



The Foundation of Derry

We hope you have enjoyed reading our comic about Colmcille and his monastery. Here are some activities to help you find out more about Colmcille and what he means to us today.

- 1) Why did Colmcille leave Dublin for Tir Conaill in 544 AD? What would his journey have been like?
- 2) Find out why oak trees were important to the people of Derry in the sixth century. Can you draw an oak leaf?
- 3) In the story, Colmcille sets fire to the fort at Daire Calgach. Why did he do this?
- 4) Colmcille's monastery led to the foundation of Derry. Why do you think the city grew up around the monastery?
- 5) Name five things that would be different about living in Derry when Colmcille was alive compared to now.
- 6) Colmcille eventually left Derry. Find out three interesting things that he did later in his life.
- 7) Look for more information about Colm Cille's monastery. Write a postcard to a friend describing a day in the life of a monk