

# Always Room for One More

Book by Sorche Nic Leodhas

Unit prepared by Wende and Ami

## Social Studies

### Geography –

This story takes place in Scotland. Have your child locate Scotland on a world map. Scotland is a country located north of England in the British Isles, part of the continent of Europe. It is divided into two areas, called the highlands and the lowlands. In the lowlands are found Scotland's two main cities, its capital Edinburgh and its industrial center, Glasgow. As you look through the pictures in the story, have your child pick out clothing and items that identify this as a Scottish story. Look for the kilt, a woolen skirt worn by the bagpiper. Count how many tam-o'shanter hats, flat round hats, can be found on the heads of the Scots. Can your child think of anything else that may have been brought to America from Scotland? Scotland is known for its fresh water lochs (or lakes). The story of the Loch Ness Monster originated in Scotland, and Scotland is also known for its pipers that play bagpipes.

Robert Burns was a famous poet and song writer from Scotland. Burns wrote in the Scots language, English, and a light Scots dialect, so your student may not understand every word (second video). One of Burns' poems has been provided in the printables section for copywork.

Complete Scotland mini-books and add to your lapbook.

### Occupations –

There are many different kinds of workers throughout this story. The job somebody does for a living is called his or her occupation. Ask your child to identify the various occupations. Discuss with your child which of the occupations he finds most appealing and why. Older children may want to conduct an interview with someone working in the various occupations, either in person or on the phone. You can use interview sheet to ask questions and lead the interview. When you are finished, add the sheet to your notebook.

## Science

## Flora and Fauna –

Different geographical areas have plants (flora) and animals (fauna) that are native to them. Scotland is no exception.

Our story starts out “There was a wee house in the heather – “Heather is a plant that covers much of Scotland, especially the lowlands. They are bushy little shrubs that grow from 2 – 3 feet tall. They have tiny, needlelike evergreen leaves and bear many tiny pink, lavender, purplish, and white bell-like blooms strung along its branches. Other plants you will hear associated with Scotland (but not mentioned in the story) are thistles. Thistles have long prickly leaves and lavender flowers. They multiply prolifically by light seeds that travel by wind and can be a nuisance to gardeners. The bull thistle is the national emblem of Scotland.

After the house fell in, all the glum guests were compared to a grumpetie grouse. The red grouse is a bird that is native to the British Isles. They are characterized by their rounded bodies and mottled plumage and are related to the pheasant. When they fluff their feathers out and hang their head down, they look rather sulky. For this reason, the British use the word grouse as a verb meaning to grumble or complain.

## Weather –

Sharing this book is a good opportunity to teach your children about the weather.

### *How do clouds form?*

1. Warm air, full of water vapor (invisible water that is always in the air)r, rises
2. Rising air cools off
3. Water vapor condenses into water droplets and ice crystals
4. These water droplets and ice crystals form clouds

### *What are the different types of clouds?*

#### Cirrus Clouds-

Seven miles above Earth. These are feathery white clouds made by the wind blowing ice crystals. You usually see these clouds in the sky on a fair weather day.

#### Stratus Clouds-

These clouds are located 1mile above the Earth. They are hang like flat grey sheets

in the sky and often cover the entire sky. When they do cover the sky, the weather forecast is overcast. Fog occurs when stratus clouds touch the ground.

#### Cumulus Clouds-

Cumulus clouds are found 3 miles above the Earth. They look like puffs of cotton and are made mostly of water droplets. They usually form during fair weather and they are constantly changing shape.

#### Cumulonimbus Clouds-

These are 2-3 miles above Earth. They start as cumulus clouds; they grow tall and are dangerous! They can be over 12 miles high and are caused by strong winds. They are composed of swirling air, water, and ice and give birth to thunderstorms and tornadoes.

Complete the layer book. Let your student draw pictures of each kind of cloud. An older student may prefer to write a description.

#### *Why are storm clouds dark?*

They are dark because they are tall and thick; they are so thick that they block out light from the sun.

Use the Dark Clouds Matchbook to write about why some clouds are dark.

#### *How does rain form?*

Remind your student that clouds are formed from water droplets and ice crystals. When these start colliding, some of them stick together and form larger drops. Larger drops mean heavier drops. If they get too heavy for the cloud to hold them, they fall to the ground.

#### Make Your Own Rain Cloud

1. Fill a large plastic bottle with hot water
2. Pour out 2/3 of the water
3. Place an ice cube on top of the bottle
4. The hot water gas forms a misty cloud when it meets the cold ice cube air

#### *How does a storm end?*

Most storms last 20 minutes to an hour. The next time you have a storm, time it with your student to see how long it lasts. Throughout the storm, warm air is constantly feeding it with moisture. It begins to calm down when the precipitation (rain, hail, etc.) chill the ground putting an end to updrafts to feed the clouds. Once all the water (moisture) in the clouds has fallen, the storm is usually over.

