

Lesson 1:

Strand: Human Environments (Living In The Local Community).

Aim: The children should be enabled to learn about their local GAA club and come to appreciate the members of the community who run local clubs and organisations. Resources: Worksheet 5A.

Suggested Activities:

- Discuss the importance of the local GAA club to a community. Depending on the area, pupils in the class may play for a number of different clubs. This will give pupils a chance to learn about other GAA clubs and how they are organised. The children should come to appreciate the voluntary effort of mentors in clubs. They could write a letter of thanks to their team manager.
- 2. Use **Worksheet 5A** to complete a profile of local clubs. (Through integration with maths, record a bar chart of those in your class who play for the different clubs.)

Lesson 2:

Strand: Human Environments (Living In The Local Community).

Aim: The children should be enabled to:

- 1. Develop a sense of belonging to their own local community.
- 2. Identify those who have special responsibilities for looking after people in the community and the importance of the contribution of each individual to community life.

Resources: Worksheet 5B. This lesson can be used as integration with the SPHE Strand Unit "Developing

Suggested Activities:

Citizenship".

- 1. Follow up **Lesson 1** by exploring what it means to belong to different groups such as the local GAA club.
- 2. Ask the children to recount stories of playing for their club or following their club senior team.
- 3. Ask a pupil from the senior classes to talk to the class about representing the school team in Cumann na mBunscol games or at Go Games blitzes.
- 4. It may be possible to organise a First Touch, Go Games blitz for the class with a local school. County Board games development officers could help in the organisation and administration of these games, with pupils from the senior classes acting as *Young Whistlers*. More information about Go Games can be found at <u>www.gaa.ie/page/go_games</u>.
- 5. Worksheet 5B can be used as a fun follow up to these games.





GEOGRAPHY

GAA Grassroots to National Programme (GNP)

Lesson 3:

Strand: Human Environments (People At Play).

Aim: The children should be enabled to:

- 1. Appreciate the roles of people who help at play.
- 2. Describe location and features of play spaces.
- 3. Discuss and record simply journeys to and from play spaces.

Resources: Worksheet 5C, DVD. This lesson can be used as integration with the SPHE Strand Unit "Myself And The Wider World".

Suggested Activities:

- 1. Use **Worksheet 5C** (a simplified map of the general Croke Park area) to introduce the importance of mapping. Discuss who would need this map of Croke Park and why.
- 2. Through role play the children could use the maps to give directions to Croke Park.
- 3. Discuss local landmarks and ask the pupils to give directions to the various locations e.g. school, local GAA pitch, church etc.
- 4. In groups, encourage the children to draw simple maps to these locations.



Lesson 4:

Strand: Human Environments (People And Other Lands).

Aim: To enable the children to:

- 1. Become aware of and appreciate the diversity of people who live in the local community. Recognise their contributions and be aware of how differences can enrich his/her experiences.
- 2. Examine the existence of GAA clubs and activities in other countries.
- 3. To become familiar with some aspects of the lives of people and especially of children in Ireland, Europe and other areas.

Resources: Worksheets 5D, 5E, DVD Sections 4 and 5.

Teacher Information:

There is a major interest in the GAA outside of Ireland at the moment. It is estimated that there are approximately 30,000 adult and 7,000 juvenile players playing hurling and football with the 350 clubs outside of Ireland. County boards and clubs are now affiliated worldwide and there are active games development programmes in the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Asia and Europe. As well as supporting the playing of the games abroad, the GAA is keen to promote the integration of newcomer pupils through Gaelic Games. A dual language book of newcomer children's stories is included in this pack and is aimed at pupils aged 8-12.

Suggested Activities:

- Section 5 of the Céim ar Aghaidh DVD is a shortened version of the documentary on Seán Óg Ó hAilpín`s visit to Fiji, his mother's birthplace. This could be used to introduce the topic of children from different countries and various ethnic backgrounds playing GAA.
- 2. Worksheets 5D and 5E are extracts from the dual language book of newcomer children's stories.



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