard of Scotland.

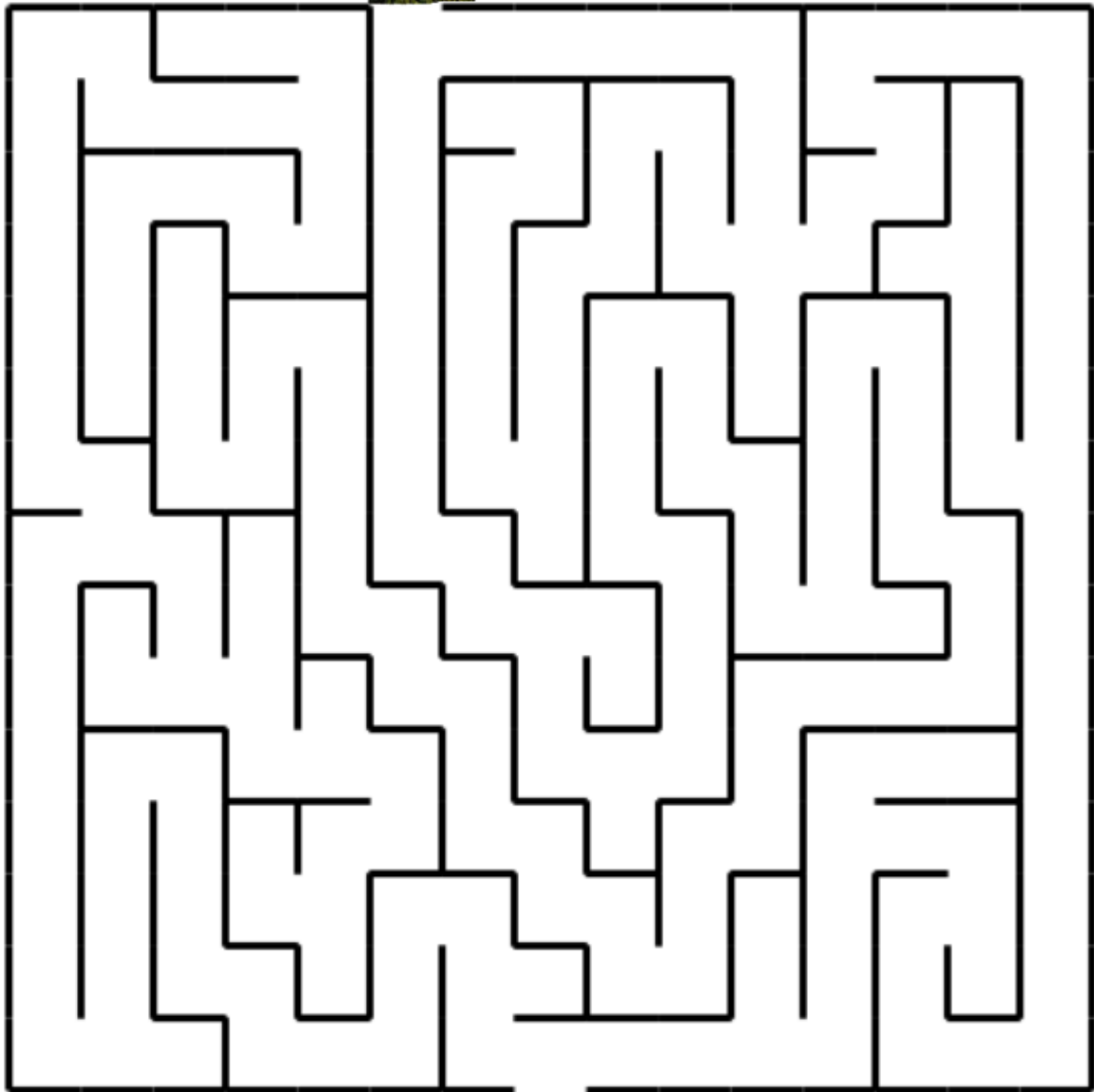
The statue of Highland Mary was put on Castle Hill in 1896. This marked 100 years since Burns died. There was a big party to celebrate the statue. At this time, Mary's statue was one of only four statues of a woman in Britain who had actually existed and was not royalty!

The Story of Highland Mary Activity: Highland Mazey

Can you guide Highland Mary back to her spot on Castle Hill?



