



GLASGOW  
**850**

# Glasgow 850 Festival

## Early Years

# Objectives

The anniversary provides an opportunity to:

- Consider the city's development since 1975
- Work towards ambitious goals to reduce poverty and inequality while increasing prosperity and opportunity.“
- Enhance the city’s brand at home and abroad



**Programme runs January to December 2025**

## Festival Runs 28 April - 2 May 2025

Key learning activities:

- **Consultation**
- **The Big Glasgow Ceilidh**
- **The Big Glasgow Clean Up**
- **Family Learning Scottie Dog** (Sandy Road DN Scottie Dogs)
- **Celebration** – templates, songs and bunting
- **Fuel Zone Lunch** – Glasgow 850 themed menu
- **St. Mungo and Glasgow's Coat of Arms** resources
- **Glasgow Coat of Arms Trail** (Sandy Road DN)
- **St. Mungo Mural Trail**
- **Heritage Trail Toolkit**
- **Glasgow City Chambers** resource
- **Glasgow 850 Timeline**
- **Connected Learning** - Glasgow 850 themed creative iPad-based activities
- **CREATE** - City Singing, Glorious Glasgow & Scottish Opera Clyde Chorus
- **PEPASS** - 850 sporting challenges, events and IDLs





Schools are invited to **share** any G850 resources they create.

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# What are the best things about living in Glasgow?

Staff at Sandy Road Day Nursery used the question above as a stimulus to discuss the local area and their place in the City of Glasgow. Some of the children were able to share why they like living in Glasgow and some of the special places they have visited with their families.

*I like to go to the farm. I see cows and pigs; I went in the car with my cousins. H*

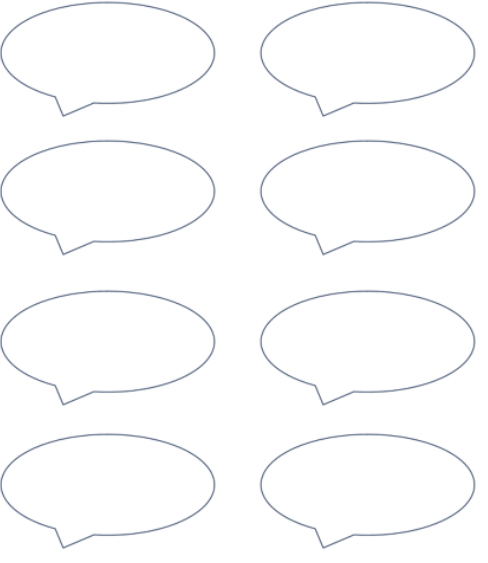

*I went to the transport museum, I seen some guys in costumes. It had lots of cool cars. T*

*I go to the library behind my house. Mummy goes on the computer upstairs. There is stories at the library too. Z*

*There's a park next to my house, I go there with my mummy it's got a slide and swings, and a see saw. J*



What makes Glasgow special?



**Provocation:** What Makes Glasgow Special?

**Prompt:** What do you think is the best thing about living in Glasgow – people, places or something else?

**Meta skills:** Observation, communication, reflection and critical thinking.

# Celebrating Glasgow's 850<sup>th</sup> birthday at Sandy Road Day Nursery

Staff shared that Glasgow was having an 850th birthday and discussed how they would like to celebrate this with the children. Using mind maps to record the children's views, the children suggested having a **Scottish birthday party**, here are some of their comments:

*I get presents on my birthday; at nursery we get a book. I want to wear a pretty dress; a Scotland dress is made of tartan. J*

*We need decorations, I like balloons, pink balloons and I need to wear my special outfit. M*

*I like to play with my friends at nursery for the party. We can do dancing, and I will wear my dress and jewellery. H*

*I live in Glasgow, wow 850 is a big number. M*

*'I go to soft play for parties, I get presents on my birthday' B*

*'We can have a cake, it needs so many candles. I-R*

*Play games, you go in a circle and hold hands. H*

*Music, dancing and friends. A*

These comments will not only be typical of Sandy Road nursery, they will be representative of lots of children from our early year's establishments across our wonderful City. Using the children's knowledge as a starting point we would like to invite all early year's establishments across the city to take part in the biggest Ceilidh Glasgow has ever seen on **Friday 30th of May at 11 am and 2pm.**



Dust off your kilt and join Sandy Road Day Nursery to celebrate Glasgow's 850th birthday with the

## Big Glasgow Ceilidh

**Friday 30th of May at 11am and 2pm**

**Share your celebration with Liz Kerr or Elaine Quinn for a chance to feature on GO News.**

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At Sandy Road, staff and children went on to discuss what kind of birthday present/gift we could give to Glasgow and came up with *The Big Glasgow Clean Up* here are some of our children's comments:

'You can't make a mess it's not nice to drop things on the floor, we put it in the bin, The Grey and Blue bins for recycling'  
Z

'Outside the nursery is my house, I am in Glasgow I help to tidy up the rubbish it will look nicer' R

'I live in Scotland, and I want it to be beautiful' F

'We need a litter picker, so our hands don't get dirty. We need to pick up our trash, so we don't slip on a banana peel' F



'Putting rubbish on the floor makes it dirty', 'we can clean it, I have long arms I can pick up all the things', 'the trees have fallen we can pick them up too, I am stronger', F



These comments are representative of Glasgow's amazing children, why not join us in supporting your local community by organising your own regular litter picks? Imagine the difference we could all make.

Sandy Road Day Nursery purchased three Scottie dogs (one for each playroom) to use as a home link. The staff team were invited to take part in a fun competition to name the dogs, with each of the winners receiving a small, fun, Glasgow themed prize.

Alongside each dog a family learning book was created, this is the introduction:

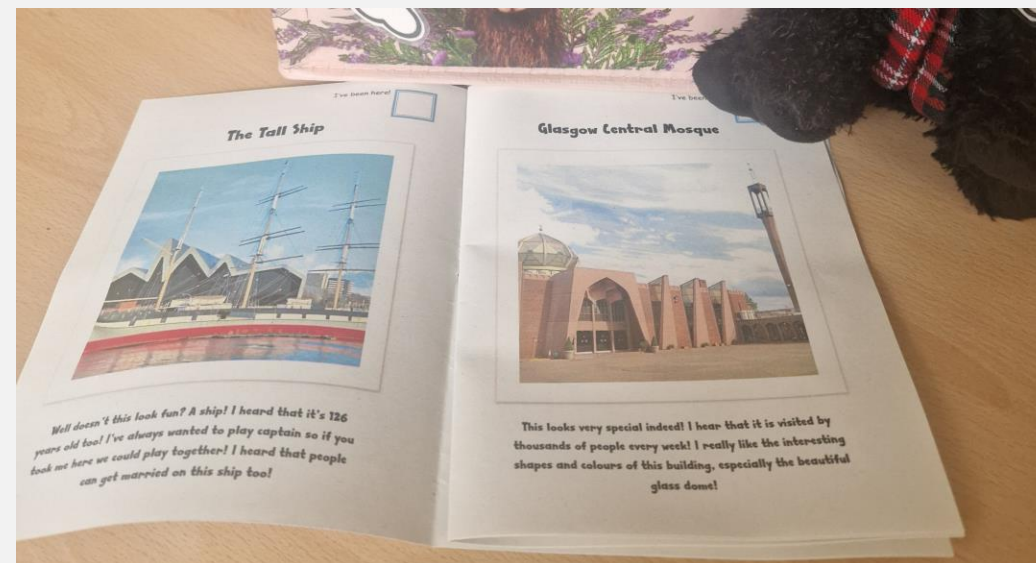
*"Hi EVERYONE my name is Nevis. I've come a long way from the Highlands to visit your wonderful City of Glasgow as I hear it is having a very special birthday! There are a few places I'd really like to see and I'm wondering if you can take me? In this book I have shared some pictures of the places I'd like to visit. I wonder if you have seen these before. There's a box you can tick on each page after we have visited! I would LOVE for you to document our travels by taking photos that I can show all my friends back home!*

*Let's get exploring!*



## Sandy Road Scottie Dogs

Each dog has its own bag, small enough for even our youngest learners to carry. The children are very excited about Glasgow's big birthday, and they can't wait to take Nevis on his travels!



Each page of the family learning book has a picture and a blurb about a place of interest our families and children can walk to from the nursery, for example the art gallery. There are codes and email addresses for families to share their pictures of Nevis on his adventures with the nursery. The book includes the Glasgow Coat of Arms and a wee Glasgow Rhyme, and each family get to keep the book for future use.



## Sandy Road Scottie Dogs

# Glasgow 850 Celebrations

Glasgow is **850 years old** in 2025.

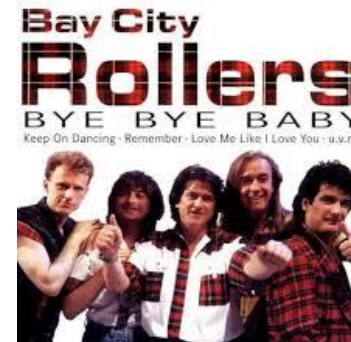
To celebrate, children can:

- Learn about **Glasgow's past, present, and future.**
- Receive a **Glasgow 850 badge** to remember this big birthday!
- Enjoy a **special school lunch** inspired by Glasgow's coat of arms
- **Party/dress like its 1975.**
- Sing and recite **songs and poems** celebrating Glasgow's history and people.
- **Plays Script** - retell the famous miracles of St. Mungo:

Here is the bird that never flew,  
Here is the tree that never grew,  
Here is the fish that never swam,  
Here is the bell that never rang,

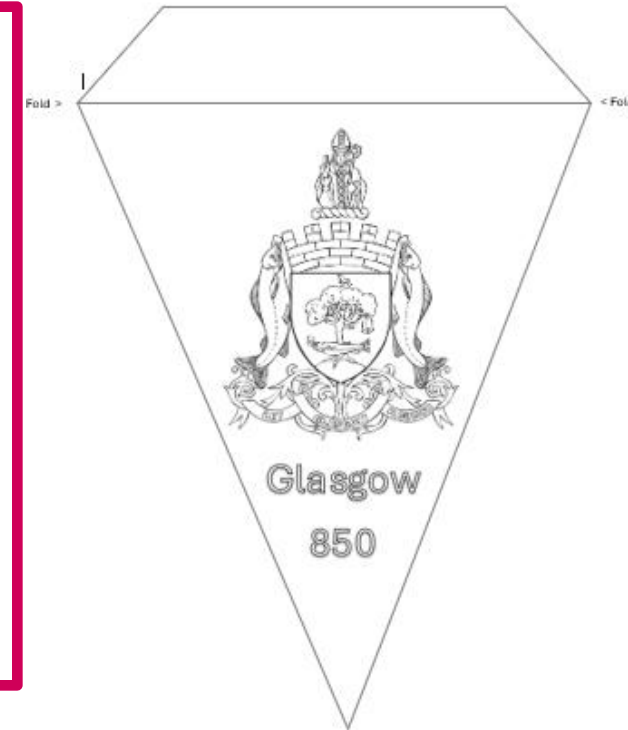


## Songs



**UK Chart No 1, 1975**

## Bunting



## Fuel Zone Lunch

### Glasgow 850 themed menu

**Bird** – Chicken/ gravy, halal roast chicken, quorn fillet

**Tree** – Broccoli

**Fish** – Breaded Fish

**Bell** – Stuffed peppers with savoury rice

- Schools to select day for themed lunch during festival w/c 27 April
- ParentPay site will be updated w/c 31 March
- Catering manager will discuss menu with HT and export units
- Menu on social media/GO



## Glasgow Coat of Arms

The Coat of Arms was officially adopted in 1866. A modernised version is now in use.

The legend of St. Mungo:

**Here is the bird that never flew,  
Here is the tree that never grew,  
Here is the bell that never rang,  
Here is the fish that never swam.**

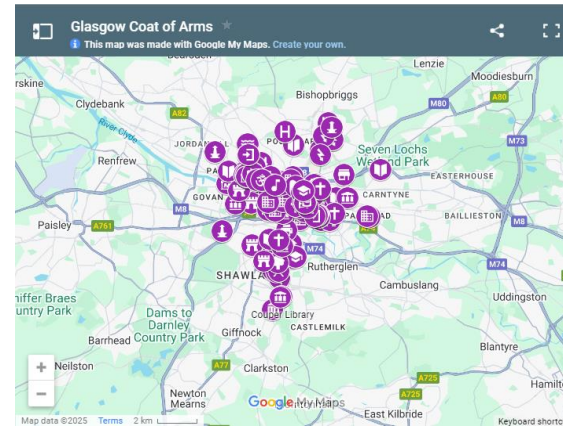


### Learning focus:

- Storytelling
- History
- Symbolism
- Identity

### Learning activities:

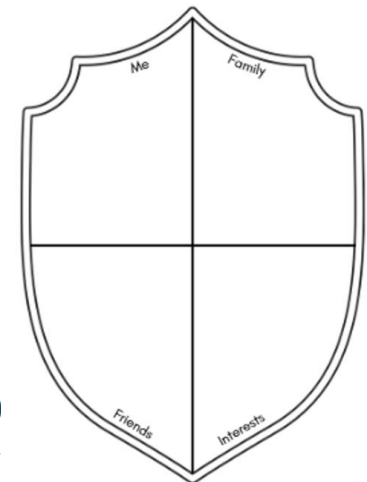
- Tell the story
- Coat of Arms Map – Can you find the coat of arms in your local area
- Short play
- I see I think I wonder
- Design own coat of arms
- Digital - recreate the coat of arms



Map of the city's coat of arms  
<https://www.glasgowcoa.org/>



My Coats of Arms |



Sandy Road Day Nursery shared the Glasgow Coat of Arms with their children, they showed great interest in the items and wanted to find where they could see it.

