First / Second Class ~ Lesson 2

Theme
Census 2016

Objectives
That the child will be enabled to:
- develop an awareness of the upcoming census on April 24th 2016
- ask questions to develop an understanding of the census
- begin to use a meaningful vocabulary and describe the census process
- answer questions that show an understanding of the census process

Methodologies
- ✓ Problem-Solving
- ✓ Collaborative Learning
- ✓ Using the Environment
- ✓ Active Learning
- ✓ Skills through Content
- ✓ Talk and Discussion

Mathematical Skills
- ✓ Applying and Problem-Solving
- ✓ Communicating and Expressing
- ✓ Integrating and Connecting
- ✓ Reasoning
- ✓ Implementing
- ✓ Understanding and Recalling

Key Messages
- A census is an official count of the population of a country.
- Ireland takes an official population census once every five or ten years.
- Every household in the country takes part.
- The information is used to plan for a better future.
- The CSO conducts the census for the government.

Integration and Linkage:
English: Oral language: Talk and discussion, asking questions, answering questions, reasoning, describing, explaining, comparing…
Drama: Hot-Seating Census Charlie and deciding what answers he would give to the questions asked by the children
Language Development:
Census, government, household, collect, question, information, form, ask, Sunday, April, population, record, plan, future, check, count, important, decisions.

Assessment
The children will
- describe the steps in the investigation carried out in Lesson One
- ask Census Charlie key questions to learn more about the census
- answer key questions in relation to the census
- participate in the hot-seating session in which 'Census Charlie' talks about the Census process

Tasks
- Talk and discussion – revision of ideas and concepts from Lesson One.
- Whole class activity – Meeting Census Charlie and asking questions about the upcoming census.
- Pair Work – question and answer session
- Plenary – discuss investigation / clarify steps in process / Hot Seating – Census Charlie and asking questions about the Census

You will need
- Props to help children to understand the Census process e.g. sample Census form, map of Ireland…
- Resource 2.1 Steps in Investigation Process
- Resource 2.2 Image of Census Charlie
- Resource 2.3 Key Question Words
- Resource 2.4 'Charlie and Census 2016' ~ Story
- Resource 2.5 Question and Answer Cards

Teacher Observation Tips
Record any significant events you notice such as a child having difficulty asking and answering key questions.
Note children who do not understand the ideas and concept behind the census.
Note also children who may need to be challenged with the extension suggestions provided.

Extension
Children could create a simple presentation on the key census questions on a chart, in a scrapbook or using presentation software.

Home/School Links
For homework the children can ask their parents/guardians about the last Census that was carried out. Children could ask Charlie's key questions at home. It would be interesting for children to find out what questions are generally included on the census form.

Teacher's Notes – Lesson 2

Introduction

Talk and Discussion

- **Can you remember what we need to do when we want to get information from others?**

  We need to ask a good question.

- **We carried out an investigation in our last lesson on 'Birthdays'.**
  We wanted to find out "How many children have a birthday this month?"
  We needed to ask a question. Can anyone remember what question we asked?

  In what month is your birthday?

- **Let's think about the steps in our investigation. What did we do first… next… then…?**

  Step 1: Ask a question

  Step 2: Collect the information

  Step 3: Record the information

  Step 4: Show the information

  Step 5: Count each set

  Step 6: Answer questions from the graph

Use large A4 cards to show each step of the investigation process. Six children can stand holding these cards in a sequence while the remainder of the children in the class can describe the process (Resource 2.1).

Extension: These steps can be jumbled and the children can re-order these steps while explaining the process using the example of the investigation that was carried out in the last lesson. The skills the children will develop in this activity are talking, discussing, reasoning, understanding, describing, explaining…

Whole Class Activity

- Explain to the children that a large investigation will be carried out by the Government of Ireland on Sunday April 24th 2016.

- Tell the children that this important investigation in Ireland is called the CENSUS.

- Introduce children to a new character Census Charlie who will be able to tell the children all about the Census [Resource 2.2].

- Encourage the children to ask Census Charlie some questions that will help them to learn more about the Census. Guide them to ask good questions using key question words i.e. What? Where? Who? When? Why? How? [Resource 2.3].

- Read the story 'Charlie and Census 2016' to the children. This story will help them to understand what the census is about [Resource 2.4]

- Discuss each of the key questions in turn with the children. Display the question and answer card after each question is discussed [Resource 2.5]. Read with the children and practice asking and answering this question with them. Use props to help children understand the question e.g. sample Census form, map of Ireland, April 2016 calendar, images e.g. meeting, government buildings, graphs…

Key Questions

What is the Census?
The census is a count of the number of people in the country.
Each household in the country get a Census form and all of the important questions on this form must be answered.

