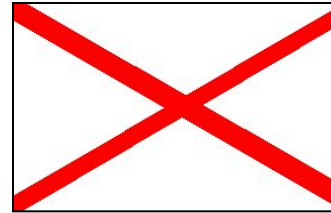
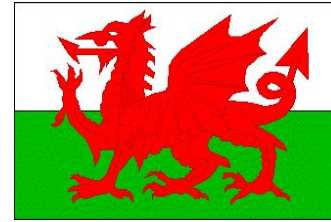
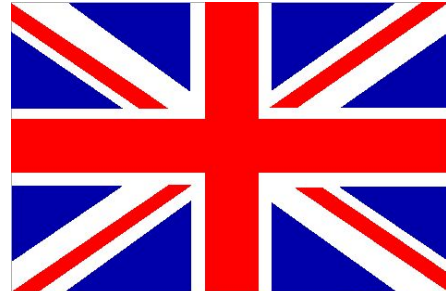
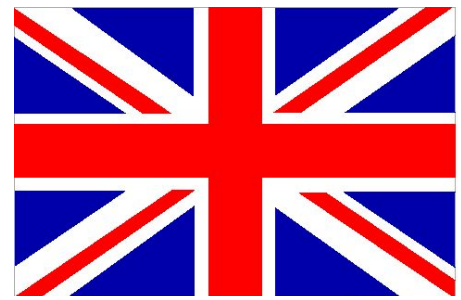


