

Surnames



Activity **key**



Find out/investigate.



Chat to your partner or in a group.



Write.



Draw and colour in.



Use the internet.

Surnames



- Armstrong
- Burns
- Davidson
- Dunlop
- Grant

A feared and dangerous border clan

Famous Scottish poet

Great Belfast engineer and inventor

Inventor of the rubber tyre

18th President of the USA



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?

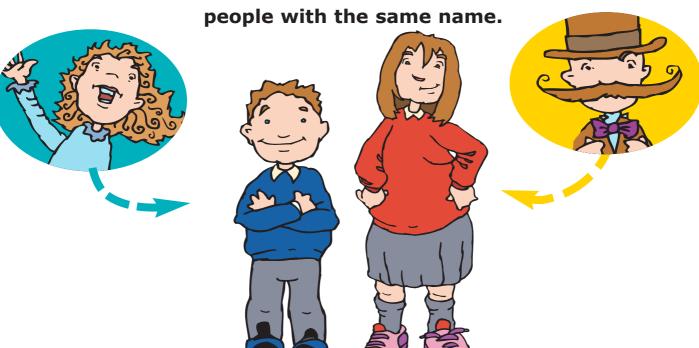


Investigate the percentage of Ulster-Scots surnames compared with others in your class or school.

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

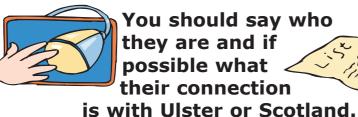


Here are ten surnames. Write the words
Ulster-Scots next to four of them and the
word other next to the remaining four.



McCartney	Fitzgerald
Campbell	Drummond
Wonge	McGregor
Paderewski	York
McIlwaine	Garibaldi









Here are a few examples:

Tony Blair



Joey Dunlop



Politician

Former motor bike racer

Born in Edinburgh

From Ballymoney

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.





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.

Birth Certificate

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.

8 Write your date and place of birth.	
Date of birth:	
Place of birth:	

Connections with **Scotland**

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.

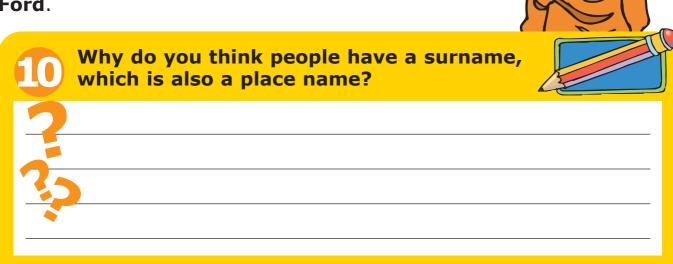
It's now time to become a private investigator!

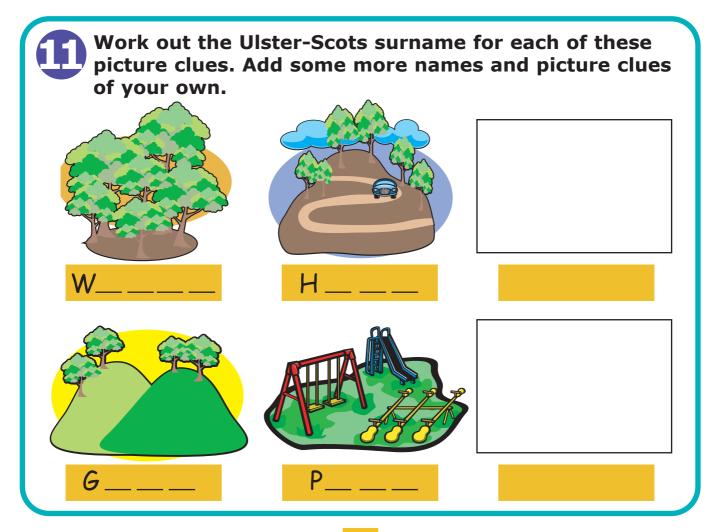


Surnames and places

Many Ulster-Scots are proud of their surnames because they are also places in Scotland like **Dundee** or **Paisley**.