### *Why does it lightning?*

The air inside a storm cloud is very busy-- wind is swirling, water droplets and ice crystals are being blown everywhere. This action can create electricity which is strong enough to make a spark. This spark is known as lightning which can be five times as hot as the surface of the sun! Yikes!

Lightning is great at jumping!

1. It can jump from place to place in a cloud
2. It can jump from cloud to cloud
3. It can jump from cloud to ground

### *What makes it thunder?*

The amount of heat put out by lightning causes the air around the bolt to spread out very quickly. This makes a booming sound. The sound can tell you how far away lightning is. Count the seconds between the lightning and the thunder. Divide by five-- it takes five seconds for sound to travel one mile. You see lightning before you hear thunder because light travels faster than sound.

## **Language Arts**

### Parts of a Book (Glossary) –

In the back of *Always Room for One More* is a glossary. A glossary is like a dictionary. It is an alphabetical listing of technical terms, uncommon words, or foreign words, with an explanation or definition of each. Point out the glossary to your child, looking over the words that are included. Explain why the glossary was helpful for understanding the meanings of these Scottish words.

Complete New Words Flap (your student chooses the words from the glossary).

### Context –

When we read a story that has an unfamiliar word, it is helpful to read it in its context. The context is the environment of the word, the words surrounding it and help to determine or deepen its meaning. If you look closely at the surrounding words, you can pick up hints or clues to the understanding of the unfamiliar word. There are seven different types of clues we can look for:

1. Clues provided by the tone and setting.
2. Clues which appear in a series.
3. Clues through association with other neighboring words.
4. Clues supplied through synonyms.
5. Clues contained in comparisons and contrasts.
6. Clues contained in a definition or description.
7. Clues derived from cause and effect.

As you read the story to your child, ask him if there are any interesting or unknown words. Have him then follow the clues to see if he can come up with the meaning. Then check the definition against the one in the glossary. How did he do?

Complete the Words in Context Chart and add it to your notebook.

### Comprehension Questions –

What is a Scottish word that means small and was used to describe the house?  
(Wee)

How many children lived in the house? (Ten)

What is the Scottish word for children? (Bairns)

Who did Lachie invite into his house? (Every traveler)

What finally happened to the house? (Dinged down)

What did everyone help Lachie do? (Build a new house)

How big was the new house? (Twice as big as the old house)

Now there will always be \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_.

### Genres (Ballad)-

Genre is a French word that means “type.” There are many genres of literature, including novels, essays, and poems. The genre of *Always Room for One More* is a ballad. A ballad is a poem, which tells a story. Sometimes it is read and sometimes it is sung. Can you think of any other picture books that are ballads? Your child may also enjoy *Frog Went A-Courtin’* by John Langstaff another picture book based on a Scottish folksong.

### Refrain -

Songs and poems often include a refrain, a repeated line or number of lines. Sometimes children’s books do something similar, including repetition of a phrase. What is the refrain this book?

Other books with refrains include *The Duchess Bakes a Cake* and *Bear Snores On*. Can you or your student think of others?

### Copywork

Ask your student to copy Robert Burns’ poem, “My Heart is in the Highlands.” Remind your student to use her very best handwriting. She could also choose to copy a passage from the story.

### **Art**

#### Caldecott –

Have your child find the award on the cover of *Always Room for One More*. The Caldecott Medal is given every year to the artist of “the most distinguished American picture book for children published in the United States during the preceding year.” First awarded in 1938, the idea for the award was proposed to the American Library Association by Fredric Melcher, secretary of the American Booksellers Association. The winner of the medal, named after 19<sup>th</sup> century picture book illustrator Randolph Caldecott, is selected by a committee of the American Library Association and announced at their midwinter meeting. Ask your child why he thinks *Always Room for One More* may have won this prestigious award in 1966.

### Drawing with Hatching –

Hatching is an illustration technique where a drawing is shaded in by lines. The illustrator uses this method throughout *Always Room for One More*. The lines can be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal. Sometimes they intersect, like a tic tac toe board, and they are then called crosshatches. The further apart the lines, the lighter the shading, and the closer together the lines are, the darker the shading. Examine the illustration of the bag piper. Notice how his shoe and bagpipe appear darker than the kilt or legging? On the shoe and bagpipe the hatches are closer together. Hatching is usually done with pen or pencil. Have your child draw an outline of a person with a pencil, and shade it with horizontal pen hatches. The pencil can then be erased away. Encourage him to hatch many people, using lines of different spacing and directions. Put the completed pictures in your student's notebook.

### Bagpipes –

Bagpipes originated in Scotland and are still played there today. They are reed musical instruments. The piper blows into a mouthpiece with a reed and fills a leather bag with air. He then plays the melody on a chanter, or pipe. The air is then forced out through different sized bass and tenor pipes to create the music. If possible, obtain some bagpipe music to enjoy with your child this week.

## **Math**

### Dozen –

This story offers a good opportunity to practice counting by twelves with your child. Explain that when there are twelve of something, we call it a dozen. How many things can your child think of that come by the dozen? Eggs, donuts, and roses are a few. There were a dozen people in Lachie's family. How many people would there be if there were 2 dozen? How about 3 dozen? Practice counting by twelves.

## **Character Study**

### Hospitality –

The family in this story is very hospitable to the travelers that come upon their home. Being hospitable is making someone visiting your home feel welcome. The people who invite the guests to the home are the hosts. A good host (ess) will

make sure her guests are cozy, warm, sheltered and fed. She will see that they are having fun and will take care of all their needs. What are some ways you can be hospitable? A big smile, a hearty welcome, and offering the guest something to eat and drink are ways of making people feel comfortable. What did the Mac Lachlan family offer their guests to eat? (Porridge). The Bible tells us to “Use hospitality one to another without grudging.” (1 Peter 4:9) This means that we should not be resentful of our guests, but should instead welcome them with warm and loving spirits. The next time you have guests to your house, help your children to be good hosts.

Complete the Hospitality Shutterfold and add it to your notebook.

## Miscellaneous

### Recipe –

If you have a lot of travelers, you're going to have to prepare some food!

[Try some Scottish Shortbread!](#)

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# My Heart's In the Highlands

By Robert Burns



*My heart's in the Highlands,*

*My heart is not here,*

*My heart's in the Highlands*

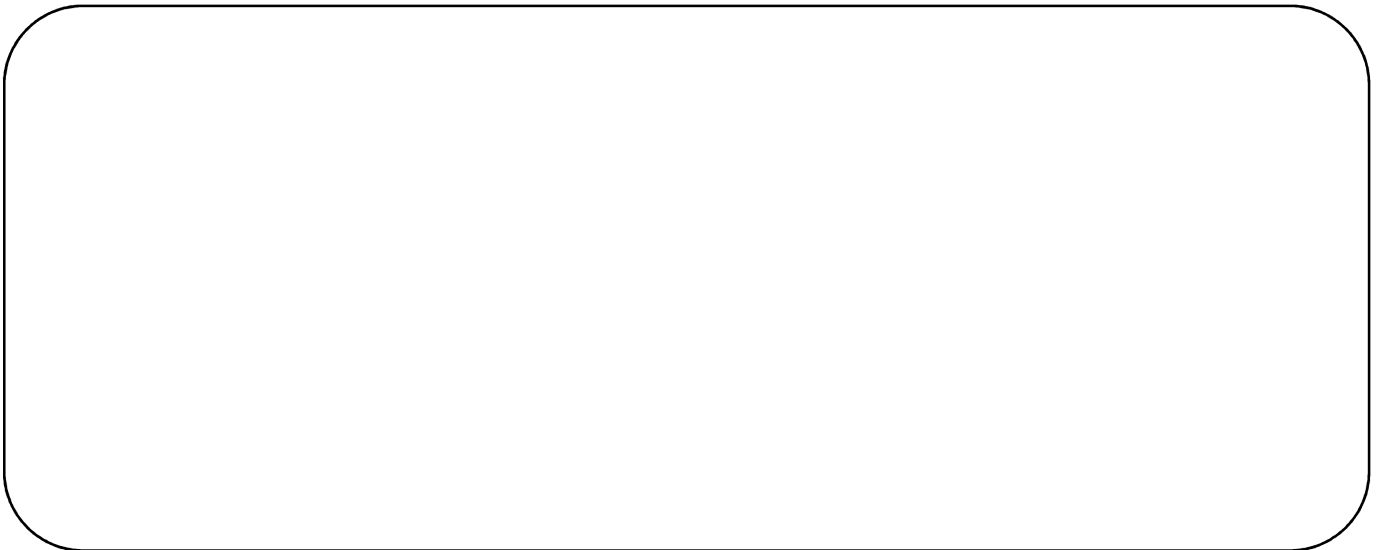
*a-chasing the deer;*

A-chasing the wild deer

and following the roe,

My heart's in the Highlands

wherever I go.



# My Hearts in the Highlands

By Robert Burns



*My heart's in the Highlands, my heart is not here,  
My heart's in the Highlands a - chasing a deer;  
A - chasing the wild deer and following the roe,  
My heart's in the Highlands wherever I go.*

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline, repeated multiple times for practice.

# My Heart's In the Highlands

By Robert Burns



My heart's in the Highlands,

my heart is not here,

My heart's in the Highlands

a chasing the deer

A chasing the wild deer,

and following the roe,

My heart's in the Highlands,

wherever I go.

# My Hearts in the Highlands

By Robert Burns

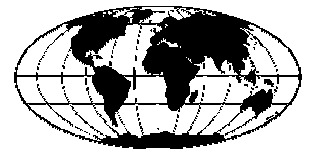


My heart's in the Highlands, my heart is not here,  
My heart's in the Highlands a -chasing a deer;  
A -chasing the wild deer and following the roe,  
My heart's in the Highlands wherever I go.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline, repeated 10 times.

Is  
Scotland?

Where  
in  
the  
World. . .

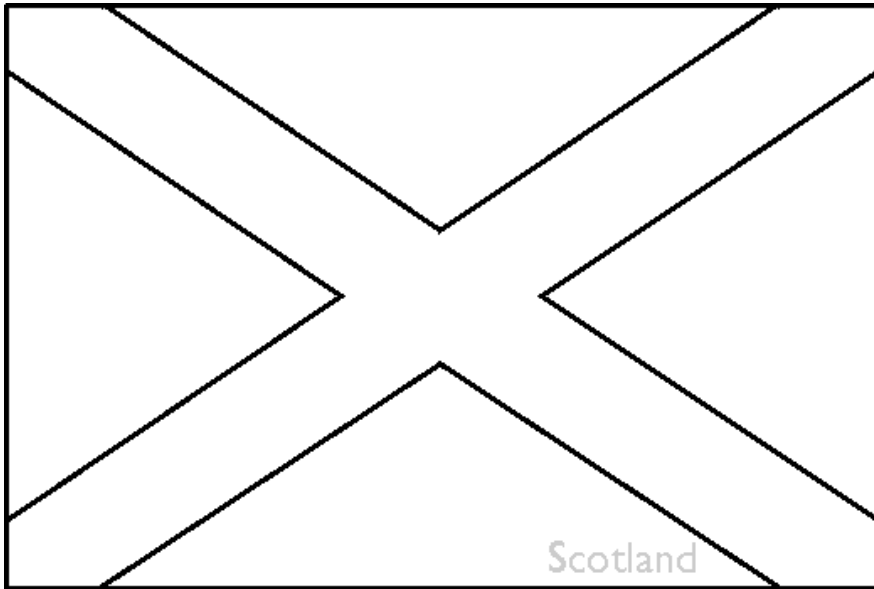


What continent is Scotland on?

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Find Scotland on the map and color it in.

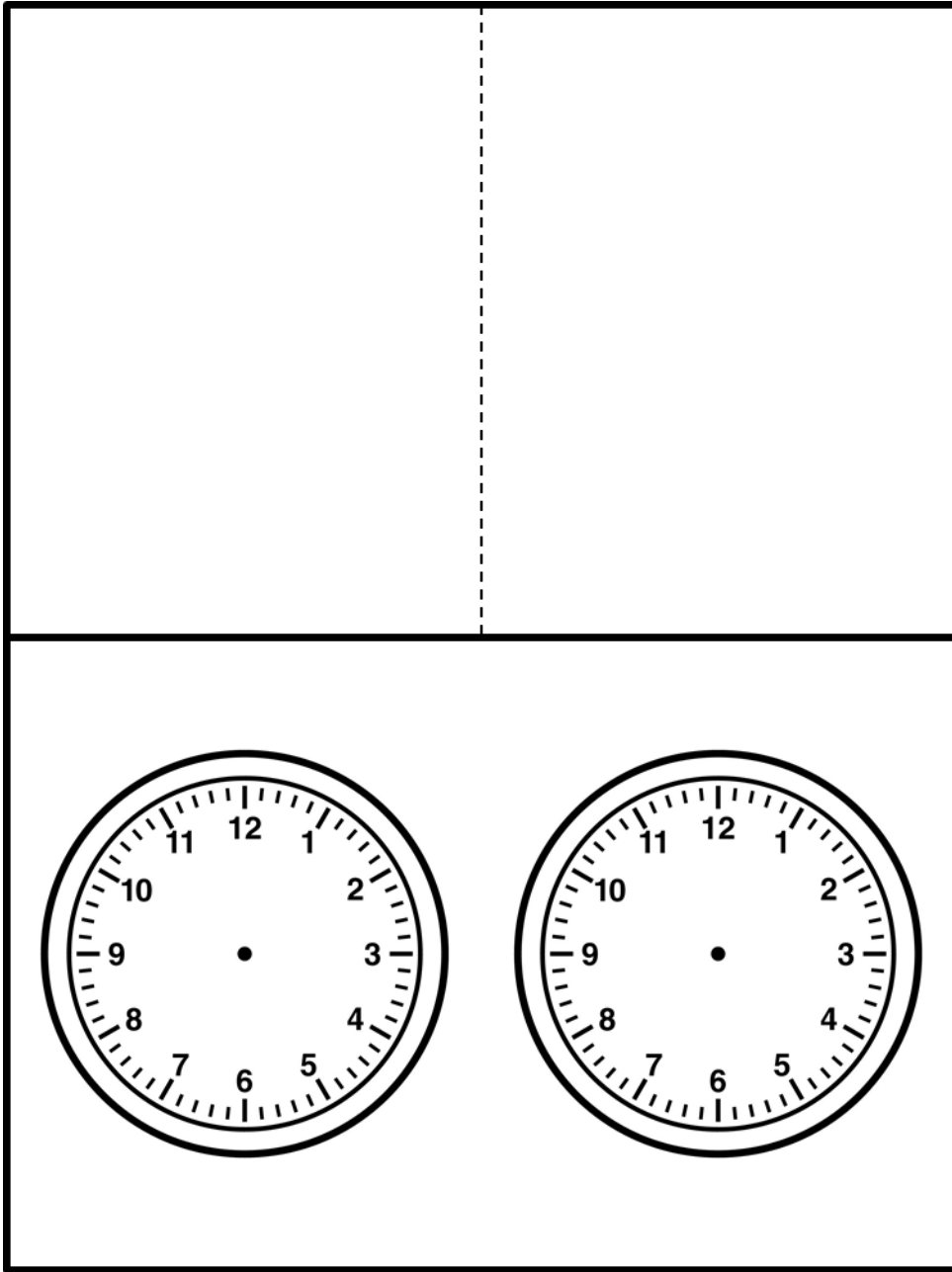
Cut out shutter book and map on solid lines.  
Fold shutter book on dotted lines so that words  
are on cover. Glue map into book under shutters.



