

Introduction to Scots Literacy *Guid Fer a Laugh* Level 2- Pack 8

Speakin'
Scots



Daffies

Floors

Bricht



Doo

Puddock

Gowk

Red Rab

Sma Maw

Lintie

Lavrick

Coo

Gress

Hoolet

Rannie



Introduction to Guid Fer A Laugh

We are part of the City of Edinburgh Council, South West Adult Learning team and usually deliver 'Guid Fer a Laugh' sessions for community groups in South West Edinburgh. Unfortunately, we are unable to meet groups due to Covid-19. Good news though, we have adapted some of the material and we hope you will join in at home.

Development of Packs

Following feedback from participants we plan to develop packs from beginner level 1 to 5 with 4 packs at each level. This will allow participants to gradually increase in confidence, recognising and understanding Scots. By level 5, participants should be able to: read, recognise, understand and write in Scots.

Distribution During Covid-19

During Covid-19 restrictions we are emailing packs to community forums, organisations, groups and individuals.

Using the packs

The packs can be done in pairs, small groups or individually. They are being used by: families, carers, support workers and individuals. The activities are suitable for all adults but particularly those who do not have access to computer and internet.

Adapting Packs

The packs can be adapted to suit participants needs. For example, Margaret from Edinburgh forwarded the pack to a friend who was recovering from an operation and shielding. She said, **“the pack really cheered her pal up.”** We really appreciate your emails telling us how you are using the packs.



The Aims of the Session - Whit's it a'boot?

- it's about learning Scots language and auld words
- takes a look at Scots comedy, songs, poetry and writing
- hae a guid laugh at ourselves and others

Scots Language

Scotland is a nation of over 5 million people has a range of regional accents and dialects, each with their own sayings and jargon, ranging from Doric to Lallans and Urban Scots.

Nature Special

Spring is starting to spring. It's that time of year when the licht comes back, the clocks gae forward and the days are getting longer. The grass is starting to get greener and the burds are starting tae sing. Buds are oan the trees, the flooers are oot and there are daffies everywhere.

Things have a warm hue tae them. Especially this year there is a real sense that things are coming back tae life. In this pack we celebrate nature, not as climate change or as part of our environment but simply as the great and amazing thing that happens at this time of year. Something we should all be close tae, nature in'a its wonders.



Thank you, Age Scotland



We want to thank Elizabeth Bryan, Community Development Manager, Age Scotland and her workers for teaming up with us again and funding printed copies of our Nature Special. You will see a beautiful card from Age Scotland, with a poem from Donald Smith, here's a few lines to whet yir appetite,

**'Blossoms in the wind are blawin
Spring has come tae flooer the day....'**

See your card from Age Scotland for the rest of the poem.

Whit are yir favourite wurd?

What are your favourite Scots words that come tae mind when you think about nature? Here are some of our wurd:

Floors Craw Bricht Daffies Doo

Which of these wurd do you like best? Why do you like them? Now make up sentences with the wurd. Write them down if you like. Have some fun with them.



Whit's the Wurd?

Here are some Scots words for burds. Pictures below have the English name for the burd. Pick the right Scots word and put it to the correct burd.

Red Rab Lintie Lavrick Chuckie Gowk Corbie

Deukie Sma Maw Rannie Jecko Pee-Pie Bubbly Jock

Seagull



Robin



Raven



Duckling



Lark



Turkey



Linnet



Jackdaw



Hen



Magpie



Wren



Cuckoo



How did you get on? Answers are on the next page.

Answers

Red Rab Lintie Laurick Chuckie Gowk Corbie

Deukie Sma Maw Rannie Jecko Pee-Pie Bubbly Jock

Sma Maw



Red Rab



Corbie



Deukie



Lavrick



Bubbly Jock



Lintie



Jecko



Chuckie



Pee-Pie



Rannie



Gowk



Two of our favourites are Lintie and Rannie. Which ones do you like? Can you think of any more names of birds in Scots?

Put the Wurd In



Put the richt Scots wurd intae the sentences below.