British Symbols

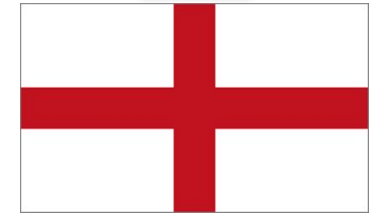




Scotland



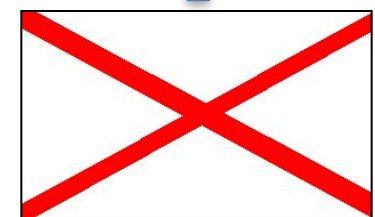
the Union Jack



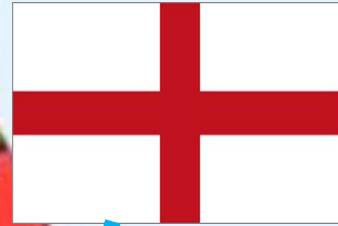
St. George's Cross



St. Andrew's Cross

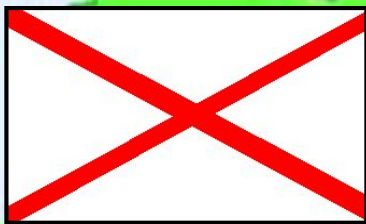


St. Patrick Cross



England

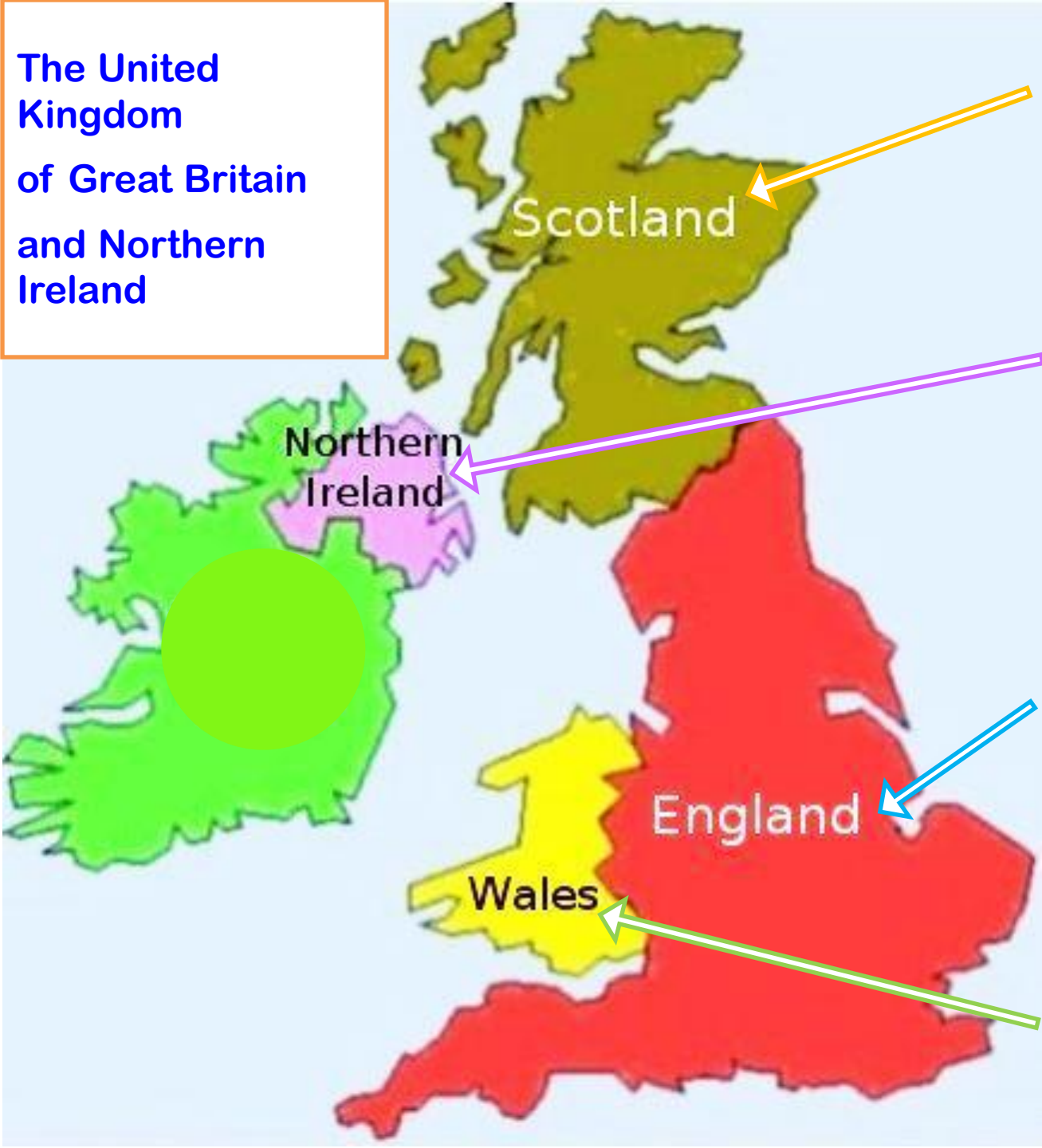
Northern Ireland



Wales



The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

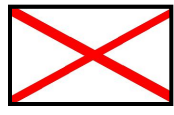


Scotland

Northern Ireland

England

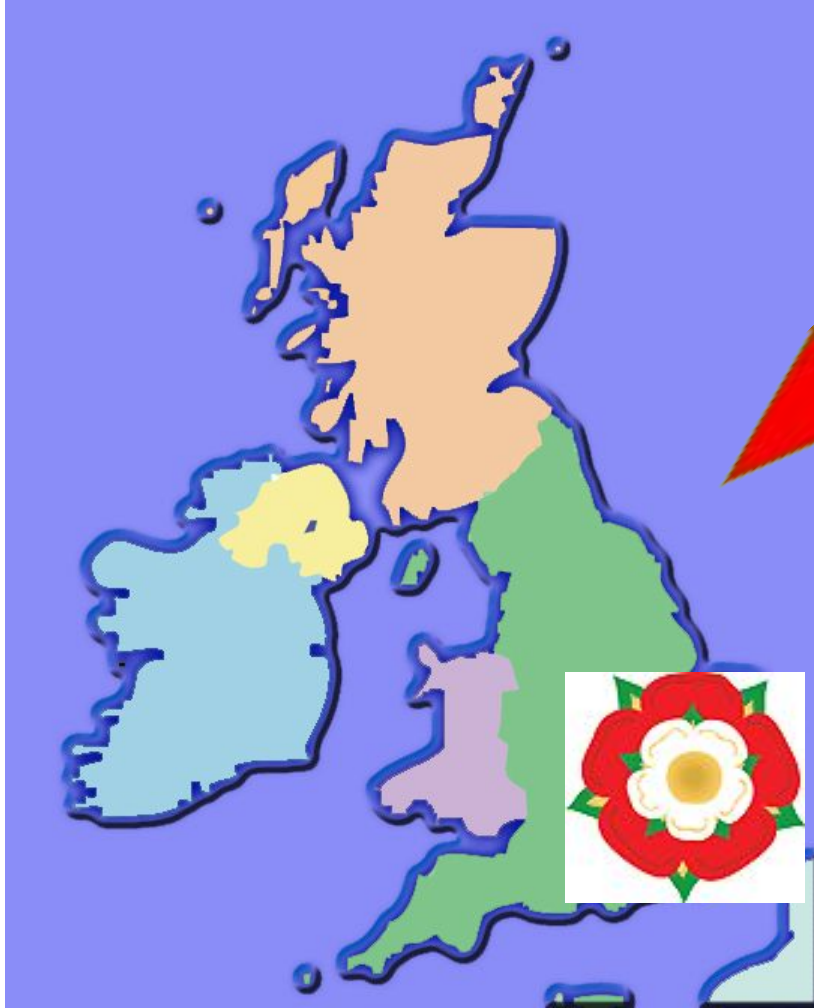
Wales





Each country in Britain has its own patron saint and floral emblem





The floral symbol of England is the Red Rose.