*Castle Hill has been my
home for over
one hundred and twenty
years!*



The Story of Highland Mary Activity: Surprising Scots

Robert Burns wrote over 550 poems and songs in his lifetime.

That is more than twice as many as Taylor Swift! He died over 200 years ago, but people still read and talk about his work today. Lots of his poems were about Highland Mary.

Burns wrote his poems in 'Scots.' This is a special Scottish language that is different to English. Can you match the Scots words to their English meaning?

Agley

Last Night

Yestreen

Chat

Bairn

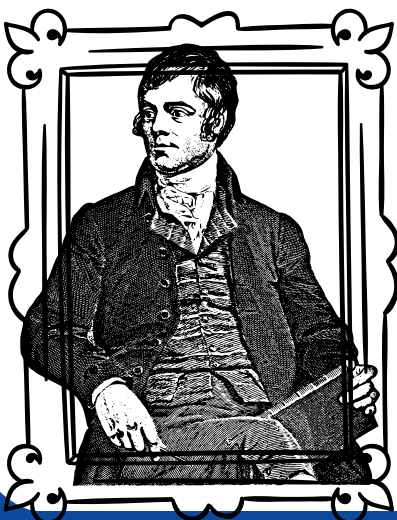
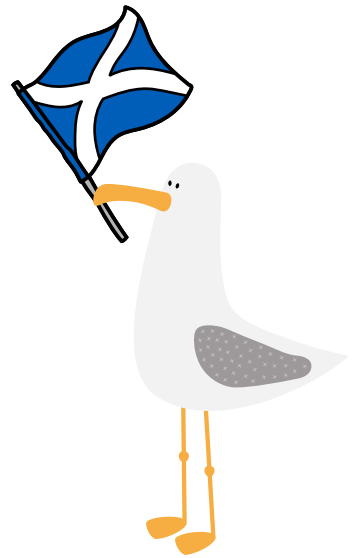
Pretty

Blether

Child

Bonnie

Wrong



Can you use some of these words to write your own Scots sentence here?

The Story of Highland Mary Activity:

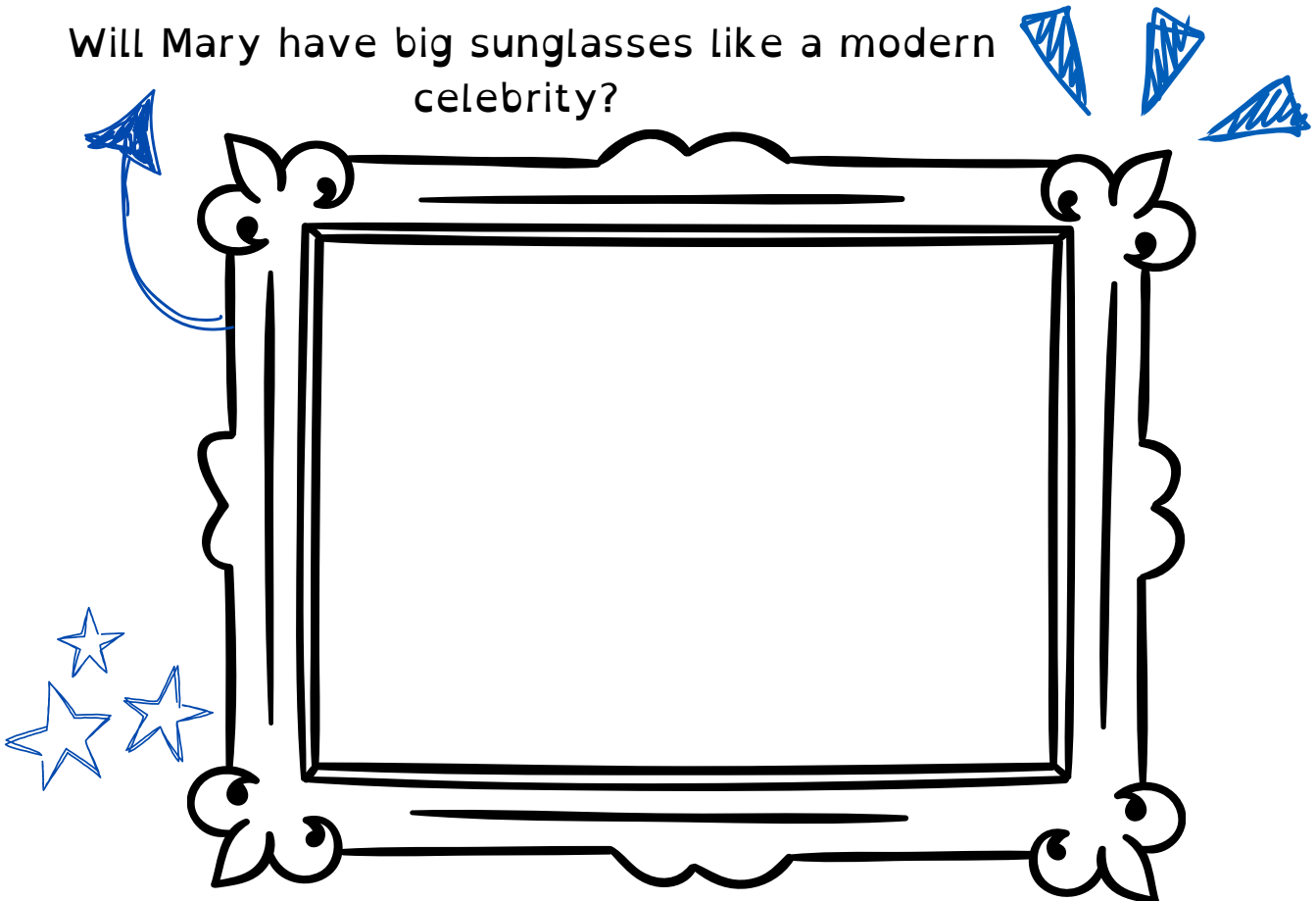
Imagining Mary

Highland Mary is very famous, even though she died a long time ago. There are lots of different paintings of her, and her statue on Castle Hill is a 'listed monument.' This means it is really important to history and must be looked after.

Although Mary is famous, there is no way for us to know what she really looked like. There were no cameras around back then to take photos! Although there are paintings and statues of her, the artists are just guessing what they think she could have looked like.

Now it's your turn! Can you draw a picture what you think Highland Mary could have looked like below?

Will Mary have big sunglasses like a modern celebrity?



Remember to sign your name on your work like artists do!

Doon The Watter to Dunoon

Boat and train travel got much easier in the Victorian times. There were also new rules made by the Government called Factory Acts which meant that people had more time off work to enjoy themselves. This meant that lots of people would travel to Dunoon to come on holiday or enjoy a day out. They would use steam power, arriving on steam trains and also special boats called 'steamers.' The first steamers came here in the 1800s, and people used them up until the 1970s! Up to 100 boats a day would come during the Summer.

People could get a steamer that took them straight from big cities like Glasgow to Dunoon. This was called going '**doon the watter.**' (Down the water). The steamers would come into the Dunoon Pier. The version that you can see today was completed in 1898 and is the finest example of a Victorian timber pier in Scotland.

Steamers were very fast, with powerful boilers and engines. Some boats had paddles to make them travel faster. The world's last seagoing paddle steamer still visits Dunoon every Summer. This steamer is called the Waverley, and has been sailing since 1947.

There were lots of things for people to do in Dunoon when they got here. There was a bandstand in the Castle Gardens where they could listen to outdoor concerts and watch firework displays in the Castle Gardens, watch shows in the Pavilion/Queens Hall, go to the cinema, go putting, go on a motor tour and see local scenery, and even go roller skating! People also liked seeing the ruins of Dunoon Castle and the statue of Highland Mary, and going to the library, reading room, and pool tables in Castle House.



Doon the Watter to Dunoon Activity: Pioneering Postcards

When people came to Dunoon on holiday, they would write a postcard to their friends and family back home with everything that they had got up to here. Have a go at designing and writing your own postcard below!

Dear _____

I am having a lovely time in Victorian Dunoon!

The weather is _____.

We have been really busy. Yesterday we went to

_____ and I

_____. I thought it was

_____. Tomorrow I

want to _____.

See you soon!

Doon The Watter to Dunoon Activity: Days Gone By Detective

Head to the big wall of old photos. Here you will see Dunoon bustling with lots of people from days gone by.

Look at the photo of the promenade and pier buildings.
How many hats can you spot?

Look at the photo from when Argyll Street had two cinemas.
Do you notice anything different about the road?

