

GÀIDHLIG REVIVAL

Why Gàidhlig?

Gàidhlig is a historically persecuted and often misrepresented language in the British media. This unit of learning aims to demystify one of our national languages and show that it is far from dead. These lessons give learners the opportunity to investigate an often highly discriminated against, minority, native community. They will highlight the beauty inherent in the language and explore its journey throughout the development of Scotland as a nation.

These lessons should also be used as an opportunity for learners to further their emotional literacy. With emphasis based on describing how they feel at pivotal points in each lesson.

Introduction

Lesson 1 – Modern Languages

This lesson will introduce learners to the Gàidhlig language. The aim will be to introduce conversational Gàidhlig, teaching the students to ask how someone is feeling and to reply in turn. If time allows, it will also introduce language that allows learners to say whether they like something or not.

LGL 3-02a, LGL 3-05a, LGL 3-07a, HWB 3-01a

The Untold History

Lesson 3 & 4 – History

The first lesson will dive into the history of Gàidhlig. Showing its development in time, its persecution as a “rebel language”, its cultural significance to its speakers, and looking at the time period where it was at its most popular in Scotland.

The second lesson will comprise a research task undertaken by the students. They will research one theme of historical and cultural significance to the Gàidhlig speaking community and produce an educational poster on the topic.

SOC 3-01a, SOC 3-03a, LIT 3-06a, MNU 3-20a

Traditional Music

Lesson 2 – Music

The learners will be introduced to waulking songs (learning Òrain Luaidh), exploring how these songs came about, why they are socially and culturally significant, and analysing the unique and distinctive rhythm of this genre.

EXA 3-16a, EXA 3-19a, LIT 3-01a

Cat-fiadhaich

Lesson 5 & 6 – Biology

In lesson 5 learners will study an animal of cultural significance to the Gàidhlig community (the Scottish Wildcat). Exploring its classification in the IUCN Red List, the threats it faces, its habitat, and its life history.

Lesson 6 will be the final lesson in the unit. Learners will embark on a field trip to either Edinburgh Zoo or The Highland Wildlife Park. Here they will get to see the Wildcat up close and learn more about the threats they face and their habitat. They will also take part in the Gàidhlig initiative that is currently being developed by the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland, allowing for further immersion in the language and its cultural significance to Scotland.

SCN 3-01a, SCN 4-01a, HWB 4-12a, HWB 4-18a

Sustainability

Learning for Sustainability is an international and national priority in education and should be integral to learning, as outlined by the General Teaching Council for Scotland. In this unit students will:

- Engage in scientific discussion and discourse.
- Learn about sustainability in Scotland through multiple time periods.
- Explore a minority language.
- Learn about a species categorised as Critically Endangered.
- Explore our impact on Scotland's wild places.



Love Gaelic
Nar Cridhe, Cho Beò



Learn
Gaelic



HIGHLAND
WILDLIFE PARK



EDINBURGH
ZOO



Dan Freeland
THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH