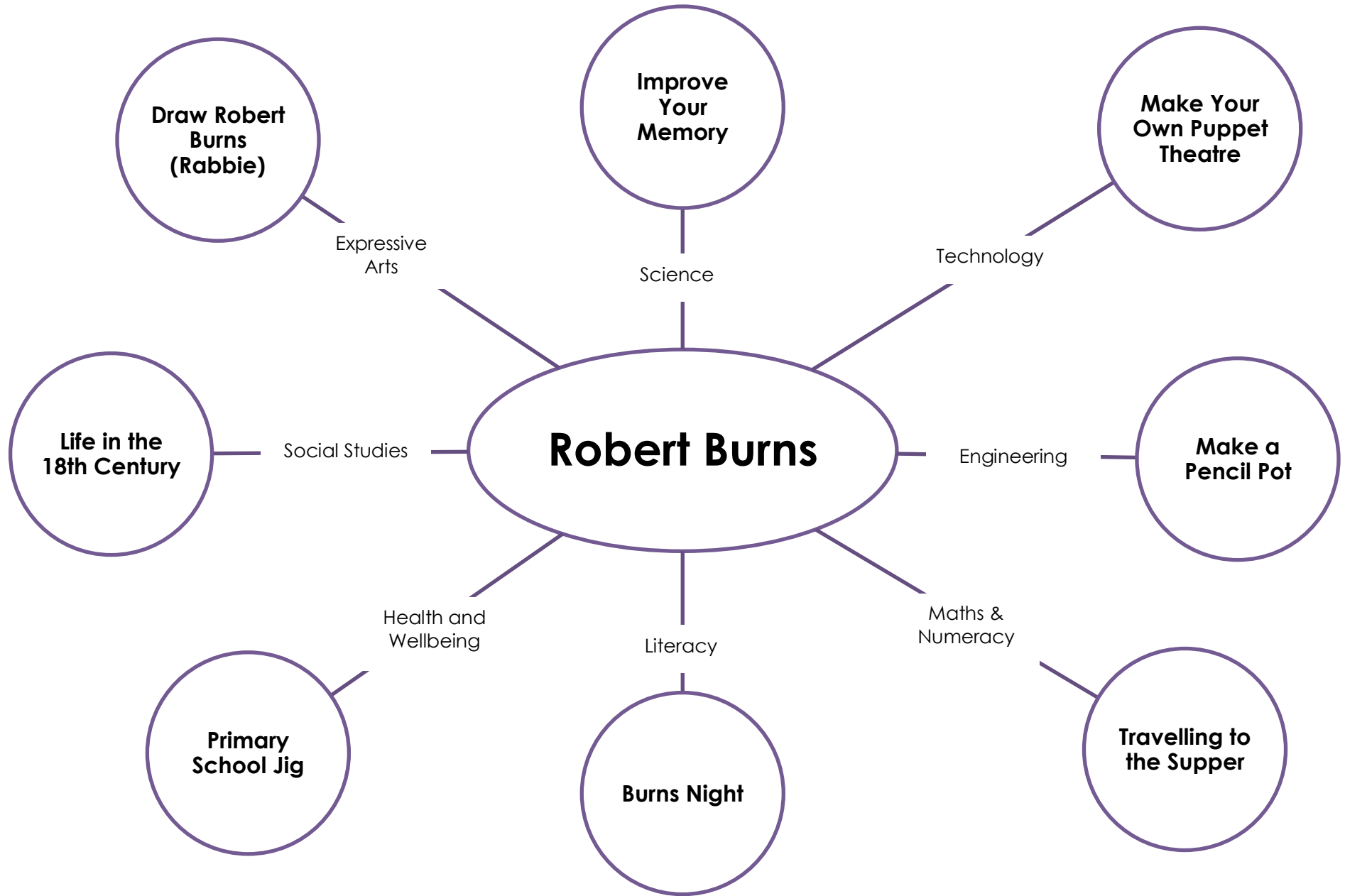


# Learning from Home



# Science Challenge



## Improve Your Memory

It can be really difficult to learn and remember new things like Robert Burns poems, but there are ways to improve your memory, and this will not only help you memorise poems but will also help your learning in other subjects at school and in life in general.

**Click on the link** to see Kat and Sam playing a memory game, trying to remember 10 random objects in different ways. Sam eventually creates a silly story to help the list stick in his mind.

<https://bit.ly/3fLEWKU>

### You Will Need:

Ten random objects    A cloth or tea towel    A partner (Adult at home or a sibling)    A stopwatch

### What to do:

Lay out your ten random objects and cover them up before your partner sees them. Tell them they have 30 seconds to look and try to remember as many objects as they can, then uncover the objects. Give them 30 seconds and cover the objects back up. Have your partner try to remember the objects. (They should find it quite difficult to remember all ten.)

**Activity:** Give your partner a chance to think of other ways, above and beyond just looking, that they think will help them remember more objects. Maybe touching or smelling them. Eventually suggest that you make up a story together to help link all the objects together. The order of the objects doesn't matter, but you must link the objects together in pairs. It is important that each pair overlaps, so pair 1 is objects A and B, then pair 2 is also object B and then object C, pair 3 is objects C and D, and so on. (So, duck and pencil, pencil and coin, coin and comb, comb and peg etc.)

Let your partner make up connections between the objects, the sillier they are, the better they will remember them later on. Have them discuss each pairing and imagine what they will look like. When the story is complete, cover up all the objects. Show your partner the first object from the story and see if they can remember the pair, then the next one, then the next. They should find it much easier to get all the way through all ten objects.

**The Science:** At first, we use our short-term memory to try and remember 10 pieces of information, the individual objects, and we struggle to store more than about nine 'chunks' of information at a time. By pairing the items up, two items can now be considered 1 'chunk', so we could perhaps remember twice as many things. We're also overlapping these pairs, so when one 'chunk' of information is recalled, it triggers a connection to the next 'chunk' creating a chain of memories.

**\*When you finish you could ask your partner to collect 10 new objects and now you try to remember.**

Activity from [www.rigb.org](http://www.rigb.org)



# Technology Challenge



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## Make Your Own Puppet Theatre

Make your own puppet theatre and use the finger puppets to put on a show.

**You will need:**

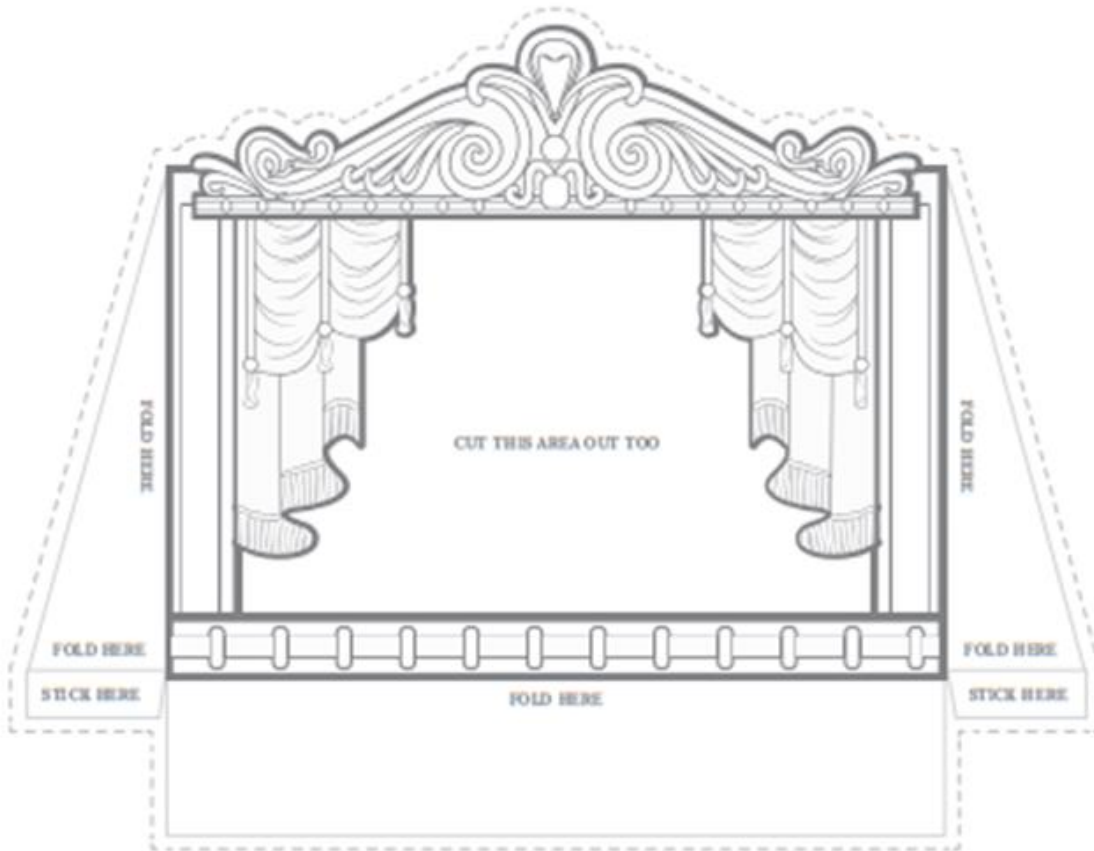
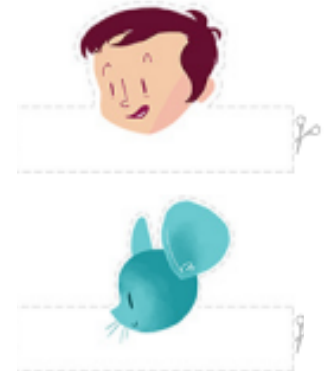
Scissors, coloured pens/pencils, sticky tape and/or glue stick

**Instructions:**

1. Cut around the dotted lines and cut out the theatre template and the finger puppets -or you could draw/make your own.
2. Cut out the inside of the stage. (You might need to ask an adult to help you)
3. Colour in the theatre
4. Follow the instructions on the stage to fold and stick it. (Ask a grown up if you need help)
5. Roll the white rectangle of the finger puppets around your finger and tape or glue to secure.
6. Spin the puppet around so the head is facing your palm.
7. Now put on a show! Share it with an adult or brother or sibling.

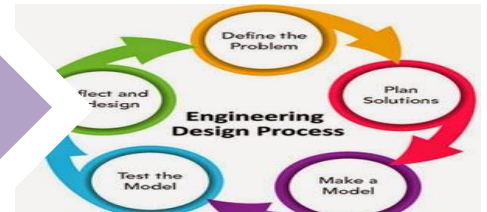
Click here to watch and listen to **To a Mouse**:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cy8lehO7nqg>



Activity and templates from: [www.visitscotland.com](http://www.visitscotland.com)

# Engineering Challenge






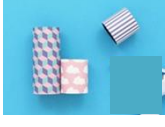


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## Make a Pencil Pot

Robert Burns was famous for writing poems and songs. He would often make them up in his head while working and then write them down later. Today you can build your own pencil pot so can store your pens and pencils safely. Who knows – you may come up with an idea and want to write it down quickly! If you have your pencil pot ready you won't forget your idea while you search for something to write it down with!

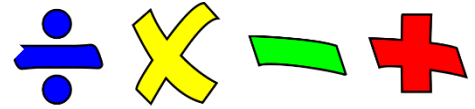
**You will need:** 5 clean toilet roll tubes, empty tissue box, ruler, pencil, paint, paintbrush, wrapping paper, scissors, glue.

### Instructions:

<p>1. <b>Cut the toilet rolls to size.</b> Carefully measure and cut the toilet roll tubes down to several different lengths. You can do as many as you like – the more you do the bigger and more varied your pencil pot will be!</p>	
<p>2. <b>Paint the insides of the tubes.</b> Next, paint the insides of the tubes in different colours to match your wrapping paper, and leave to dry.</p>	
<p>3. <b>Cover the outsides with wrapping paper.</b> Place the tubes on the wrapping paper and measure and cut pieces to cover the outsides. Then neatly wrap and stick in place with glue.</p>	
<p>4. <b>Glue the tubes together.</b> Glue the tubes together one by one in a group</p>	
<p>5. <b>Stick on the base.</b> Open and flatten the empty tissue box and glue the group to the middle. When dry, draw around the bottom edges of the tubes with a pencil, and cut it out.</p>	
<p>6. <b>Pop some pens in!</b> Admire your finished pen pot and fill it with your favourite stationary. You can even store rulers, rubbers and paintbrushes in your DIY pencil holder.</p>	

Activity and images from <https://www.cushelle.com/>

# Maths & Numeracy Challenge



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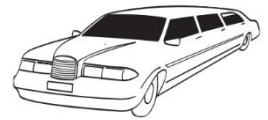
## Travelling to the Supper

Liam's mum has hired a limousine to take Liam and 3 of his friends to their school's Burns Supper.

The back seat is big enough to seat all four pupils. However, they cannot decide who will sit where. So, they keep swapping seats.

Here are two ways they could sit:

Liam	David	Amy	Lucy
Liam	David	Lucy	Amy



\*How many other ways could the 4 friends sit together?

**Note:** There are a lot more than 4!

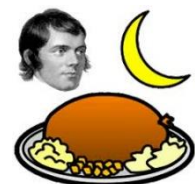
Write any more you find on a piece of paper.




**What strategies can you think of that you might be able to use to solve the problem?** ♦ Act it out ♦ Guess and check ♦ Look for a pattern

Activity adapted from <http://www.mathematicshed.com/>

Images from <http://clipart-library.com/>



# Literacy Challenge



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## Burns Night

Read the information below about Burns Night, then have a go at answering the questions.

Scots all round the world celebrate Burns Night with a Burns Supper to celebrate the life of the poet Robert Burns. The suppers are held on or near the 25th of January, Burns' birthday. A traditional Burns Supper often includes the following:

- Cock-A-Leekie soup (chicken and vegetable)
- Haggis, neeps and tatties
- Sherry Trifle
- Oatcakes and cheese



A Burns Supper is started with piping in the guests by bagpipes. They then take their places at the dining table and are welcomed by the host. The Selkirk Grace (a prayer) is read, and the first course is served (often Cock-A-Leekie soup). After that the haggis, a traditional Scottish dish, is piped in from the kitchen. Haggis is a sausage made from the liver, heart, and lungs of a sheep. Before the haggis is cut the host or an invited guest reads Burn's famous poem, Address to A Haggis. The haggis is cut with a large knife and eaten with mashed tatties and neeps. Dessert (often sherry trifle) is served along with oatcakes and cheese.

A toast to the Queen is made after dinner and a short speech about Burns called 'The Immortal Memory' is given by one of the guests. Guests also take it in turns reading Burns poems, singing songs and possibly doing some Highland dancing. The Supper is ended with everyone singing 'Auld Lang Syne'.

### Questions

1. Why are Burns Suppers held on or near the 25<sup>th</sup> of January?
2. Which musical instrument is played to welcome the guests to their tables?
3. What is the Selkirk Grace?
4. Before the haggis is cut, which poem is read?
5. What do you think a neep is? Hint: It is a vegetable.
6. What is often eaten as a dessert at a Burns Supper?
7. The haggis is a sausage made from the liver, heart and lungs of which animal?
8. How is a Burns Supper ended?
9. Have you ever been to a Burns Supper? Did you enjoy it? What were your favourite / least favourite parts?

Activity and image from  
PrimaryLeap via  
[www.primaryresources.co.uk](http://www.primaryresources.co.uk)



# Health & Wellbeing Challenge

## Primary School Jig

At this time of year, young people will often spend time learning different Scottish country dances. When the dances have been learned and practised, folk have great fun performing them during Burns Night celebrations.

Burns Night is held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of January each year (the anniversary of Robert's birthday) and it is an annual celebration of the Scottish poet and songwriter Robert Burns. People celebrate all over the world!

Today you are going to learn the **Primary School Jig**. (With a focus on rhythm and timing)

Ask a family member to join in with you or you might want to dance with your favourite toy or teddy.

Click here for the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIPsFhDWCKM>

After you complete the Primary School Jig, have a go at using the dance steps you have learned to make up your own dance.



# Social Studies Challenge



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## Life in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century

A museum is a building which stores, cares for and displays a collection of objects (or **artifacts**) which are of historical importance. Some of the artifacts can be very very old. Museums can help us learn about the past.

Below you can see three objects from the **Robert Burns Birthplace Museum** in Ayr. Have a look at the objects – what do you think they can tell us about what life

was like for Robert in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century?

Think about what transport might have been used? Do you think people had cars or buses?

How do you think people treated their animals?

How did people communicate with each other? Do you think they had phones and computers like we do?

Where did people get their clothes from. Could people order clothes online or get them from their local supermarket or high street shops? Do you think everyone had enough money to buy clothes?

Pocket-sized writing set owned by Robert Burns



This object tells us ...

This object tells us ...

Robert Burns' riding crop (This is like a whip)



A sock with the initials 'R.B.' stitched into it



This object tells us ...



To find out more click here <https://www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/robert-burns-birthplace-museum>



# Expressive Arts Challenge



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## Draw Robert Burns (Rabbie)

What you'll need:  
Pencils & Paper



We can often make it much easier to draw pictures of people or animals by using common 2D shapes (circles, squares, rectangles, triangles etc.) first as a base.

Have a go at drawing your own picture of Robert Burns (Rabbie) by following the instructions on the left.

When you have finished, you might want to try to draw somebody else or try to teach a grown up or sibling at home how to draw Rabbie.

Have fun!



1. Draw a circle for Rabbie's head with eyes, a nose and a mouth. Don't forget his eyebrows! Just below his head draw a rectangle for Rabbie's body.



2. Now Rabbie needs some legs! Draw two more rectangles at the bottom of the first rectangle you drew for his body. You can give him a collar for his smart jacket too by drawing two triangles just below his head.



3. Now we can draw Rabbie's socks and feet! Draw two rectangles at the bottom of his legs and two triangles pointing outwards for his feet. You can draw some more of his jacket too.



4. Rabbie had a good head of hair to keep him warm in the cold Scottish winter so you can draw that now too. Give him some arms by drawing two more rectangles out of the top of his body. And draw two half circles for hands. Two triangles below his chin and a line down his front makes up Rabbie's shirt.



5. Now it's time to add some colour to Rabbie's clothes! And why not add some items of your own like a quill (an old fashioned pen made from a feather) and a poem - or anything you like!

Activity and image from [www.visitscotland.com/](http://www.visitscotland.com/)