England

Red Rose

- Earlier, it decorated the arms of the House of Lancaster. The Lancastrians argued for the throne of England with the Yorkists whose arms had a white rose. The war for the throne between the Lancastrians and the Yorkists became known in the history of the country as the War of the Red and White rose.
- It lasted 30 years (1455-1485).
- When the Lancastrians won the war, their arms of the Red Rose became the symbol of the whole England.

Scotland

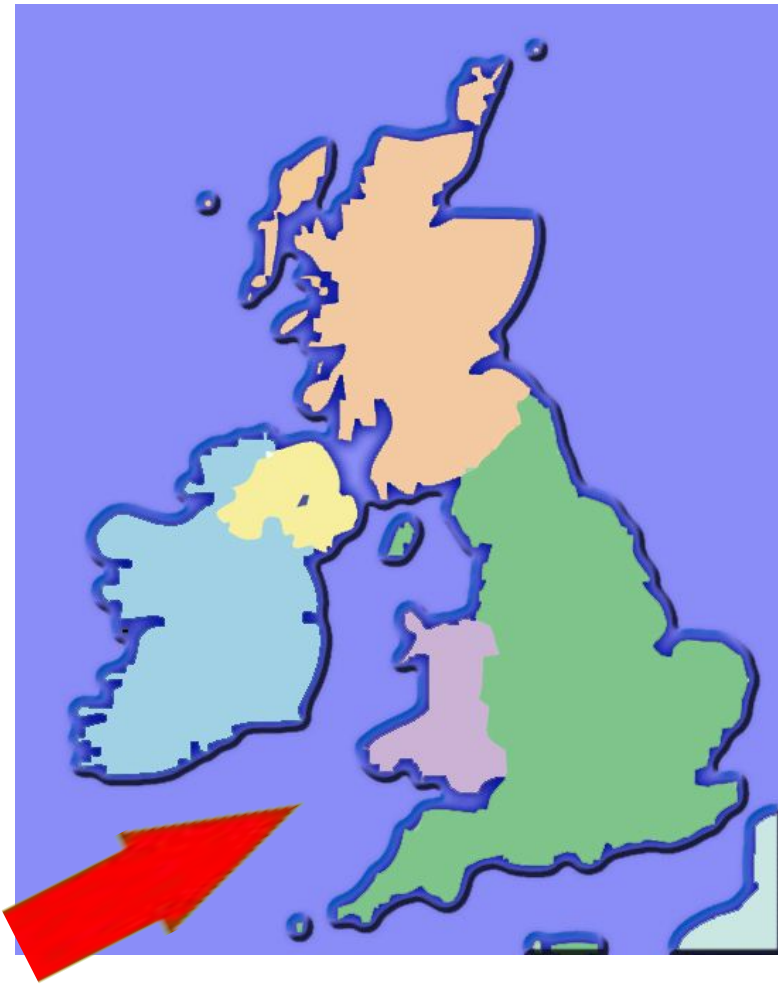


The national flower of Scotland is the thistle.

According to the legend, this plant saved the country from an enemy invasion.

Thistle

- The Scottish symbol is a wild plant called the Thistle. At one point, the Scandinavians planned to attack a Scottish village. But since the Scots knew they were coming, they started to prepare for war. Late at night, the Scandinavians came in their bare feet so as to not awaken the Scottish warriors in the village. But the thorns of the thistle hurt their bare feet. Their howls of pain pierced the silence and the Scots awoke to fight the enemy.



