St George’s Day

On 23 April, England celebrates the day of its patron saint, St George. But St George isn’t just the patron saint of England. In this webquest, you will discover the answers to these questions: Who was St George? What is he the patron saint of? Where is his day celebrated? Did he really kill a dragon?

Activity 1: Who was St George?

Choose one of the topics below and prepare a report. Use the questions to help you.

1. **A biography of St George**
   Open this link and read the introduction: [www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/saints/george_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/saints/george_1.shtml).
   - Was St George English?
   - Where was he born?
   - What was his occupation?
   - When did he live?
   - How did he die?
   - When was the first St George’s Day?

2. **George and England**
   Open this link and read the section entitled George and England: [www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/saints/george_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/saints/george_1.shtml).
   - In Britain, who first heard about George and when?
   - Who helped grow George’s reputation?
   - What did English soldiers have to wear from the 14th century?
   - What does the flag of Saint George look like?
   - What is the George Cross? What image can you see on the Cross?

3. **The legend of St George and the dragon**
   Use this site for information: [http://projectbritain.com/stgeorge2.html](http://projectbritain.com/stgeorge2.html).
   - Where did this famous battle take place?
   - What was the dragon doing to the country?
   - Describe the battle in your own words.
Activity 2: A web cross

Solve this puzzle and learn about how St George’s Day is celebrated around the world. Use the websites below to find the answers to the questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coventry</td>
<td>bbc.co.uk/coventry/features/stories/2004/04/st-george-s-day-2004.shtml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leicester</td>
<td>visitleicester.info/whats-on/st-georges-festival-p709811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Boy Scouts</td>
<td>freerepublic.com/focus/f-religion/1822345/posts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>calendar-updates.com/info/holidays/canada/stgeorge.aspx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norwich</td>
<td>carnivalarchive.org.uk/norwich-dragons#.WqIHPHGrFJaR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Web cross clues

Across

3 Many ___ are sold in Catalonia on St George’s Day.
4 In Bulgaria, St George is the patron of ___.
6 St George is usually shown on a ___. (He is also the patron saint of this animal.)
10 The famous English author ___ was born on St George’s Day.
12 In Canada, St George’s Day is a provincial holiday in Newfoundland and ___.

Down

1 The Rose and Book Festival is held in the Spanish city of ___.
2 St George’s Day is also a day for ___ in Catalonia, like Valentine’s Day.
3 A legend in Coventry, England, says St George was ___ there.
4 In Leicester, there will be a ___ for families to celebrate St George’s Day.
5 St George is the patron saint of Boy ___.
7 In Catalonia, on St George’s Day, men offer women a ___.
8 In Ukraine, St George’s Day is also the Spring Festival. Celebrations go back to ancient Ukrainian ___.
9 Ukrainian Boy Scouts celebrate St George’s Day in the month of ___.
11 In Norwich, the St George’s Day celebrations include a model dragon called ____.
13 The children of Coventry, England, celebrated with a ___ of the legend.

Extra activities

• How much do you now know about St George? Take the BBC quiz.
  news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/1945854.stm
• Send a St George’s Day card.
  www.dgreetings.com/stgeorge/cards