Rannie Lavrick Lintie Gress Tattie Bogle
Sma Maw Red Rab Corbie Hoolet Gowk

1. The _____ was shimmering green after the rain.
2. The _____ is small and dumpy with a cocked tail.
3. The clock chimes like a _____ clock.
4. In the field the _____ scared the burds away.
5. When I'm at the sea side the _____ tries to steal my chips.
6. The _____ is the blackest burd and brings bad luck.
7. I said she sings like a _____.
8. The _____ ascends high in the sky and sings.
9. He comes oot a nicht and it a wise _____.
10. The _____ has a bonnie red breast.

How did you get on? Answers on the next page.



Answers



1. The **gress** was shimmering green after the rain.
2. The **rannie** is small and dumpy with a cocked tail.
3. The clock chimes like a **gowk** clock.
4. In the field the **tattie bogle** scared the burds away.
5. When I'm at the sea side the **sma maw** tries to steal my chips.
6. The **corbie** is the blackest burd and brings bad luck.
7. I said she sings like a **lintie**.
8. The **lavrack** ascends high in the sky and sings.
9. He comes oot a nicht and it a wise **hoolet**.
10. The **red rab** has a bonnie red breast.

I always thought tattie bogle was the gunge in your lugs as my maw used to say when cleaning my lugs, "**You've got tattie bogles in your lugs.**"





Sum Scots Sayings

The Scots have a lot of sayings, some couthie and wise. Complete the sentence by selecting the correct saying from the list below.

“shone like a spoon”

“gress is greener”

“ploos a straight line”

“the shepherds delight”

“the shepherds warning”

“like the coos tail”

“red as a beetroot”

“till May is oot”

“sailing close tae the wind”

“up wi the lark”

“twa in the bush”

“chickens till they hatch’

1. The _____ oan the other side.
2. He always is good and _____.
3. She gets _____ every morning.
4. He is always last jist _____.
5. He saw her and went _____.
6. He’s a gambler always _____.
7. One in the hand is worth _____.
8. Dinnae count yer _____.
9. The full moon _____.
10. Red sky in the morning is _____.
11. The red sky at nicht is _____.
12. Ne’er cast a clout _____.

How did you get on? Answers on the next page.

Answers



“shone like a spoon”

“ploos a straight line”

“the shepherds warning”

“red as a beetroot”

“sailing close tae the wind”

“twa in the bush”

“gress is greener”

“the shepherds delight”

“like the coos tail”

“till May is oot”

“up wi the lark”

“chickens till they hatch’

1. The **gress is greener** oan the other side.
2. He always is good and **ploos a straight line**.
3. She gets up **wi the lark** every morning.
4. He is always last jist **like the coos tail**.
5. He saw her and went **red as a beetroot** .
6. He’s a gambler always **sailing close tae the wind**.
7. One in the hand is worth **twa in the bush**.
8. Dinnae count yer **chickens till they hatch**.
9. The full moon **shone like a spoon**.
10. Red sky in the morning is **the shepherds warning**.
11. The red sky at nicht is **the shepherds delight**.
12. Ne’er cast a cloot **till May is oot**.



Wurd O' the Pack



LICHT

This is the wurd o' the pack because it is the wurd that sums up whit spring is tae us. There is nothing mair bonnie than the licht sheenin oan a bunch of daffies. Spring will always be licht and daffies. It also minds us how we are lit up inside oorsels by the coming of spring. The licht within and withoot starts shining again in spring.

Grannie Clerra and Grandie Chay always celebrated the coming of spring. They both loved daffies and hud them everywhere. The were a ower the backgreen and Grannie Clerra hud them a'where she cud put them in the hoose. She even hud them in the lavvie.



The livin room wis full o' them, Grandie Chay picked them fae the fields an even bocht some fae the Co-opie. We noticed ae day when the sun wiz sheenin that it's licht cast a licht roond baith o'them n'looked like they hud a halo roond them. Grandie Chay telt Clarra that the licht o'the world shone on her. She telt him that he wiz a fair reflection o' that licht. Grandie Chay just said, **"Oh Clerra yer a braw sicht covered in licht."**

Onywey, the main event wiz the back green Spring Fling. It wiz held oot oan the common back green. A'body brocht their ain food tae share wi a'body else. Naveed's curry wiz a big favourite. There wiz always mair than enuff.

For the bairns there wiz sweeties and chocolate hidden a ower the place. Whit a delight it wiz tae find a sweetie. Sum folk biled eggs in tea an painted faces oan them. It wiz great fun rolling them ower the wee slope at the bottom o the green. Grannie Clerra and the wummen organised it a. Grandie Chay went about saying, **“Aye it’s a rerr day an it will be licht till late oan.”**



In the early evening the fun began. There wiz music fae fiddlers an moothies and there wiz singing. The highlight wiz the Spring Fling Bard o’ the Year Competition. The best were the twa poems that were read oot loud. They were read wi passion and fun. The first poem wiz written and read oot by Sheila Richards, it went like this,

Spring in April by Sheila Richards

**In yon trees, twa’ birds are singing’
Bricht coloured flo’ers frae the earth are springin’
Crocus, tulip and daff
Nature ayeways maks me laugh
A’ o’ these are joy tae me
E’en better tae enjoy fer free
Sae let’s a’gang outside and cheer
April, spring at last is here;
Wi’ its braw, licht sho’ers
An’ many bonnie flo’ers
O’ this we’ll ken, nae fear
It’ll came roond agin next year**



It wiz braw. The other was a W. D. Cocker poem and wiz read by Grannie Clerra’s pal Susan Jackman and it went like this,

The Robin and the Lintie by W.D. Cocker

A robin—rid-briest through the snaw
Gaed scartin' wi' his wee bit bill,
But scrimpest bite ne'er won ava,
Sae happit on the winda-sill;
An keekin' through the winda-pane
A lintie in a cage he saw:
"oh, lintie, lintie, fine ye feed,
Fu' blithely may ye sing awa'"



The lintie gied his heid a thraw,
He heard the chappin' on the pane.
The robin on the sill he saw,
An' oh! For freedom he was fain.
"Oh, robin, robin, I maun thole
My prison while ye flee awa'

Grandie Chay judged them as equal, Sheila and Susan shared the chocolates oot among the fowk. Grannie Clerra wiz like a newly sprung daffie just glowin wi community pride. Grandie Chay when he wiz clearin up said **"It wiz braw tae be part o it a."** At twilight the licht of the sun shone on them a, an a braw moon licht nicht set in.



LICHT

Whit dae ye think o that? What did you dae tae celebrate spring time? Do you remember ony special occasions? Oor word o the pack is **LICHT** what is your sprng wurd?

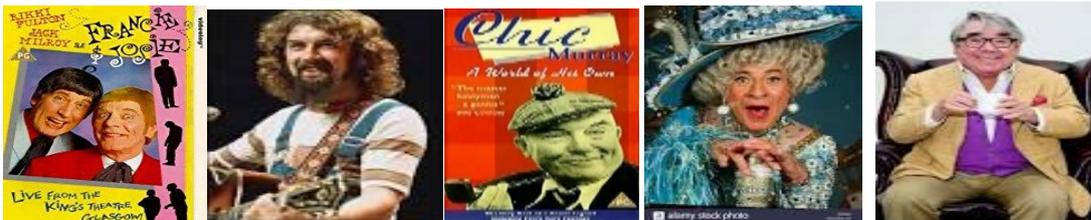
Corona Virus in Scots

Weel ye may hae hud yer jag. But stay safe an get the 2nd Jag.

**Dinnae mak us ask,
Mind an' wear a mask**



Joke Fae the Poke



What dae ye ca a critical horse?
A nay sayer

Hoo come that Italian guy can go about backpacking everywhere?
Ach it's a richt – he's a Roman

Ah goat really hungry visiting the Alpaca farm
Next time al'paca lunch

Hoo did the farmer find his wife?
He tractor doon



Why is it really risky telling secrets oan a farm?
The corn hae ears, the tatties hae een and the beanstalk.



