Welcome to Dublin Castle's Family Trail!



Follow the route of kings, queens, aristocrats, presidents and heads of state through the Castle's famous State Apartments.

Battleaxe Landing

The symbols woven into the corners of the carpet represent the four provinces of Ireland. Can you name them all?



The Drawing Room

Greek key symbol, some say it represents the flow of life and eternity. Draw the image in the space below:

What kind of symbol would you use to decorate your

own castle? Draw it here:

Can you find the portrait of the woman dressed in black? Who is she?

Throne Room

This throne was made for King George IV's visit to Ireland in 1821. As you can see from its size, he was quite a tall and large man. Draw a picture of what you think the King looked like here:

Solve the following riddle by looking around the

If I'm broken I just multiply and become sharp as a tack.....

You can see me but I can't see you.... Everything within me is accurate and true....

Clear in the front and silver in the back....

Drawing Room:

What am I?



The symbols above the throne represented the kingdoms of Ireland, Scotland and England. Draw a line matching each country to its symbol below:

> Unicorn England Ireland

Now, look up at the chandelier. You should see a wreath made up of thistles, shamrocks and roses. Which symbol matches which country?

> Scotland Shamrock **England**

> > Ireland

The Portrait Gallery

This room has a number of portraits of the Viceroys who served the British Crown at Dublin Castle. Take a look at the titles on the portraits.

If you were a member of the nobility here in the 18th Century, what title would you and your family give yourselves? Would you be a lord or a lady? A duke or a duchess? A Viceroy or a Vicereine?

Before photography was invented, wealthy families hired artists to paint portraits of them. Now it's time for you to be the artist! Draw a portrait of your family in the space below.



Now it's time for some detective work. First, find the restoration plaque in the Hall. It says that work was completed on the hall in the year MDCCCLXXXV. The year is written in Roman numerals. Historians are like detectives. They need to understand how Roman numerals work in order to understand the past. Using the key below, see if you can figure out what year they completed work on the hall.

M = 1,000, D=500, C=100, L = 50, X = 10, V = 5

What year do you think they finished the work?

M + D + C + C + C + L + X + X + X + V =



Take a few moments to look around. See if you can spot what the riddle describes:

This thing runs but cannot walk Sometimes sings but never talks Lacks arms, has hands, lacks a head but has a face....

Can you see me? What am I?



Something very valuable was stolen from the Bedford Tower in 1907. Have you discovered what was taken?

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Take a look around the garden. The answers to each of the questions below

can be found in the word search. You can finish this at home if you like.

1. Dublin takes its name from this very site. Can you find the information panel that tells you how the city got its name? Find out what the Gaelic words were. I'll give you a hint....the English translation of those words is 'Black Pool'.

D _ _ _ L _ _ _

2. There is an old building in the garden. The Viceroy once kept his carriage here. What is it called?

___C_ H____

3. Find the weather vane on top of the Chester Beatty Library. Can you figure out what type of bird it is?

4. Did you notice the pattern in the gardens? What kind of reptile do you think you see? I'll give you another hint...St. Patrick banished them!











