Find out/investigate.

Chat to your partner or in a group.

Write.

Draw and colour in.

Use the internet.
Look at this short list of Ulster-Scots surnames.
Match them up with the following words.

Tyres  
Writer  
Leader  
Fighter  
Machines  

Do you know anyone with one of these names?
Which surnames in your class do you think are Ulster-Scots?
Which surnames in your class are not Ulster-Scots, where do these come from?

Investigate the percentage of Ulster-Scots surnames compared with others in your class or school.
Choose a way of representing your results.
You could use a graph or chart from Microsoft.
**Surnames** tell us a lot more about people than we might at first think. They tell us what family we belong to and sometimes reveal where our ancestors came from. There might even be an exciting story to tell about your family or about people with the same name.

Here are ten surnames. Write the words **Ulster-Scots** next to four of them and the word **other** next to the remaining four.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>McCartney</th>
<th>Fitzgerald</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campbell</td>
<td>Drummond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wonge</td>
<td>McGregor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paderewski</td>
<td>York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McIlwaine</td>
<td>Garibaldi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gather information and make a list of famous people with a Scots or Ulster-Scots surname.

You should say who they are and if possible what their connection is with Ulster or Scotland.

Here are a few examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Connection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tony Blair</td>
<td>Politician</td>
<td>Born in Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joey Dunlop</td>
<td>Former motor bike racer</td>
<td>From Ballymoney</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report back to your teacher.
Scotland is close to Ulster. People have travelled back and forth between the two places. Many have settled in Ulster from Scotland and many have settled in Scotland from Ulster. This is why a great number of people in Ulster have similar names to Scottish people.

An Ulster-Scots surname might be an important clue in finding out if you have links with Scotland.

5 Find five important towns in Scotland and five in Ulster. Mark them on this map.
How we are given our Surname

Surnames are passed on by our parents and written on a birth certificate.

Christian names or first names are different because they are chosen and used by those who know us.

Here is Andrew Armstrong's full name as it appears on his birth certificate. Draw a circle around his surname.

Andrew  John  Angus  Armstrong

Now write out your full name. Write your Christian or first names in one colour and your surname in another.
Birth certificates

A birth certificate is important. It tells you a lot more than your surname. Your school calculates your age from it and places you in the correct class. When you need a passport it is used to find out not just your age but which country you belong to.

Here is some of the information you will find on a birth certificate.

Information on birth certificates is kept safe by the government. People who want to know more about their family history use birth certificates.

Many birth certificates belonging to people in Ulster have surnames and even Christian or first names that are Scottish.

Write your date and place of birth.

Date of birth: ____________________________________________

Place of birth: ____________________________________________
Your family might have connections with Scotland. If not, it is certain that if you live in Ulster, you will know someone who has. It is likely that your surname or the surname of a friend comes from Scotland.

Some people in your class may have been born in Scotland, have relatives who were born in Scotland or know about ancestors who came to Ulster from Scotland.

**It's now time to become a private investigator!**

**Discover something about your own family history.**

- Talk to relatives to find out if any of them came from Scotland. Perhaps you will find out about the places in Scotland they once lived or about relatives who live there today.
- Look at an old birth certificate.
- Write lots of things down so you don't forget!
- Report back to your teacher.
Many Ulster-Scots are proud of their surnames because they are also places in Scotland like Dundee or Paisley.

Some popular surnames describe a feature such as Ford.

Why do you think people have a surname, which is also a place name?

Work out the Ulster-Scots surname for each of these picture clues. Add some more names and picture clues of your own.
Surnames and place names

You will need an atlas or map of Scotland

At the foot of the page you will find 8 Ulster-Scots surnames that are also places in Scotland. Write these names in the correct place on the map below: Mark them on this map.
Surnames and occupations

Some surnames were given to people in the past because they did a certain job. The name Stewart is common to Scotland and Ulster. It is the name for a person who worked in a castle or large house (a steward) as *keeper of the household*.

Complete each of these sentences with the correct word. Choose from the Ulster-Scots surnames in the box below.

a) The ___________ cuts hair and shaves beards.
b) The ___________ preached in the cathedral.
c) A man who owns a corn-mill might be called ________.
d) The ___________ opened the door of the mansion.
e) A wonderful suit was made by the __________.
f) Beautiful music was performed by the ___________
g) The _____________ cut leather to fit the hand.
h) Each cut in the stone was made by the __________.
i) A Scottish lord is known as a ________________.
j) Wooden barrels are made by a ______________

Harper  Cooper  Barber  Taylor  Butler  Millar  Laird  Mason  Bishop

Glover

Do you know of any other Ulster-Scots surnames that are also occupations?
Surnames and nicknames

A nickname is often given to people as a joke. It might describe something about them, the way they look, the way they talk or a habit they have.

Some children even have nicknames for their teachers!!

Using a nickname is something we all know about, but sometimes to call another person a name can be cruel. Quite often, when people are given a nickname it stays with them for a long time.

There are many Ulster-Scots surnames that began as a nickname.

15 Draw a line from the pictures to the correct surname.

- Mr Smart
- Mrs Black
- Miss Long

This is Mr White our teacher. We call him Snowy!
Complete this table using Ulster-Scots surnames. Add 3 more of your own.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rhyming Word</th>
<th>Reason for nickname</th>
<th>Surname</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ball</td>
<td>Not very big</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ox</td>
<td>Slynness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>snort</td>
<td>not very tall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>quell</td>
<td>handsome, beautiful</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brittle</td>
<td>small person</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>throng</td>
<td>great strength</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reel</td>
<td>reliable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>throw</td>
<td>noisy bird</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>site</td>
<td>fair hair or complex</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Are there any people you know with surnames that might have begun as nicknames?
Some things Andrew discovered

Surname Meaning
Andrew thought his surname meant someone with strong arms! He discovered it meant just that! The symbol of a strong arm is used in the Armstrong crest.

His family had always told him that the name Armstrong was Scottish. After a lot of investigation he discovered that the Armstrongs lived on the border between Scotland and England.

Here are some examples of Coats of Arms. Search the internet for more examples. Then design your own Coat of Arms for your family.

Robertson  Dunbar  Campbell

These websites may be useful to you
http://www.fleurdelis.com/meanings.htm
http://www.irishsurnames.com/heraldiccharges.htm
Design your own Coat of Arms for your family in this space
Andrew even discovered there were castles in Scotland built by the Armstrongs. He was able to download pictures of the places his ancestors lived in 400 years ago, before they came to Ulster.

The Tartan

Andrew learnt that nearly all Scottish names have a tartan. On the Internet he found pictures and addresses of shops that sold tartans.

The Armstrong tartan is mostly green. See if you can find out what colours the following tartans are:

- Douglas tartan
- Gordon tartan
- MacDougall tartan

These internet sites might help you:

www.tartans.scotland.net
www.scottish-tartans-society.co.uk
www.scotsclans.com
To find out how long his family had lived in Carrickfergus and possibly when they first moved to Ulster from Scotland, Andrew had to get plenty of help from Dad, Mum and relatives.

Fortunately Andrew’s Granda, was very interested in their family history. He had begun a family tree some years ago and was only too glad to help.
Uncovering more about a surname

Mr White has asked Andrew to find out about his surname for a class project. His family are interested about their name too, so he is hoping to get some extra help.

In order to get started, Mr White has given the pupils involved these leads:

- Does your surname have a meaning?
- Where does the name come from?
- Is there a tartan or crest for your surname?
- Search for websites
- Did your family always live in the same place?
- Ask your family what they know about relatives and ancestors.

Andrew remembers doing a project like this before. He is thinking about what else he could do.

- birthday cards
- newspapers
- old letters
- postcards
- photographs
- old diaries
- certificates
Imagine Andrew is a boy in your class. Here is part of Andrew’s family tree that his grandfather sketched out. Study it carefully to try and work out what relation the names are to Andrew.

From this chart you can see that Andrew Armstrong’s brother is Gary. Gary’s mother was Sally Robinson. Look carefully at the chart or family tree and see if you can answer the following questions:

1. Who is Andrew Armstrong’s sister?

2. Who is Andrew’s Great Grandfather?

3. Who is Andrew’s Aunt?

4. Who is Andrew’s Great Grandmother?

5. When was Andrew’s Great Grandmother born?

6. How much younger is Andrew than his brother Gary?

7. When was Andrew’s father born?

8. Which boy’s and girl’s names are popular in the Armstrong family?
Now try drawing your own or someone else’s family tree.
Now that you have seen how Andrew completed his surname project, perhaps you could do the same. Choose a Scottish surname or your own.

If you wish you could use the guidance Mr White gave Andrew. Don’t be afraid to add more points. Make your work colourful and interesting. Draw and download pictures from the Internet.

Here are some useful sites to get you started:

- [www.county-surnames.co.uk](http://www.county-surnames.co.uk)
- [www.electricscotland.com](http://www.electricscotland.com)
- [www.scotsmart.com](http://www.scotsmart.com)
- [www.ancestryireland.co.uk/](http://www.ancestryireland.co.uk/)

You may prefer to try a search engine:

- [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)
- [www.askjeeves.com](http://www.askjeeves.com)

For example if you were looking for information about a particular surname you might type the following into the search engine:

> Information on the surname Armstrong

Don't forget that often the best place to get information is from your own older relatives
Surnames from names

When you start to think about all the surnames around you, even those in your class, many are formed from boys’ Christian names.