Wales

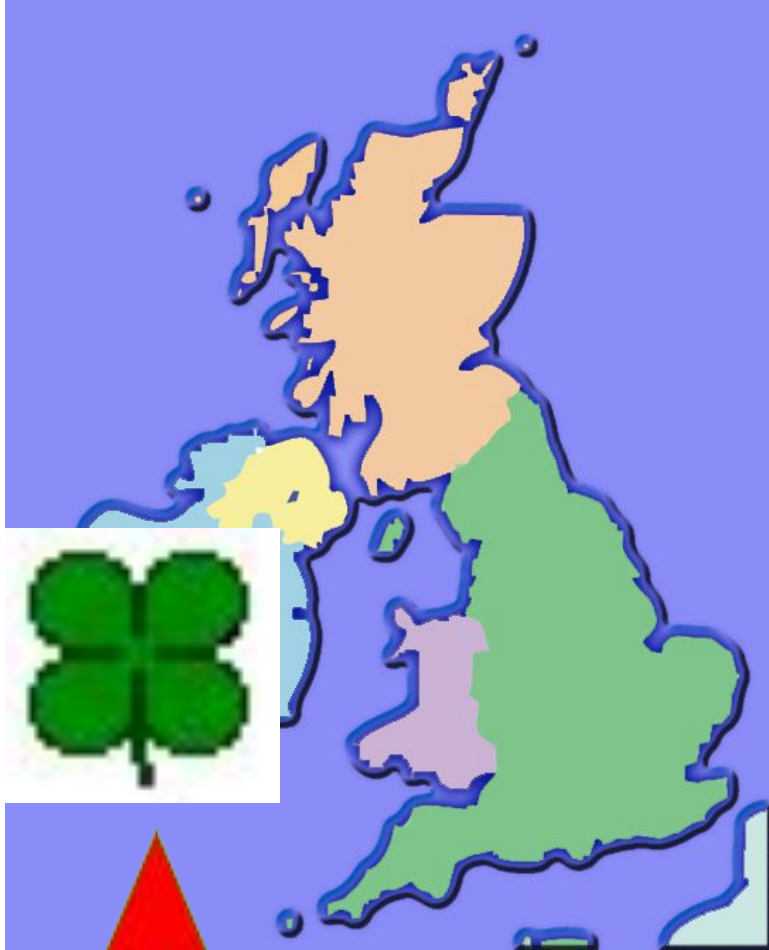


The national flower of Wales is the daffodil.

Symbols of Wales

- The Welsh symbol is the vegetable called the Leek (or, on occasion, the flower, the daffodil). The patron saint of Wales, David, ate only leeks and bread. In memory of this Christian saint, the leek became the symbol of Wales. Daffodils which burst into flames by the 1st of March celebrate the revered Welsh saint.





The national flower of Northern Ireland is the shamrock.

**Northern
Ireland**

Shamrock

- The Shamrock helped St. Patrick explain to the people of his country what the Holy Trinity is.
- Saint Patrick was the patron saint and national apostle of Ireland who is credited with bringing christianity to Ireland. Saint Patrick is most known for driving the snakes from Ireland. It is true there are no snakes in Ireland, but there probably never have been - the island was separated from the rest of the continent at the end of the Ice Age. Driving the snakes from Ireland was probably symbolic of putting an end to that pagan practice. While not the first to bring christianity to Ireland, it is Patrick who is said to have encountered the Druids at Tara and abolished their pagan rites.
- So, why is it celebrated on March 17th? One theory is that is the day that St. Patrick died.

Royal Banner of the King or Queen of the United Kingdom



The Royal Banner of England



Scottish Royal banner



The Royal Flag of Scotland, or Rampart Lion, features a traditional red lion on a gold field. It is widely used as a second national flag.

The gold
harp



**David's Harp was the National Banner
of Ireland for Many Centuries.**

The Welsh flag



This flag was officially adopted in 1959, but the red dragon (*possibly Roman in origin*) has been associated with Wales for many centuries. The green and white background stripes represent the House of Tudor, a Welsh dynasty that once held the English throne.

UK Royal Coat-of-Arms



In The Royal Seal



We see the Lions, and the Unicorn, the Harp of David, and the standing Red Lion.
Lions with royal crowns.
The words: "DIEU ET MON DROIT" which are Latin and mean: "God And My Right"

Unofficial Coat of Arms



The "Three Lions" is the unofficial crest of England and was first used by Richard I (*Richard the Lionheart*) in the late 12th century.

Queen Elizabeth II

Elizabeth II's full name is Elizabeth Alexandra Mary. She was born on April 21, 1926. In 1947 she married Prince Philip; he was created Duke of Edinburgh. A year later she gave birth to a son, Charles. In 1950 she gave a birth to a daughter, Anne. Elizabeth succeeded to the throne after the death of her father in February in 1952. Her second son, Andrew, was born in 1960 and the third, Edward, in 1964.



Other British symbols

