

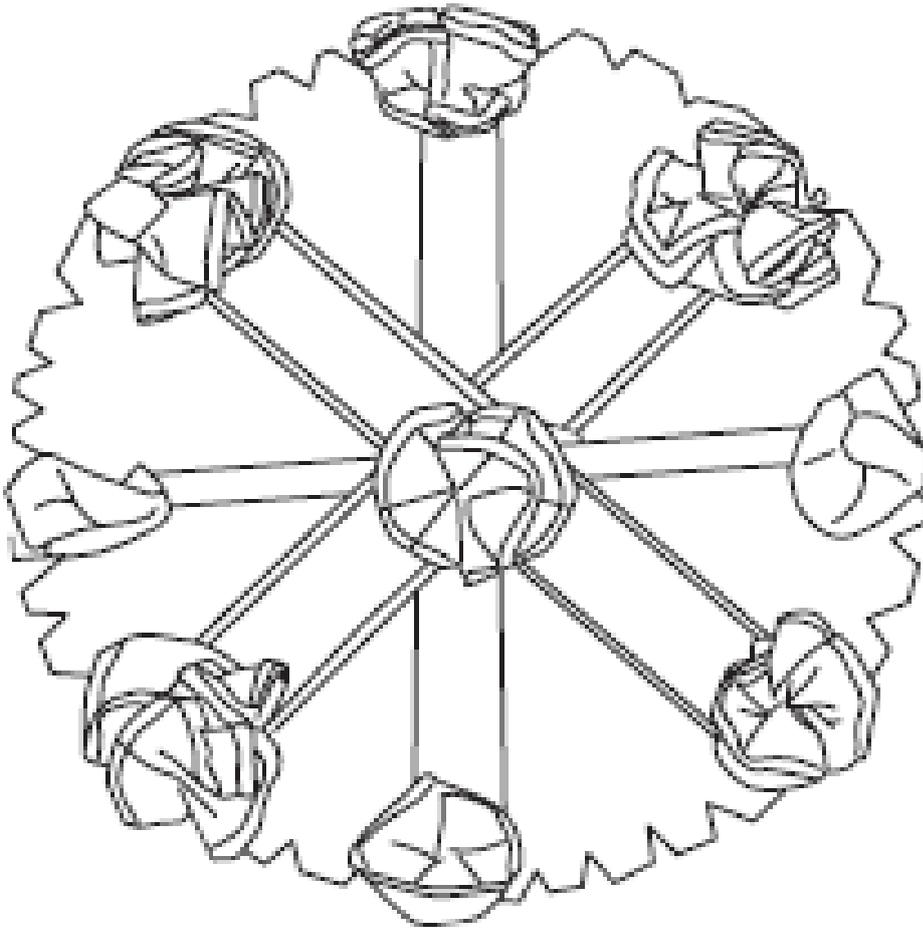


## Find out about how people celebrated in the past

Look at the circular display called 'Life in the Community'

Can you see the display cases with the St Patrick's Badges?

St Patrick is the Patron Saint of Ireland. These badges were worn on the 17th March to celebrate the feast day of St. Patrick. The badges were made of paper and decorated with silk ribbon. Can you see two separate crosses on the badge in the picture?



A festival is a day (or days) when people celebrate - they eat special food, play special games or wear special clothes.

What other festivals do you think that people celebrated in the past?

Hint! Look at each exhibition case. Can you name four of them?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Turn over the page 

**museum**

National Museum of Ireland  
Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann

Colouring Activity



Now, look for the exhibition about Christmas Day and St. Stephen's Day.

Can you see the Mummers' dolls?

The Green Knight is one character in a play performed at Christmas time. The play is known as a Mummer's play. The mummers or actors dress up in masks and costumes made from straw and cloth. The story of the play is based on a fight between the two main characters in the play - St. Patrick and Prince George.

Continue past the St. Patrick's badges.

Can you see the Straw Boy's costume beside the wedding dress?

In what ways do you think the Straw Boy's costume is similar or different to the Mummer's costume?

Similar \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Different \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are there particular times of the year when you put on special clothes as a disguise?

There is another Straw Boy's costume and a whole display case of Straw Boy's hats in the Straw Hay and Rushes Exhibition on Level C.

Think about a festival that you celebrate.

What is the festival called?

Why do people celebrate on this day?

Do people wear special clothes?

Do they eat special food? Do they play games, sing or celebrate in a special way?



The Green Knight

If you enjoyed this activity, you might like to do some more colouring at home. The museum colouring book is available from the bookshop

**museum**

National Museum of Ireland  
Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann

Colouring Activity