

Stories hiding in surnames

Name _____

- 1 THE PIECES INSIDE THE NAMES:** Say each piece aloud, then write it once in the last column. These turn up on road signs all over the country.

THE IRISH PIECE	WHAT IT MEANS	WRITE IT
mac (MAK)	son of	
ó (OH)	grandson of	
de (DEH)	of, from a place	
ciar (KEER)	a man's name	

- 2 BREAK THE NAMES OPEN:** Each of these names is a plain description, once you can read it. Write what picture each one paints.

PLACENAME	ITS IRISH NAME	THE PICTURE THE NAME PAINTS
Cork	Corcaigh	
Kerry	Ciarraí	
Limerick	Luimneach	
Clare	An Clár	

- 3 NAME A PLACE YOURSELF:** Irish placenames were built from whatever was really there. Build one the same way.

One thing you can actually see from your window or your street:

An Irish-style name for it, using one of today's pieces:

What your name means:
