

## Week 2: Welcome + Workshop format

### Theme: Celtic Art & St. Patrick's Day

Celtic culture spread throughout Europe and beyond - this merging of the cultures transformed the original Celtic symbols and their symbolic meanings. Celtic symbols of old seem to have a great connection to the circle. The older examples of Celtic symbols are different styles of spiral, either carved into rock or cut into metals and in some cases scratched onto walls. Many burial sites have large stones at their entrance adorned with these spiral patterns.

For the sake of working with toddlers I am going to keep things simple by looking at circle art to help toddlers experience the Celtic culture. Many of the children will not be able to draw a spiral – many of them may not be able to draw a circle either – but this is fine and perfectly normal. Show the children examples of Celtic circles and spirals and ask them to draw their representation of these. Once again, what you think is not a finished product (in this case a circle or spiral) is actually a child's masterpiece!

Note: When choosing materials for Celtic art try to stick to celtic colours such as earthy colours / bronze / gold / orange / green / yellow / brown.

Learning aids used throughout workshop:

- Celtic Symbols handout
- Animals book

#### **Activity: Collograph Plates**

**10 mins**

**Materials:** String, printing block (thick A5 card), PVA glue, glue brushes.

**Learning Outcomes:** How to use liquid glue for making a structure – liquid turns hard

**Senses Explored:** Visual, tactile

##### **Step by Step:**

1. Cut block (A5 size) out of polystyrene foamboard
2. Make a spiral or circle from thick string onto the block – first dip into PVA glue
3. Coat everything with PVA glue and leave to dry

#### **Activity: Circle Printing**

**15 mins**

**Materials:** Large coloured paper, circular objects (e.g. bottle tops, jam jar lids, bubble wrap, carrots cut in half, buttons), paint mixed with a little glue.

**Learning Outcomes:** Simple everyday objects can be used in many ways

**Senses Explored:** Tactile, Visual, Stereognostic

##### **Step by Step:**

1. Print a circle picture on large paper using the circular objects
2. Print on large paper using Celtic inspired colours

**Activity: Circle Collage****15 mins****Materials:** Coloured card, A3 paper, glue sticks.**Learning Outcomes:** What colours look like when placed closely to another colour. How a circle shape can change if layered and placed differently**Senses Explored:** Visual, Chromatic**Step by Step:**

1. Cut different sizes of circles from coloured card
2. Make a design by glueing the circles onto the paper

**Activity: Marble Marks****10 mins****Materials:** Paper, marbles, paint, circular bowl**Learning Outcomes:** Simple marble game can be used to create art also**Senses Explored:** Visual, Auditory, Baric, Stereognostic**Step by Step:**

1. Cut paper into large circle shape (to fit a circular bowl)
2. Dip marbles into paint then put into bowl and swirl!

**Activity: Stone Art****15 mins****Materials:** Large pebbles, thick crayons, paint, sticks, masking tape**Learning Outcomes:** Found objects can be used in art too – many ways of using one object once imagination is applied. Texture of the stones makes a pattern.**Senses Explored:** Visual, Tactile, Baric**Step by Step:**

1. Take rubbings of stone using crayon to demonstrate texture
2. Next tape masking tape around both ends of a short stick
3. Using the stick paint the stone whatever way the child likes

**Activity: Snake Mobile****15 mins****Materials:** Large card, crayons / markers / colouring pencils / paint, pipe cleaner, google eyes, black paper.**Learning Outcomes:** Form of a snake – head, pointy tail, pointy tongue, scales. Snakes were banished by St. Patrick**Senses Explored:** Visual, Chromatic**Step by Step:**

1. Draw snake spiral on card and cut out
2. Let children colour in their snake
3. Attach google eyes to head
4. Cut out tongue shape and slit into head
5. Tie pipe cleaner around head to hang

**Activity: Shamrock Wand****15 mins****Materials:** Card, green paint, ribbon, masking tape, glue gun, garden sticks, pipecleaners.**Learning Outcomes:** Shamrock is the symbol of Ireland. It has three heart shaped leaves

**Senses Explored:** Visual, Chromatic

**Step by Step:**

1. Cut two shamrocks from card and paint decorate green
2. Attach yellow or orange ribbon to back of one shamrock using masking tape
3. Glue other shamrock to it
4. Wrap pipecleaner around stick and attach as stem of wand using glue gun

**Activity: Collograph Printing**

**15 mins**

**Materials:** Printing block made previously (now dry), paint, Large coloured paper

**Learning Outcomes:** Make your own printing block. The simple designs that can be made out of string. What Celtic designs are.

**Senses Explored:** Visual, Tactile.

**Step by Step:**

1. Pour paint onto a large surface big enough for the printing block
2. Using the block made at beginning, dip it into the paint and print onto the paper