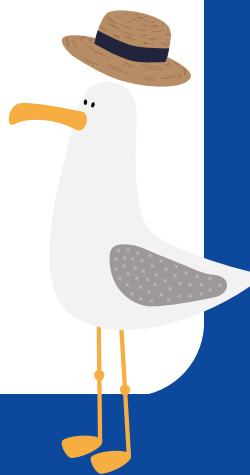
Look at the photo of the Argyll Hotel that shows water and boats near the entrance.
How many boats can you spot?

Head to the boats display at the big window.

Here you can see the life-ring from the Waverley paddle steamer. The Waverley is called after a very famous book (not because people wave at it as it goes by!)
The steamers were named after people's favourite celebrities, books, anything that they liked.



What would you name your steamer?



Bonnie Boat Builders

Boats were built in the nearby village of Sandbank for nearly 100 years. There were two firms that started building boats in here in the 1870s and 1880s- [Robertsons](#) and [Morris and Lorimer](#). Dunoon was a very popular area for boating as it is very close to the River Clyde. The Royal Marine Hotel in Hunters Quay used to be the headquarters of the Clyde Yacht Club. A yacht is a special kind of boat that is used for racing.

Robertsons Yard was very famous as the people that worked there were really good at building boats. They made 55 wooden boats that were used in the First World War, and they also made a lot of wooden sailing yachts for people that liked to race them. Lots of the yachts built there were used to win these races, such as the Sceptre and the Sovereign. These boats won the 'America's Cup.' This started in 1851 and is the oldest international sporting competition.

Click [here](#) to see the launch of the Sovereign in 1963!

Robertsons Yard closed in 1980, but lots of the 482 numbered boats made there are still used to sail today.

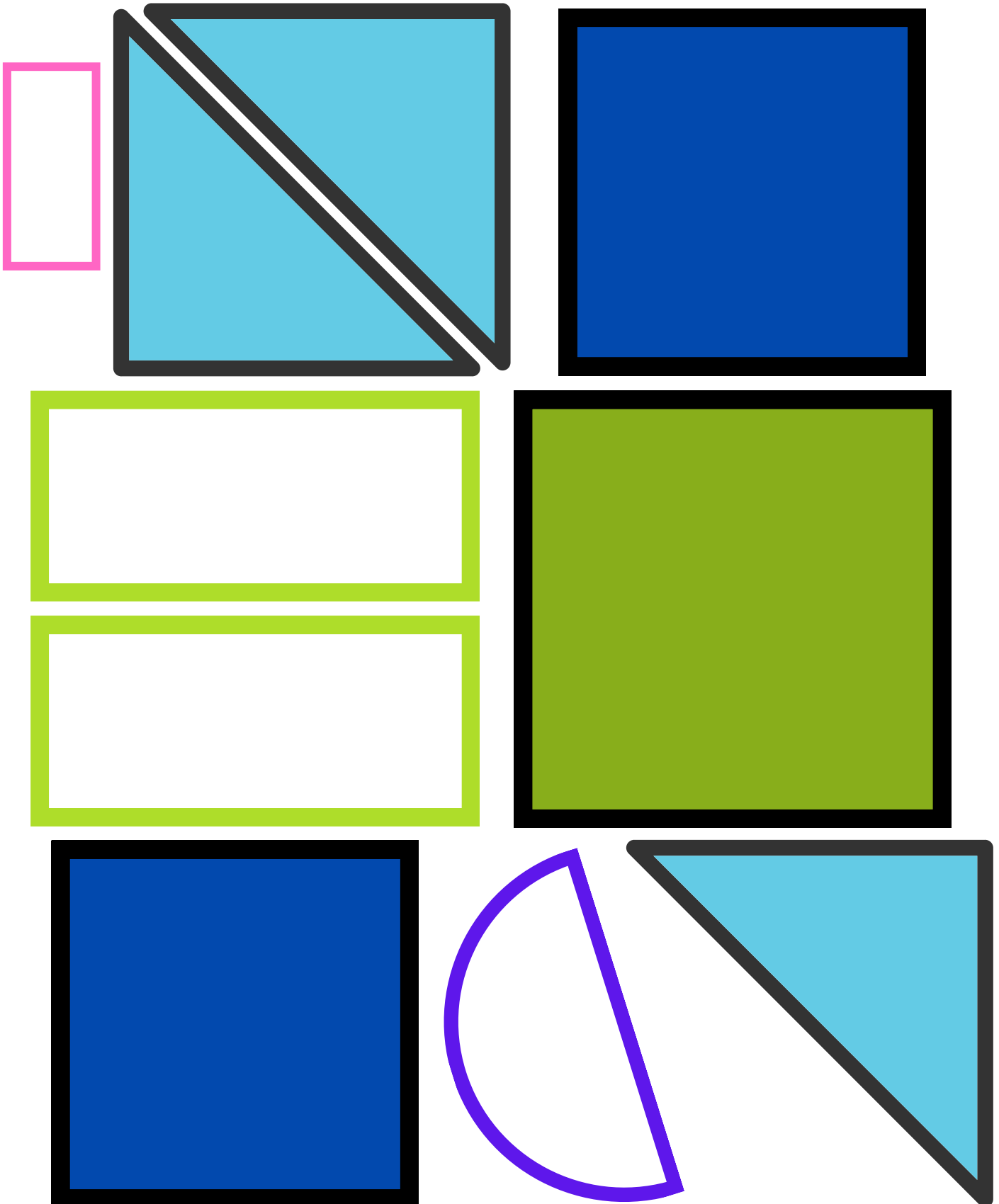
The Morris and Lorimer Yard was also very famous for their boat building. They made lots of yachts that competed in big races too, like the Stornoway. This was the largest internationally designed yacht that had been created since the Second World War, and had a mast height of 76 feet!