Good Ulster-Scots examples are Robinson, which means son of Robin, and Richardson from son of Richard.

As you can see, these names are formed using the father’s Christian name. They are called patronymics - a long word but easy to say!

Practise saying it to a friend.
A fun way to say it could be like this -

- You (very softly) pat
- Friend (soft) ro
- You (louder) nym
- Friend (loudly) ics

Together (whispering) patronymics

Once you have learnt how to say this long word and you really understand its meaning, you could try to outsmart your friends.

Just imagine how surprised your parents would be if they knew you could use such a word!

Congratulations if you managed this new, long word.
Adding 'son' to the father's name to form a surname such as Robinson or Richardson is typical of Ulster-Scots surnames and surnames from the north of England.

If the same names began outside of Scotland, in the south of England or Wales, they would likely be Robbins and Richards. Instead of adding 'son' they just added the 's'.

 Colour in the correct box beside these surnames

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Ulster and Northern England</th>
<th>Southern England and Wales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nelson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patterson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Surnames have also been shortened to make them easier and quicker to say.

Here are some examples found in Ulster today.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surname's Son</th>
<th>Shortened Surname</th>
<th>Modern Surname</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William's son</td>
<td>Will's son</td>
<td>Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilbert's son</td>
<td>Gib's son</td>
<td>Gibson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simon's son</td>
<td>Sim's son</td>
<td>Simpson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin's son</td>
<td>Ben's son</td>
<td>Benson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As you can see, some letters drop out and others drop in, like the p in Simpson. This is because the name is easier to say.

Fill in the boxes, using the names at the bottom of the page, so that each line makes sense.

a) Robert's son  Rob's son

b) Walter's son

Jefferson

c)  Jeff's son

d) Dennis's son  Dennison

e) Henry's son  Hen's son

Wat's son  Henderson  Robson
Jeffrey's son  Denni's son
We have seen how some surnames are made from a Christian name or first name. Many of these are based on people from the Bible. Just as with people all over the British Isles, Christianity and the Bible have been very important to people who live in Ulster and Scotland.

**Look up these Bible verses to work out each Ulster-Scots surname that ends in 'son'. The number of letters you need is given to help you and the first one is done for you as an example.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bible name</th>
<th>Ulster-Scots name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John 20 verse 29</td>
<td>Thompson (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke 22 verse 61</td>
<td>___________son (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Samuel 17 verse 20</td>
<td>___________son (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Corinthians 15 verse 7</td>
<td>___________son (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acts 7 verse 59</td>
<td>___________son (9)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Watch out - the Bible verses are just clues!

Can you think of more Ulster-Scots Bible surnames? Make up a quiz like this one.

Call out the verse to your friends and see who is the first to say the Ulster-Scots surname.
Mc
Surnames

There are a great number of surnames in Scotland and Ireland that begin with the letters Mc or Mac. Mc and Mac mean the same thing - 'son of', so these names are also patronymics.

Can you still say this long word??

Surnames beginning with Mc were chosen to show which clan you belonged to or followed. A clan is a little like a tribe, a large group of people usually related to each other.

Clans like McDonald, McKenzie and McMillan quickly multiplied into thousands.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Each of these surnames can be written or spelt in two or more ways. Find out another way for each of these. The first is done for you.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a)</td>
<td>Mackenzie .............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b)</td>
<td>Macartney .............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c)</td>
<td>Mackay .................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d)</td>
<td>Maclean .................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e)</td>
<td>MacFarlane .............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f)</td>
<td>Magilligan .............</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Where did the Mc surnames begin?

You will need: an atlas or map of Scotland a blank map

To find the answer to this question follow these instructions

Shade in the whole of Ireland, including Ulster.

Find on your map these two Scottish towns
- Helensburgh
- Stonehaven.

Now draw a line joining up the two towns.

Use the same colour and shade in the part of Scotland above (north) the line.

Give your map a title and a key.

Title:
Scottish clan surnames are found not just in Ulster, but also throughout the world. There are lots of websites about clans. Here are just a few you could investigate.

www.scotlandClans.com
www.tartans.com
www.electricscotland.com

Make a wall display about clans

Here are a few ideas to start with.

- Tartans
- Their homeland
- A true and exciting clan story
- A famous person
- Photographs, maps and pictures

You could work in pairs or a group