Where does the Census take place?
The Census is held all over the country. Every house in Ireland will have a Census form to be filled on Census day.

Who conducts the Census?
Every person in Ireland will be counted on Census day. A Census team (CSO) delivers and collects the Census forms. The answers on all of the Census forms are checked and counted.

When is the Census held?
The Census is held in Ireland every five years. This year Census day is on Sunday, April 24th 2016.

Why is the Census held?
The Census is held to help the Irish government to make important decisions and to plan for the future.

How is the Census conducted?
1. The census forms are delivered to homes about a month before the Census.
2. On the night of the census, people all over the country read the questions on the census form and write the answers on the form.
3. The census forms are collected from our homes.
4. The census forms are checked and scanned into a computer in a central office
5. The answers / information is put on graphs or written down in lists.
6. People read these graphs or lists and write a report.
7. The people who run our country (government) make plans for our country so that it will be a better place in which to live.

Plenary Session

In this session, the children work together to discuss elements of the lesson:

- Children work in pairs – taking turns to ask and answer questions relating to the census. Question prompts using the Key Questions Card [Resource 2.3] can help the children create questions.

- Introduce Census Charlie once again and ask the children why he visited the classroom today i.e. to teach the children about the Census.

- What key questions did we ask Census Charlie about the Census?

What? Who? Where? When? Why? How?

- Revise each question once again asking the children what answer Census Charlie gave to each.
- Point to each question and answer card displayed and read with the children.
- An enjoyable activity for the children is to 'Hot Seat' Charlie ~ one child takes on the role of Census Charlie and answers the questions provided by the other children.

Extension work

- Create a simple presentation on the key census questions on a chart, in a scrapbook or using presentation software.

Home/school links

For homework the children can ask their parents/guardians about the last Census that was carried out and what they remember from it.

Encourage children to ask Charlie's key questions at home.

Find out what questions are generally included on the census from. Make a list of these questions on a flipchart.

Resource 2.1

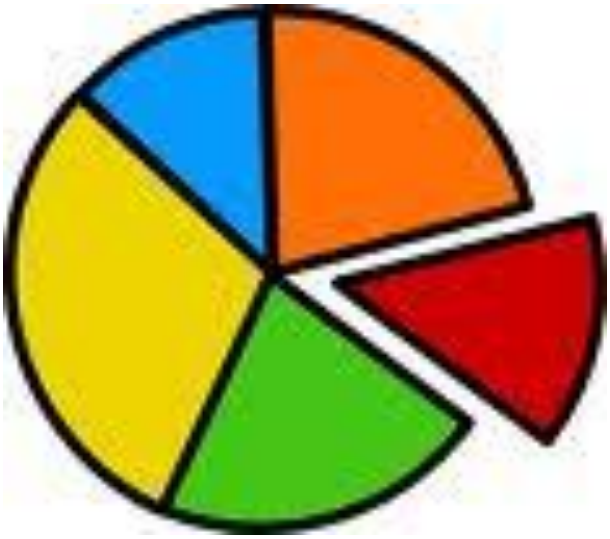
Let's Investigate

Ask a question

Collect the Information

Record the Information

Show the Information



Count each set

Resource 2.2

Census Charlie

Census 2016

Charlie and Census 2016

It was a rainy March evening. Mrs Kelly was busy helping the children with their homework. In the kitchen, Mr. Kelly was preparing dinner for the family. A loud knock was heard on the front door.

Mrs Kelly opened the front door.
"Good evening", said a man in a friendly voice. "My name is Census Charlie. I work for the government in the Central Statistics Office (CSO). I have some important information for you".

"Come in young man", replied Mrs Kelly. Census Charlie stepped into the house and sat down. Mr. Kelly gave the man a cup of tea. The family crowded around Charlie to hear what he had to say. "What is the information you have for us Census Charlie?" asked Mr. Kelly.

"Sunday, April 24th is a very important day this year because is it the day on which the national Census will take place", told Charlie.
"What is a Census?" asked young Mike.
"Well, young man, the Census is a count of the population of the country – everybody living in Ireland will be counted on that day", explained Charlie.
"WOW! That's a lot of people", shouted Mike.