Flag of  
SCOTLAND

Cut "Flag of \_\_\_\_\_" book out as one piece. Fold in half. Cut out flag. Color. Paste inside book. Older students may want to write a few flag facts in the book as well.

Cut book out as one piece. Fold in half. Open. Cut slit to form to flaps. Cut out cover pieces and paste them to the fronts of the flaps. In the blank, write the name of your city. Complete the clocks to show the current times (corresponding to the cities on the flaps).

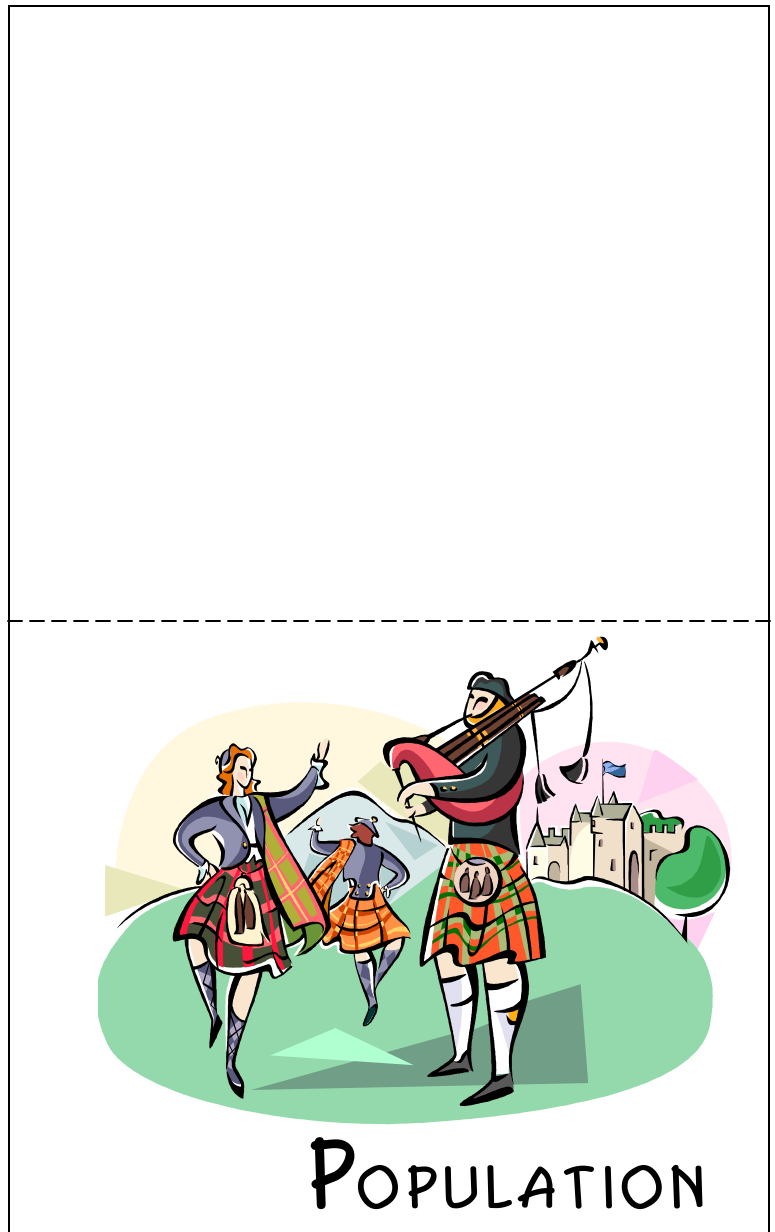
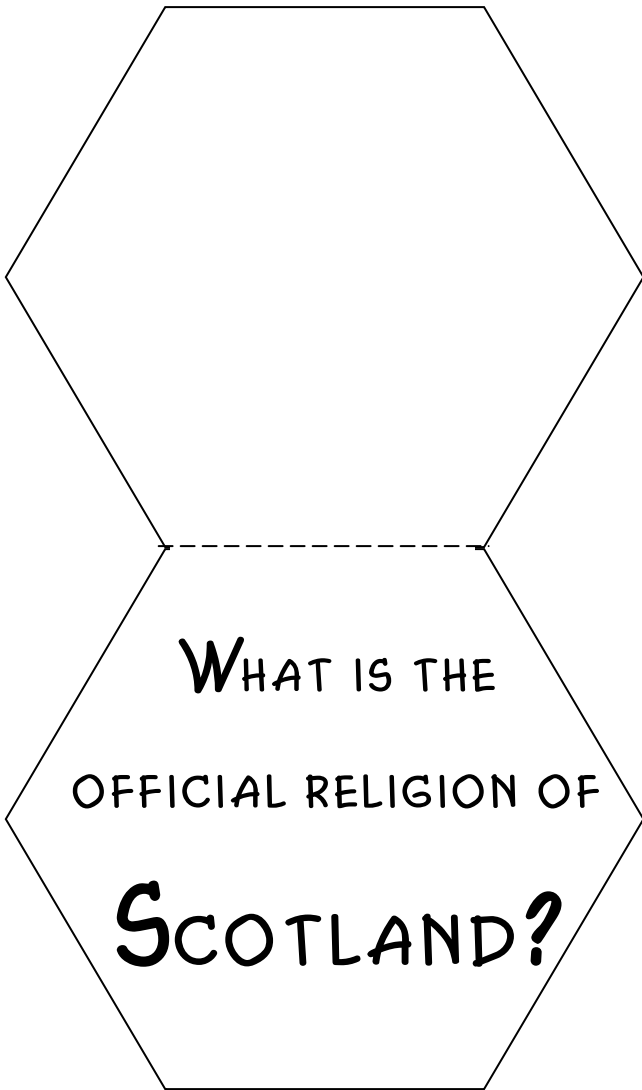
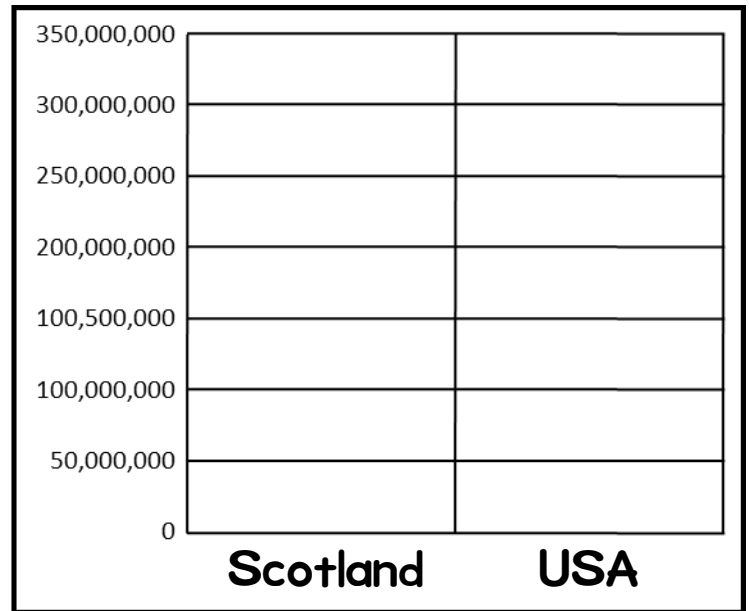


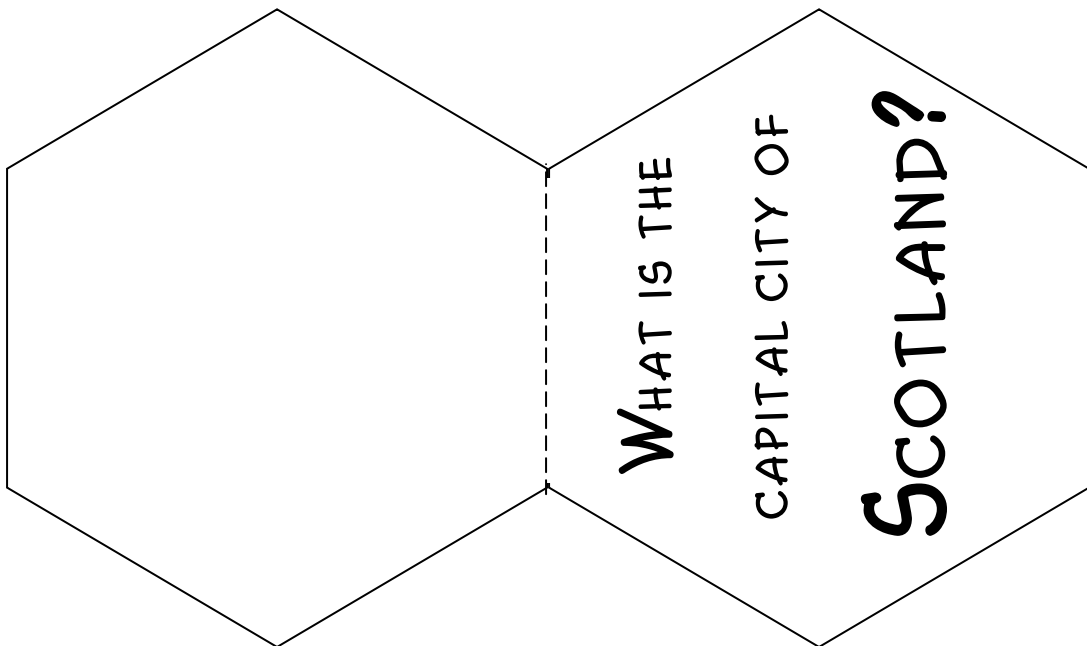
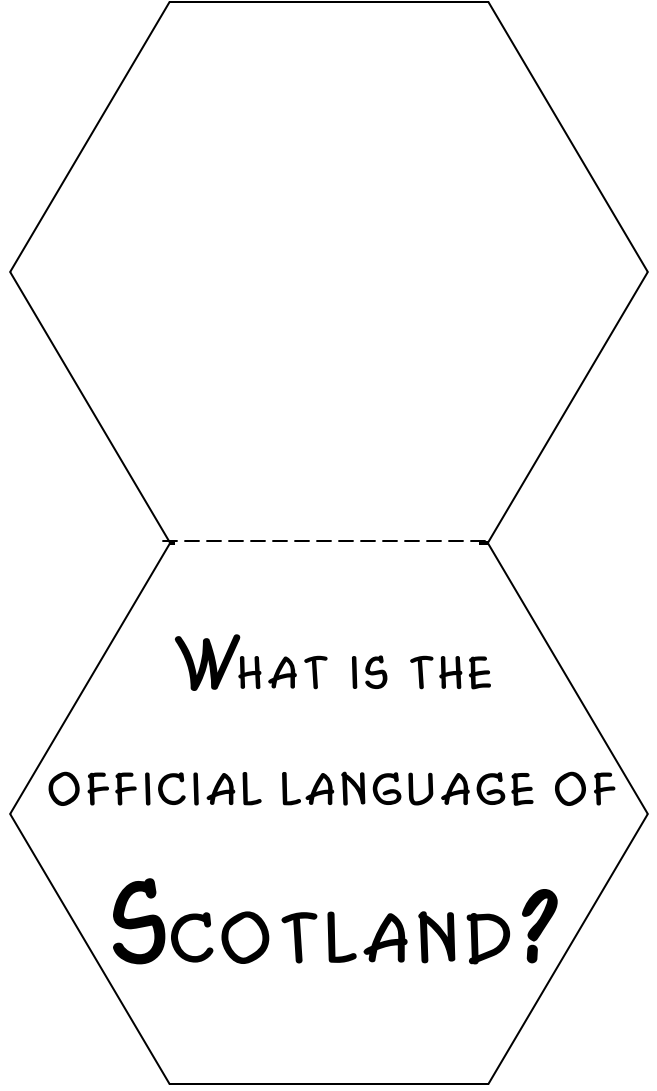
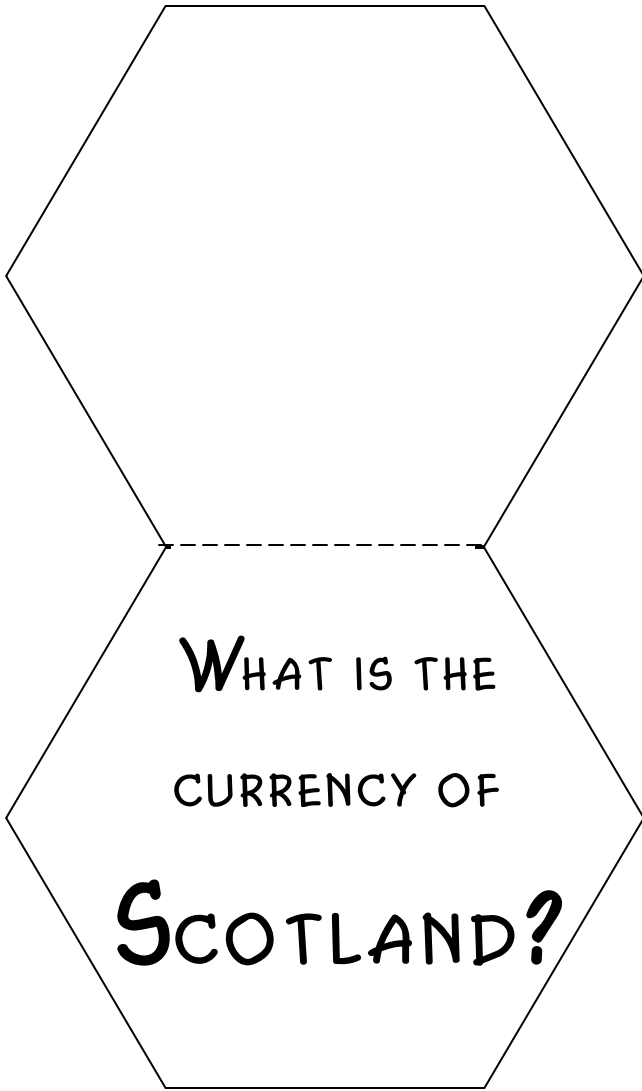
WHAT TIME  
IS IT IN  
EDINBURGH?

