



Saint Patrick

Question & Study Pack

K.M. Logan

Via intoxicatedonlife.com

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Free St. Patrick Resources

The following videos are all short and fast paced. You could feasibly watch one a day the week of St. Patrick's day. There is overlap in the material covered, but each video is unique. You might want to preview them first, I'd be comfortable with my six year old watching any of them, but that's just me.

[The Story Of St. Patrick \(video\)](#)

[What is Saint Patrick's Day? \(video\)](#)

[The History of St. Patrick \(video\)](#)

[St. Patrick's Day, Bet You Didn't Know \(video\)](#)

[The History of St. Patrick's Day \(video\)](#)

After watching these videos, your children should be able to meaningfully answer the questions in this packet. If you'd like to go deeper, here's a few more resources you can purchase on Amazon :

[Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland \(free for Kindle Unlimited members\)](#) Picture Book

[The Confession of Saint Patrick](#) A classic, advanced reading level.

[Saint Patrick Apostle of Ireland \(Amazon video, free to watch for Prime members\)](#) A slower paced documentary, but with excellent information.

[The Story of Saint Patrick](#) Late elementary reading level, excellent read aloud for younger students.

How to Use Critical Thinking Questions

With Elementary Students

Young elementary students have not yet developed a strong abstract thinking ability, so these make excellent family discussion questions. Take the questions bit by bit. Try to ask leading questions about how your student would feel if they were St. Patrick, and try to relate his experiences to things in their life. You may feel like you're sometimes giving them the answer as you ask the question, but that's okay. You're teaching them how to think abstractly more than you are about subject matter.

With older elementary students, follow the same process above, but give your child ample time to answer the question before you begin leading them to any conclusions. You might be surprised at the answers they come up with. By later elementary school your students will greatly benefit from writing or typing their answers out.

With Middle School Students

Abstract thinking questions remain difficult for this age if it's something they are not used to doing. Help your student break down the questions into small parts if needed, but refrain from feeding them your opinions. Remind them historians are presented with the same facts but draw their own conclusions, so as long as your student sticks to the facts they won't have a wrong answer.

Have your student write or type out their answers.

With High School Students

These questions on the surface are a bit simplistic for this age level, but make an excellent place to start discussion. The object is to get your student to think deeper about the material and not just regurgitate facts.

How To Use The Open Ended Essay

With Elementary And Middle School Students

This would make an excellent family discussion question, that not only reinforces what was just studied about St. Patrick but what you are currently studying as well. You may need to lead younger students to their conclusions.

High School Students

Absolutely have them write this essay out. Writing is a terribly important but unfortunately lacking skill for college students. If they are not used to writing essays have them follow a PAX format. Start with a strong thesis statement, then for every paragraph they need to make a point, give an analysis of that point, then back up the analysis with concrete examples. As a Music History 400 level teacher this was the type of question I would often ask my students.

Critical Thinking Questions About St. Patrick

When Patrick decided to go back to Ireland no one else thought he should go, but he was determined. What were some of the positive and negative factors he must have considered before leaving?

St. Patrick truly existed and lived a life serving God. Unfortunately, over time, many legends that are most likely untrue (or greatly embellished) have been told about his life. Choose one event from his life and discuss why you think it is true, a myth, or just embellished.

How would you feel if you were captured and taken away from your family. Would you try to escape? What factors would influence your decision?

St. Patrick must have had mixed emotions when he went back to Ireland. Discuss some of the opposite feelings he must have had, and share a time when you've had mixed emotions.

Open Ended Essay

St. Patrick drew close to God while he was a slave, when often times people lose their faith during adversity. God redeemed what was a horrible situation and because of St. Patrick's work Paganism lost its stronghold in Ireland. Compare or contrast St. Patrick to another historical, Biblical, or literature figure who faced adversity. Hint, identify a very similar or very contrasting aspect of their life and go from there. Example: St. Patrick was able to forgive the Irish and wound up changing a nation, Hamlet on the other hand could not forgive the man who killed his father and the ruling family of Denmark wound up dead, which one can assume threw the nation into turmoil.

This essay is open ended. The direction of your essay is completely up to you but you need to choose a thesis statement and support it with analysis and examples.