Morris and Lorimer closed in the early 1980s.

Sometimes the boats made at Morris and Lorimers would end up racing against the ones made at Robertsons Yard!

Bonnie Boat Builders Activity:

Building a boat took a lot of time and also a lot of skill. The people who were building the boats had to think about the shape of the parts and the best way to fit them together. Can you make a boat out of the shapes below?



Bonnie Boat Builders Activity:

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Create your boat here:



Bonnie Boat Builders Activity:

Tricky Tools

On the wall are some of the tools that boatbuilders used in their work. Can you match the tool to its job?



Used to make holes
in soft materials

Sailmakers Palm



Used to flatten
seams

Seam Rubber



Used to open ropes
for splicing

Marlin Spike



Used to push needles
through stiff material

Fid



Used to open/stretch/
expand rope/cloth

Hole Punch

Dunoon and the Second World War

War

Dunoon was a very busy place during the Second World War, Britain being at War changed the lives of everyone that lived here, and people travelled here to train to defend the country.

Timber Corp, Women's Land Army.

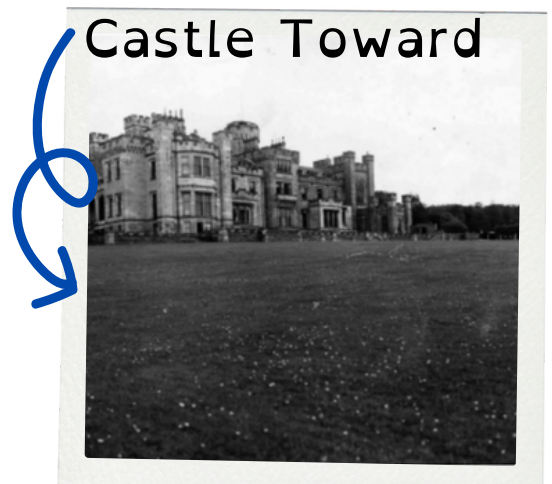
The Timber Corp were part of the Women's Land Army, based at Inverchaolain Lodge near Toward in the 1940s. They worked in the forestry to keep this running after many men had left to fight. They were nicknamed the 'lumberjills.'

Combined Operations Training, Castle Toward.

Castle Toward was built in 1821. During the Second World War this was known as HMS Brontosaurus, and used as a training base. At first this was basic navy training, but as the war continued they trained men from the Royal Engineers and Royal Artillery. HMS Brontosaurus was involved in the preparations for the D-Day operations, and was known as No 2 Combined Training Centre. The castle jetty was used for training exercises, where the sailing club meets now. There was training in beach landing control, alongside army logistics. There are still small steel huts in the grounds, but these are mainly hidden by trees.