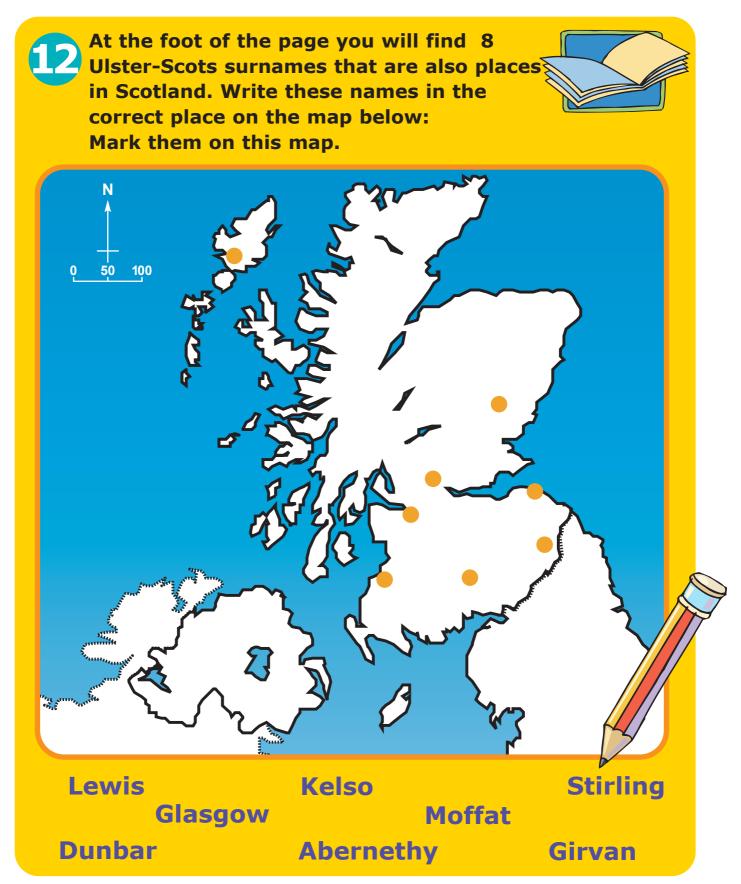
Some popular surnames describe a feature such as **Ford**.





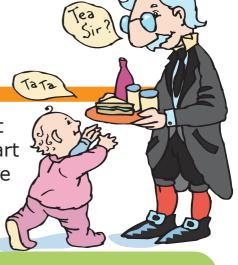
Surnames and place names

You will need an atlas or map of Scotland



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.

ſ		
4		

- 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 _____
- A Scottish lord is known as a _____.
- j) Wooden barrels are made by a ______

Harper Barber Cooper Taylor Glover

Butler Millar Laird Mason Bishop



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





Surnames and nicknames

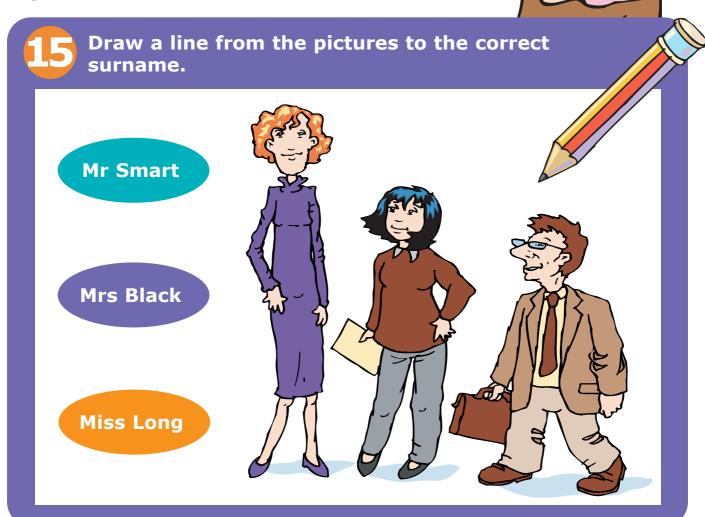
A nickname is often given to people as a joke. It might describe something about them, the way they look, the way they talk or a habit they have.

Some children even have nicknames for their teachers!!

This is Mr White our teacher.
We call him Snowy!

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.





Complete this table using Ulster-Scots surnames.



Add 3 more of your own.

Rhyming Word	Reason for nickname	Surname
ball	Not very big	
ox	Slyness	
snort	not very tall	
quell	handsome, beautiful	
brittle	small person	
throng	great strength	
reel	reliable	
throw	noisy bird	
site	fair hair or complexion	



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.

He found this picture.

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

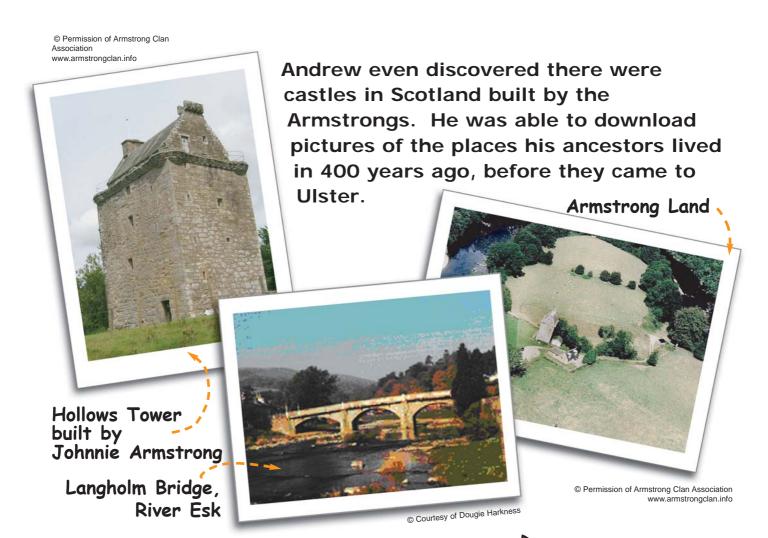
These websites may be useful to you

http://www.fleurdelis.com/meanings.htm

http:www.irishsurnames.com/heraldiccharges.htm







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

Armstrong tartan



These internet sites might help you:

www.tartans.scotland.net www.scottish-tartans-society.co.uk www.scotsclans.com

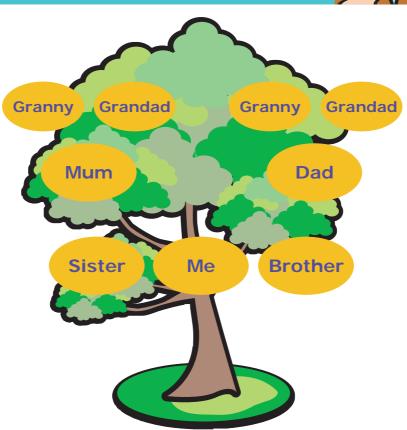
Family Information

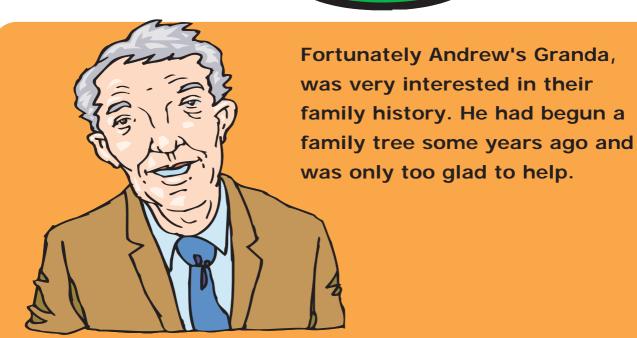
To find out how long his family had lived in Carrickfergus and possibly when they first moved to Ulster from Scotland, Andrew had to get plenty of help from Dad, Mum and relatives.



Family Tree

A diagram of family members going back in time

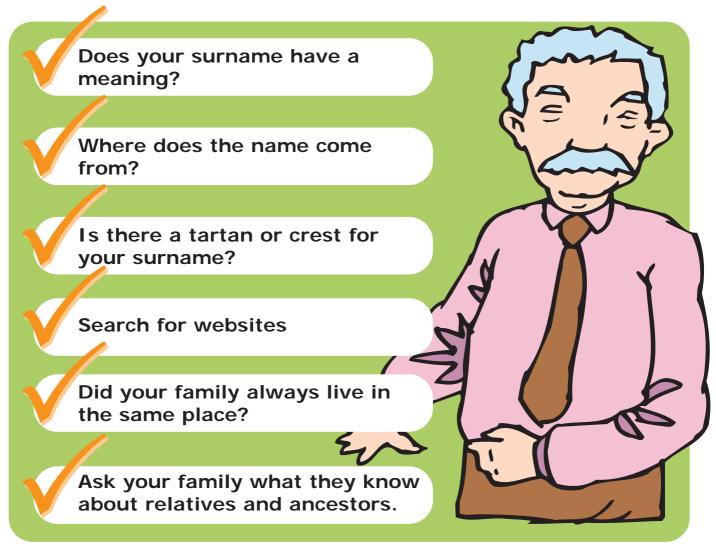




Uncovering more about a surname

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.

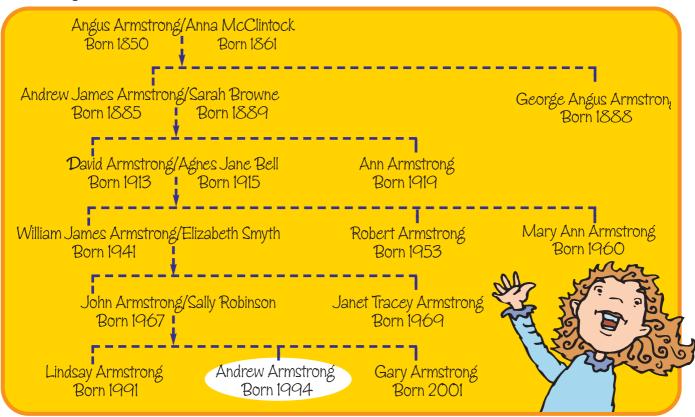
In order to get started, Mr White has given the pupils involved these leads:



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



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.

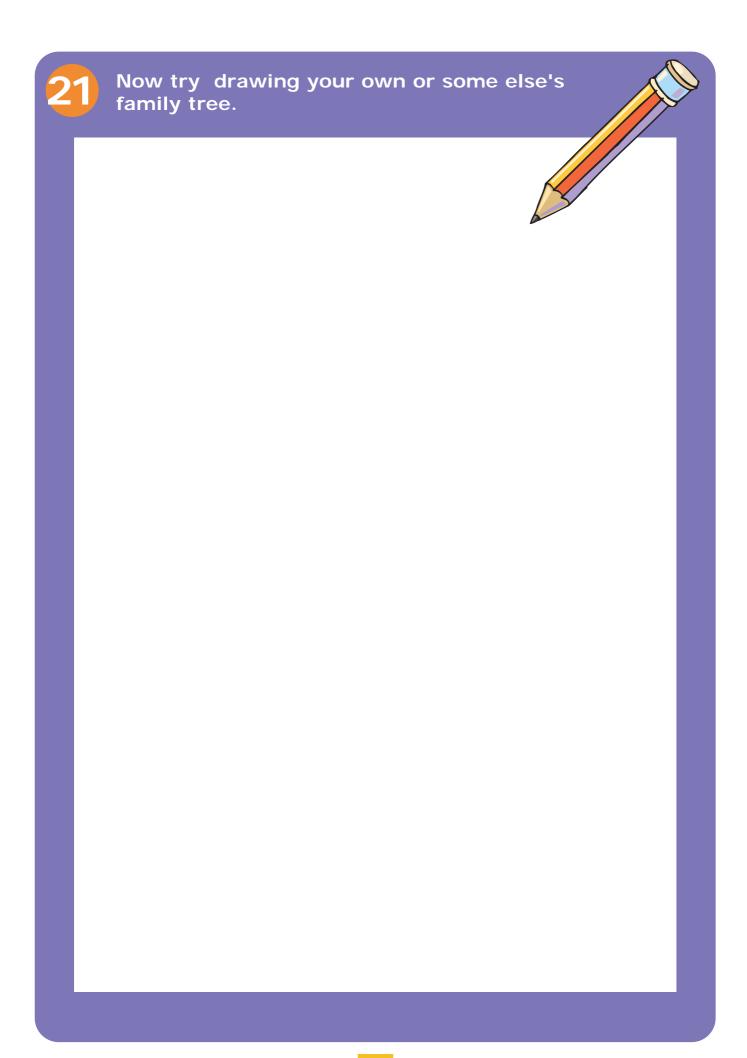
Look carefully at the chart or family tree and see if you can answer the following questions:

can answer the following questions:	
1. Who is Andrew Armstrong's sister?	EV.
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?	

7. When was Andrew's father born?

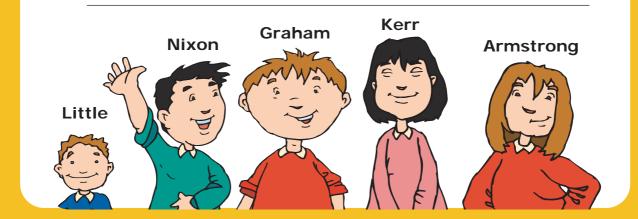
6. How much younger is Andrew than his brother Gary?

8. Which boy's and girl's names are popular in the Armstrong family?



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

www.electricscotland.com

www.scotsmart.com

www.ancestryireland.co.uk/

You may prefer to try a search engine:

www.google.com

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!

ro hym Pat



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

(very softly) pat You

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!



More about patronymics

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

	Ulster and Northern England	Southern England and Wales
Nelson		
Kitson		
Wilks		
Patterson		
Henderson		
Watts		

Surnames have also been shortened to make them easier and quicker to say.



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		Watson
c)		Jeff's son	Jefferson
d)	Dennis's son		Dennison
e)	Henry's son	Hen's son	
	Wat's son I Jeffrey's so	Henderson on Denni	

Bible **Surnames**

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



	Bible name	Ulster-Scots name
John 20 verse 29		Thompson (8)
Luke 22 verse 61		son (8)
1 Samuel 17 verse 20		son (8)
1 Corinthians 15 verse 7		son (7)
Acts 7 verse 59		son (9)

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 yerse to

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.



a)	Mackenzie	McKenzie
b)	Macartney	
c)	Mackay	
d)	Maclean	
e)	MacFarlane	
f)	Magilligan	

Where did the

Mc surnames begin?

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

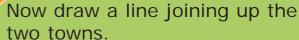




To find the answer to this question follow these instructions

Shade in the whole of Ireland, including Ulster.





Find on your map these two Scottish towns

- Helensburgh
- Stonehaven.

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

Give your map a title and a key.

Clans



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

29 Make a wall display about clans

Here are a few ideas to start with.





A true and exciting clan story

A famous person

Photographs, maps and pictures

You could work in pairs or a group