"Will everybody have to line up and be counted like we do in school?" asked Ann.
"Oh! No! My dear! That would be far too difficult. I have a Census form here for every household. There is a list of questions which must be answered on the form on Sunday, 24th April", answered Census Charlie.
"That will be fun. We can watch Mum and Dad doing homework!" laughed Ann and Mike.

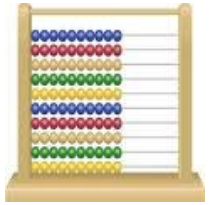
"Oh yes. I will be around a few days later to collect the completed forms and to check the homework!" joked Charlie. "It is important to answer every question very carefully and to keep this Census form in a safe place".

"What will you do with the forms when you collect them?" asked Peter.
"The forms that are collected all over Ireland are brought to a large office and all of the answers are checked and counted. Graphs and diagrams are then made to show the results".

"That sounds like a lot of hard work", said Mike.
"Indeed it is. But it is worth all the effort. The information collected is used to help our government to plan for a better future for all of us. We can plan ahead for schools, for hospitals, for transport, for health and lots of other things if we have enough information", explained Charlie.
"Now, I better go as I have many other houses to get to. Thank you for the tea. I will return next month to collect the census form".

On Sunday night, April 24th, the Kelly family gathered around the table to complete the census form they had looked after so carefully. Mr. Kelly called out the questions and everybody helped to answer them. Mrs Kelly wrote all the answers on the census form. Census Charlie called the following week to collect the form and to bring it to the central office to be checked and counted with all the other forms from around the country.

What is the Census?



The census is an official count of the number of people in the country.

Where is the Census held?

Every household in Ireland will have a Census form to be filled on Census day.

Who conducts the Census?

A Census team (CSO) deliver and collect the Census forms.

Answers on these forms are checked and counted.

Central Statistics Office Ireland

When is the Census?

The Census is held in Ireland every five years. This year, Census day is Sunday, April 24th

Why is the Census held?

The Census is held to help the Irish government to make important decisions and to plan for the future.

Census Board Game

Game 1

Game: 2 players

You will need: Census game-board, one six-sided die, counters of two different colours

How to play:

1. Decide who will start by allowing each player to throw a die. The player with the highest number begins.
2. To start play, Player 1 rolls the die and moves that number of spaces e.g. roll a six – move six spaces.
3. If a player lands on a space with a star, this player takes another turn.
4. If a player lands on a space with a triangle, this player misses a turn.
5. The first player to reach the finish line or to land exactly on CENSUS DATE i.e. 24th April is the winner.

Challenge:

Encourage children to invent their own rules for the Census Game.

Census Board Game

Game 2

Game: 2 players

You will need: Census game-board, one six-sided die, counters of two different colours

How to play:

1. Decide who will start by allowing each player to throw a die. The player with the highest number begins.
2. To start play, Player 1 rolls the die and moves that number of spaces e.g. roll a six – move six spaces.
3. Player 1 checks if the number in the space he/she has landed on is odd or even.
4. Player 1 rolls the dice again. If the number in the space is odd and the player has rolled an odd number, he/she can move the number of spaces on the dice. If the number in the space is even and the player has rolled an even number, he/she can move that number of spaces. If the roll of the die and the number in the space do not match, the dice is given to Player 2.
5. Player 2 takes a turn.
6. The first player to reach the finish line or to land exactly on CENSUS DATE i.e. 24th April is the winner.

April 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				Start	1	2
3	Back to School! 4	5	6 ▲	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 ★	16
17 ★	18	19 ▲	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 ▲	30

Calendar Quiz

- In what season is April?
- How many days in April?
- Is this number odd or even?
- What is the 1st of April often called?
- What month comes before/after April?
- On what day does April begin?
- On what day does April end?
- In what season is April?
- How many Sundays in April?
- How many full weeks in April?
- How many children in your class have birthdays in April?
- When will schools open after Easter holidays?
- Census 2016 will be held on what date?
- On what day of the week will the Census be held?

- Can you find an odd number on the top row?
- Can you find an even number on the bottom row?
- Call a number with three tens.
- Are there any numbers with seven units?
- Is there any number that is double a number?
- Find two numbers with a difference of three?
- What is today's date?
- Census day is on 24th April – use numbers on the calendar to make the number 24.
- On what day is Census Day?
- Let's explore patterns on the calendar:

*What pattern do you see in each row?

*What pattern do you notice in each column?

*Take a square of numbers e.g. 1, 2, 8, 9 ~ add the diagonals – what do you notice?