

# OUR SHARED STORIES

## LEARNING RESOURCE OVERVIEW

### Overview

The 'Our Shared Stories Learning Resource' has been born out of the Irish Voices oral history and schools project (2013-14). It has been specifically designed as a learning resource companion to the [Irish Voices website](#) and all of the suggested learning tools are available through the website.

The Irish Voices Project charts the history of the London St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival and equally marks experiences of migration, cultural identity, challenges of living as a community regarded with suspicion as well as London's diversity. Each of these themes are explored throughout the resource as topics for working with school and community groups.

### Using the Website

A key feature of the learning resource is its interaction with the Irish Voices website. Activities in each lesson plan are linked to the website's on-line resources, so that pupils' learning, skills development and an exploration of Irish Voices archive can go hand-in-hand. These links are included within each lesson plan and details of where they can be found on the website are listed at the end of each plan. These on-line resources include some inspiring examples of creative work produced by pupils in the Irish Voices school project. Please do send us your own poems, stories, images and documentation to add to the website.

On the website you will find a range materials for use with the learning. These include [personal testimonies](#) (oral histories in audio and text formats), [photographs](#), [clippings of newspapers and memorabilia](#), [an historical timeline](#) and [interactive map](#), all used to illustrate the journey of the London St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival over the past 5 decades.

### Learning Objectives

The activities in this learning resource pack aim to support pupils at Key Stage 3, aged 11-14 years. It has ideas that link to the citizenship, English, history and London curriculums. The interactive, practical and creative nature of the resource also lends itself to work with young people in community contexts. Using the

resource will encourage pupils to:

- Deepen their understanding of London's diversity and the experiences and perspectives of a migrant community.
- Increase awareness of how memory functions and the uses of oral history.
- Develop links between the Irish Voices testimony and their own experiences in the production of creative responses.
- Extend their interviewing skills and carry out their own oral history interviews.



Start by [Watching, Listening and Learning More](#) about the Irish Voices Project