WHAT TIME  
IS IT IN  
\_\_\_\_\_?



You can find the current country populations at [this website](#).





# SCOTLAND

IS KNOWN FOR

FRESH  
WATER  
LOCHS

LOCH NESS  
MONSTER

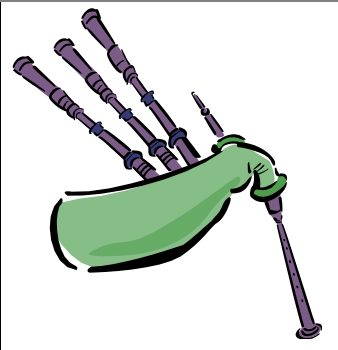
KILTS

CASTLES

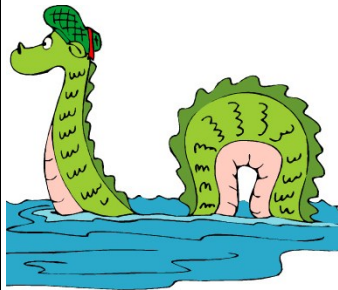
BAG  
PIPES

THEATER  
FESTIVALS

**Directions:** Cut on solid lines. Fold on dotted. Paste the pictures (found on next page) under the appropriate flaps. Paste title piece above the flap book.



LAKES



ROBERT BURNS



WHO WAS

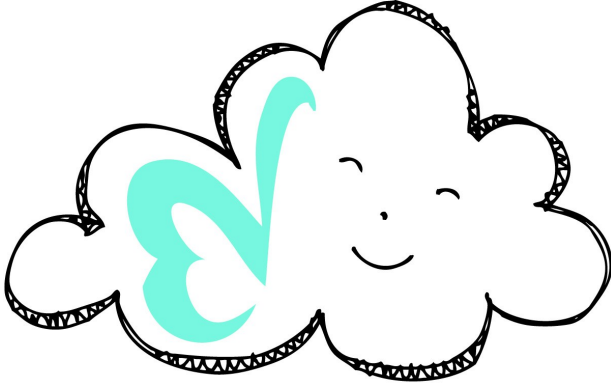
ROBERT BURNS?

WHEN DID HE

LIVE AND DIE?

Directions: Cut out book as one piece on the solid lines. Fold on dotted lines (like a pamphlet).

# TYPES OF CLOUDS



CIRRUS

CUMULUS

STRATUS

CUMULONIMBUS

Directions: Cut on solid lines; fold on dotted. You should have a book that opens like the "shutters" on a window. Use half the book to write your student's definition of hospitality, and use the other half for your student to list ways he can be hospitable to others.



**What is Hospitality?**





**To assemble flap book:**  
cut on solid lines, fold on  
dotted lines.

Choose words from the  
glossary. Write the words  
on the fronts of the flaps  
and the meanings behind  
the flaps.





# Words in Context

Word	What I Think it Means	Context Clues	What the Glossary Says

## Occupation Interview Sheet

Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I would like to interview you about your occupation as a \_\_\_\_\_.  
Do you have a few minutes? Great!

What made you decide to be a \_\_\_\_\_?

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How long have you worked at this occupation?

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How many hours a week do you work?

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Do you need any special training to become a \_\_\_\_\_?

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What do you like best about your job?

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What do you like least about your job?

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Thank you so much for your time! It has been fun learning about your occupation!

Directions: Cut books out. Fold on lines (matchbook style)

## THE REFRAIN

## DARK CLOUDS

