

# Ireland: Regions, Counties & Connections

Use maps to understand Ireland as an island with counties, settlements, landscapes and transport connections without reducing regions to stereotypes.

**LEARN • PRACTISE • CREATE • REFLECT**

Original BrightPencil Kids resource - adult-led where appropriate

A4 edition • 12 purposeful pages • review copy

**Print. Learn. Grow.**

# Grown-up guide

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## Learning objective

Use maps to understand Ireland as an island with counties, settlements, landscapes and transport connections without reducing regions to stereotypes.

## Use this pack well

- Model the first example aloud, then let the learner try.
- Ask “How do you know?” more often than “Are you finished?”.
- Use real objects, talk, movement or observation when the activity suggests it.
- Stop or shorten the session if attention or enjoyment drops.
- Open-ended pages can have many successful answers.

## Quality note

This resource was written originally for BrightPencil Kids. Curriculum sources informed scope and progression only; no third-party worksheet or story text is reproduced.

# Learn the idea

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**1** Political/administrative boundaries are different from physical features.

**2** Counties and settlements are connected by transport and services.

**3** Regions contain internal diversity; one image or fact never represents everyone.

## Talk about it

Explain one idea in your own words. Give an example from real life, a drawing or an object if that helps.

Identify whether a boundary, river, mountain or motorway is political, physical or human-made.

Use a blank island map to practise locating broad regions and major cities from a trusted reference.

Compare coastal and inland location advantages using evidence.

Explain why “everyone in one county lives the same way” is unreliable.

Create two map-based questions that require evidence rather than memory alone.

## Try it beyond the page

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### Real-world / hands-on connection

Use a trusted atlas with an adult to explore one county or city you know little about and record three sourced facts.

### Before you finish

What did you notice?

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What evidence, object or example helped you?

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What would you change if you tried again?

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# Create something

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## Your project

Create a fact-and-map card for a fictional Irish journey connecting two cities with a transport choice and landscape notes.

Use this space for planning, drawing, mapping, designing or notes.

CHALLENGE

# Think deeper

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1. Are county boundaries physical features?

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2. Why avoid stereotypes about regions?

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3. What makes a geographic fact trustworthy?

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# Quick review

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1. In one sentence, explain the big idea of “Ireland: Regions, Counties & Connections”.

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2. Draw or write one example that shows you understand.

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3. Choose one activity from this pack and explain the strategy you used.

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4. Write one question you still have.

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# Answer & discussion notes

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Use these as guidance, not scripts. Open questions can have different successful responses when the reasoning is sensible and evidence-based.

## 1. Suggested response

Usually no; they are administrative/political boundaries.

## 2. Suggested response

People and places within regions are diverse.

## 3. Suggested response

It is supported by a reliable source or map evidence.

## Review before publication

Check age fit, factual accuracy, clarity, accessibility, rights provenance and whether the activity works in practice. This file remains a review copy until those checks are signed off.

FINISH

# My learning reflection

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**I finished this BrightPencil learning pack.**

**One thing I understand better now:**

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**A strategy that helped me:**

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**Something I created or noticed:**

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**My next small question or goal:**

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