Scottish Monument
to the Lumberjills



Castle Toward

Dunoon and the Second World War

HMS Osprey, Royal Navy

There was an anti-submarine training base known as HMS Osprey. This was based in the West of Scotland Convalescent Home from 1941-6, on the same land where the vets next to the Co-Op supermarket now stands. Dunoon was chosen for the base's location as it was decided the possibilities of attack were low, having moved from Portland in England. The White Ensign flag was raised every morning, and then lowered every evening while a bugle played. All that is left of the building is a Council building called 'Dolphin Hall' and the small bridge over the water.



HMS Osprey



Anti-submarine
Boom

The Boom, River Clyde

During both World Wars, there was an anti-submarine boom on the River Clyde. In WW2 this was made of metal nets with floats. It had a gate that would let important vessels through. Archaeologist Ali McCaig describes how The Clyde was an important port with shipbuilding connections, and had to be guarded from attack.

Dunoon and the Second World War: Evacuee Experiences

During the Second World War some evacuees moved to Dunoon and other coastal towns in Argyll. These evacuees were children, mothers with babies, teachers, and helpers. They were sent away from the cities to keep them safe from enemy bombs. with many coming from Glasgow and Clydebank. Historian Andrew Jeffrey found that 2,500 evacuees arrived in Dunoon in 1939. Many arrived on Clyde steam ships, with 23 trips made.

“ I was evacuated to Dunoon from Glasgow when I was 13 years old. My mother stayed in Glasgow to look after my father. She worked in the bakery during the day and in the evening she was an air raid warden. My mother owned a holiday house in Dunoon which was taken over by the War Office. It wasn't a grand house. It was called a single end, with two beds set into the wall of the living room. It was lit with paraffin lamps and did not have any facilities. She was paid the princely sum of £25 for the house. it was never returned to her after the war, it became the property of the Government. She had no say in the matter.

The hospital in Dunoon was taken over by the War Department for the army. All the soldiers were from the Scottish Regiments and wore kilts. They were not allowed to go out into the town on marches wearing their kilts. It wasn't thought decent! They were given Siren Suits (made famous by Churchill). The men hated them and said they felt like bloomers. I never went to school during the 12 months that I was evacuated in Dunoon. My first job was in a shoe shop.

-Elizabeth Hanlon, Evacuee
from [BBC 'The People's War.'](#)

”

Dunoon and the Second World

War Activity: Evacuee Experiences

What did evacuees take with them? The parents of child evacuees were given lists of what was needed during their time away.

This included:



A gas mask

A change of underclothes

Night clothes

Plimsolls (or slippers)

Spare stockings or socks

Toothbrush

Comb

Towel

Soap

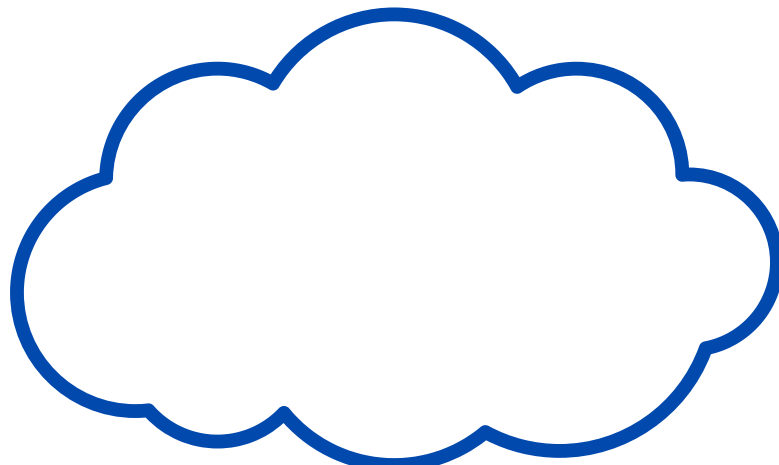
Face cloth

Handkerchiefs

Warm coat



What would you want to take with you if you were being evacuated? What would remind you of home? What would fit into your suitcase? Write below what you would take.



Dunoon and the Second World War Activity: Wartime Wonders

Our war cabinet is full of lots of interesting items from the First and Second World Wars, as well as an earlier war called the Boer War. Can you find:

Something teeny tiny and tartan?

Something to wear on your head?

Something to help you see things
in the distance?

Something to keep things locked away?

Something metal, long, and pointy?

Something that goes ding ding?

Something with petals?

Dunoon and the Second World War Activity: Wartime Wonders

Answers:

Mini kilt

Helmet

Binoculars

Padlock

Sword

Bell

Poppy