A couple o' sangs

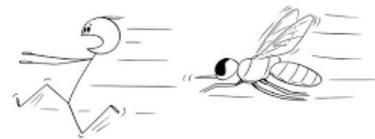
We have a couple of sangs for ye. Ye have heard quite a lot about the floers, the licht and the burds. Weel here are a couple of sangs about a bee and an insect. A part o nature, they are both by a Glesga man called Matt McGinn, a great character, there's mair about Matt below. The first is The Effen Bee and the second is The Wee Kirkcudbright Centipede. Say them oot loud yersels and talk about whit one ye like best. Maist of all enjoy them.

If you have access to YouTube you watch it on this link,
<https://youtu.be/Q1Z1V5cSWU4>

The Wee Town of Effen by Matt McGinn

You will have heard of the Wee town of Effen
It's just outside Edinburgh. It's Famous for making Honey. They keep Bees there!!!

He kept bees in the little town of Effen
An Effen bee keeper was he
And one day this Effen Bee keeper
Got stung!!!!
By a Big Effen Bee!!!!



Now the big Effen Bee keepers
Wee Effen wife
For the Big Effen "Polis" she ran (policeman)
For there's naebody can sort out a Big Effen Bee
Better than a Big Effen Polisman can

Now the Big Effen "Polis"
he done his nut
And he ran doon the main Effen street

In his hand was a big Effen baton
He had Big Effen boots oan his feet

Now the Big Effen Polis
caught the Big Effen Bee
And he twisted the Effen Bee's wing's
But this Effen Bee got its own back
'Cos this Effen Bee had two stings



Now they're both in the Effen museum
And the Effen folk often come see
The remains of the Big Effen Polis
Stung to death!
By the Big Effen Bee!!!!

If you have access to YouTube you can watch it on this link,
<https://youtu.be/qAFqFAWwteA>

The Wee Kirkcudbright Centipede by Matt McGinn

The Wee Kirkcudbright Centipede, she was very sweet
She was ever so proud of every one of her hundred feet
Early every morning her neighbours came to glance
She always entertained them with a beautiful little dance

As leg number ninety four gave ninety five a shunt
Legs number one and two were twistin out in front
As legs numbers nine and ten were wriggling up the side
Legs seventy three and four were doing the Palais Glide



Her neighbour Jenny Longlegs with jealousy was mad
She went out and bought herself a pencil and a pad
She came a month of mornings and made careful note
Of every step the centipede made and this is what she wrote

Armed with exact notation young Jenny Longlegs tried
To dance just like the centipede, she failed and nearly cried
She grabbed a hold of the centipede, she says 'Now, have a look
And tell me how you do these steps I've written in my book?'



Said the centipede 'Do I do that?', and tried to demonstrate
She'd never thought on the thing before, she got into a terrible state
Her hundred legs were twisted, she got tied up in a fankle
She fractured seven shinbones, fourteen kneecaps and an ankle

As legs number one and two were tied to three and four
Legs number five and six were trampled on the floor
Leg number fifteen was attacked by number ten
Ninety seven and ninety eight will never dance again

The Wee Kirkcudbright Centipede, she suffered terrible pain
And some of us were very surprised she ever danced again
But now she tells her neighbours, every one that calls to see
Never try an explanation of what comes naturally.

Dae ye Ken.....

Matt McGinn was born on January 1928 in Calton, Glasgow. He was a songwriter, poet, folk singer, author and poet. He came from a family of nine. He was sent to an approved school at the age of 12. Despite this he got a job in a Hillington factory and went to evening classes. He won a scholarship to Ruskin College, Oxford. He then trained to be a teacher. He eventually became the organiser of the Gorbals Adventure Playground. He joined the folk scene and went to America where he met Bob Dylan at Carnegie Hall. He was a Communist and Trade Unionist. He wrote loads of really funny songs and was an all round good guy. He died in 1977 of smoke inhalation after falling asleep with a cigarette.



Yir Feedback – Yir Say



Your feedback, ideas, contributions and suggestions are appreciated. Special thanks to **Sheila Richards** for sending her poem Spring in April. Thanks also to **Susan Jackman** for suggesting W.D. Cocker's poem The Robin and the Lintie. Please keep your contributions coming in and where possible we will use them.

"I spent my childhood growing up in England and I often heard my mum from Dundee use scots words and phrases. The packs have brought back many happy memories. **Sue Bird**

"The bag will be very useful and I have discovered that I need educating in the Scots language. Tomorrow I plan to sit with a LARGE mug of coffee and really try to work my way through the puzzles which I am sure will take ages. Lovely to have something to look forward to". **Moira McGlinchy**

My clients really look forward to receiving these as it makes their day, especially this month's edition as it follows the history of inspiration women. The feedback received has been 100% positive, everyone enjoys each issue received, especially the word searches and the quizzes. The Scottish language and phrases bring back some lovely memories and happy smiles, which are priceless after the effects of the lockdown. **Alison, Fife Forum**

Amazing! So much to choose from so surely something for everybody !!!
Keep up the good work. **Rita Crombie**, PS.. could I forward this to a relative in Dundee? **(Yes please share with anyone you think might be interested)**

Thank you very much. I have been working on the poem Did Ye Find a Red Yo-yo? with my learner. She works in a school so I thought the words were quite relevant to her for understanding the Scottish words. **Nicola**

My goodness, this is the best one yet, many thanks. **Janet Brunton**

It cheered me up no end this morning. I love the Scots language and have poetry books by W D Cocker which I take off the bookshelf every so often to cheer myself up. Some of them are very funny. I look forward to the next instalment. **Liz**

I have come across another cracker - do you know what hummel doddies are ?
I knitted a hat and scarf for myself for these cold mornings and my friend asked if I had made hummel doddies to match. (Mittens) **Vera Harvey**

I love going through them myself and remembering forgotten words from my childhood and often it brings back good memories too. I also print a copy and send to my cousin and her husband both in their 80s, one from East Lothian and the other from Fife. Latest feedback was"" we love doing the activities and quizzes and finding out Fife and East Lothian differences. **Jess Fergus**

Find the Scots Wurd

M R Q J E J K M W N X U R E S
A N K H J I A L I N T I E L T
Z L N O B D K G P T V W D G H
D C S O U S Z C C T E A R O C
P O N L B Z G W U W A M A B I
C V P E B K O S H H R A B E L
V N O T L E W N S A C M H I Q
A S O X Y N K G N E U S W T D
N E X P J E I N L Y R P L T E
C I N B O N I Q O B C G A A U
J F Q O C E E B K O F R V T K
Z F J G K P K Z R O C D R W I
N A H L X C C T O O L C I W E
S D G E G P E H K T C F C B Z
S U H E R E N J E U C C K G G

BOGLE	CHUCKIE	RANNIE
CLOOT	DEUKIE	TATTIE BOGLE
DAFFIES	SMA MAW	HOOLET
GRESS	CORBIE	WHAUP
LAVRICK	GOWK	COO
LINTIE	JECKO	LICHT
REDRAB	OOT	



Hae Yir Say



We are planning on developing more Scots Literacy packs. The next themes for our future packs will be early years and childhood so we'll be looking for your childhood rhymes, songs, games, jokes, school days, sayings and memories. If you want to contribute send in your stuff good and early -----as in NOW!!! My email and phone are below.

1. Did you enjoy it? If yes, what did you like?
2. If not, why not?
3. Anything else you would like to see in the pack?

Course material developed by Derek Suttie, Scots Literacy Tutor

Send your Scots words, jokes, poems, sayings, suggestions to:

Lydia.markham@ea.edin.sch.uk **Mobile: 07719 420 424**

Lydia Markham, Lifelong Learning Worker (Adult Learning),
SW Locality, City of Edinburgh Council

