



## Comprehension :

### Discover St Patrick

**D**

id you know that St Patrick, the patron Saint of Ireland was not Irish, and his name was not Patrick ?

St Patrick's real name was Maewyn Succat. He was born around 385 AD, at the end of the Roman Empire, probably in Northern England or in Wales. When he was 16, he was captured by Irish pirates and sold as a **slave** to an Irish farmer. He spent 6 years in captivity, where he worked as a **shepherd** and became more and more religious.

One day, he had a vision and heard a voice telling him to leave Ireland. So, he escaped from the farm and went to Gaul (France) where he became a priest and the Pope gave him the name Patricius (Patrick).

The Irish were not Christians. Sixteen years later, Patrick returned to Ireland to convert the population to Christianity. An important idea of Christianity is that there are three parts of God in one : the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. So, Patrick used the **shamrock**: one plant with three leaves, to help people understand this.

Legend says that he chased all the **snakes** from Ireland because there are no snakes in Ireland. How did he do that ? He asked them to jump into the sea and they did !

He died in Downpatrick, Ireland, On March 17<sup>th</sup>, 461AD.

To honour their Saint, the Irish parade and wear green, the colour of Ireland, the **Emerald Isle**.

St Patrick's Day is also celebrated in the USA and other countries because a lot of Irish people emigrated to these countries a long time ago.

			
ST PATRICK CHASING THE SNAKES FROM IRELAND	A SHEPHERD	A SLAVE	AN EMERALD





## Tick Right or wrong

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	Right	Wrong
1. St Patrick is the patron saint of England.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. He was born in the 4 <sup>th</sup> century.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. When he was 16, he was captured by the English army.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. He was a slave for one year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. He was a servant in his master's house.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. One day, he heard a voice telling him to kill his master.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. He became a priest and returned to Ireland to talk about God.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. He used the shamrock to explain the Trinity to Irish people.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. St Patrick's day celebrates the day when Patrick was born.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. People take part in parades on St Patrick's Day.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. They wear "green", the colour of Ireland.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Ireland's nickname is "the Emerald Isle" because the dominant colour is green.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. St Patrick's day is celebrated in Ireland only.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

