

Stamps from around the World - 'The Story of a Stamp'

Take any stamp and find out the following information:

- country of issue;
- when the stamp was issued;
- why the stamp was issued;
- the name of the person, place, object or animal on the stamp;
- information about the person, place, object or animal;
- create an artistic A4 page which includes the above information.

Stamps are a fantastic medium to learn about geography, history, culture, language and more!

StampIT has also launched other competitions linking with language learning in French, Spanish and Mandarin. For the 'Stamps from around the World' competition, any stamp on any topic can be used.



How to find out about a stamp

The best place to start is to look at the stamp with a magnifying glass. Sometimes the year of issue and other information is printed on the stamp.

Look up the stamp in a stamp catalogue (available online and in libraries). The catalogue will inform you of when and why the stamp was issued. The catalogue will also have the name of the person, place, object or animal on the stamp.

Research information using books or websites to find out more about the person, place, object or animal (always check the information is from a reliable source).



This stamp was issued in the USA but the year of issue is not on the stamp. However the words 'Centennial of Sound Recording' appear on the stamp. A quick online search states that the first sound recording was in 1877. Therefore the stamp was issued in 1977.

Create a page using your stamp and information.

Example page

Give the page a title.

The White Rhino

This stamp is from South Africa and was issued in 1954. It was issued as part of a wild animal set.

Type or write the information.

white rhino



wide mouth



There are two species of rhino in Africa. This stamp shows the white rhino but the black rhino also comes from Africa. Both rhinos are a grey colour and have two horns but they have different mouths. The white rhino has a wide mouth to graze on grasses and the black rhino has a hooked shaped lip to pick fruit and leaves from branches.

black rhino



hooked lip



Stick stamp in a suitable place on page. If possible use stamp hinge to attach.

Add additional information and/or an activity.

Draw or find pictures (check copyright of pictures and make sure you are allowed to use)



Your stamp page could be displayed at the Scottish Philatelic Congress and you could win a prize!

Teachers, please email good resolution jpegs of the stamp pages to Sandie Robb **srobb@rzss.org.uk** This competition will continue to run each year, therefore there is no time limit for entries. Entries will be entered as appropriate to the current year competition. Entries encouraged from all age groups.

Please provide parent/guardian permission for the entry, first name of child and school to be mentioned in ASPS and associated partner publications, website and Twitter. The entries will be displayed at the annual Scottish Philatelic Congress.

Teachers will be notified if there are winning entries from their school. Selected winners will receive various craft and stamp materials. An overall first prize will also receive a £20 gift voucher.

This is a fantastic activity which covers many curriculum objectives all starting with just one stamp!

StampIT **scottishphilately.co.uk/youth.php**

RZSS **tinyurl.com/scilangclass**

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