The children looked online and found the coat of arms displayed near our nursery is the one outside Partick Library, we then used Google Maps on an iPad and walked to the library, some of the children's comments were:



'I've seen it before at Glasgow that's where I live, I saw it on the roof at the top of the bridge' M

'we can use the map to find it' 'let's go to the fountain'  
'it's in the park' M

'we are looking for a fish and a tree and a bird and a bell, I'm going to look with my mummy too' F

'I see fish in the river' 'I see the river when I go for a walk and see the big boat' O

'I've seen this before in the museum' 'it looks like the shark is trying to eat the tree' H

'My sister goes to that museum' 'I live in Glasgow' Z

'There is a fish on the bus stop' S

'I found the coat of arms on your badge' M

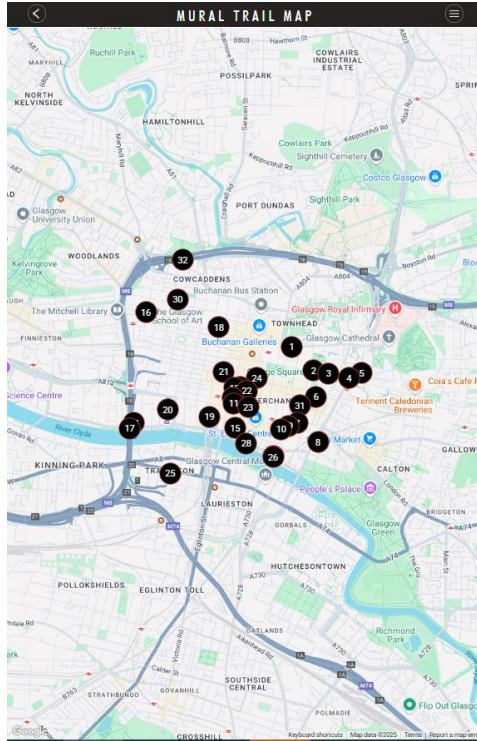
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From the information gathered and observed we created a **Glasgow Coat of Arms Trail** around the art gallery with clues to where to find it. Some staff and children used the trail to visit the areas we also shared it with our families, who have been encouraged to share their findings with nursery.



# St Mungo Murals

## St. Mungo & St. Enoch and Child



[www.glasgow.gov.uk/citycentremurals](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/citycentremurals)

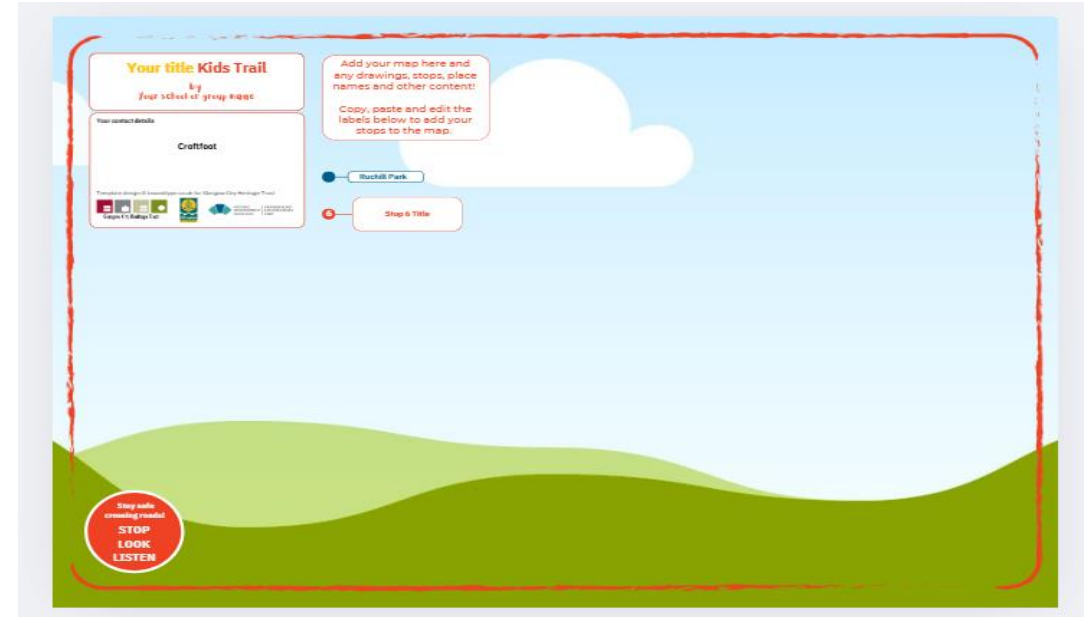
Details on the  
St Mungo  
Festival  
coming soon.



## Curriculum Resources



## Local Glasgow Heritage Trail Toolkit

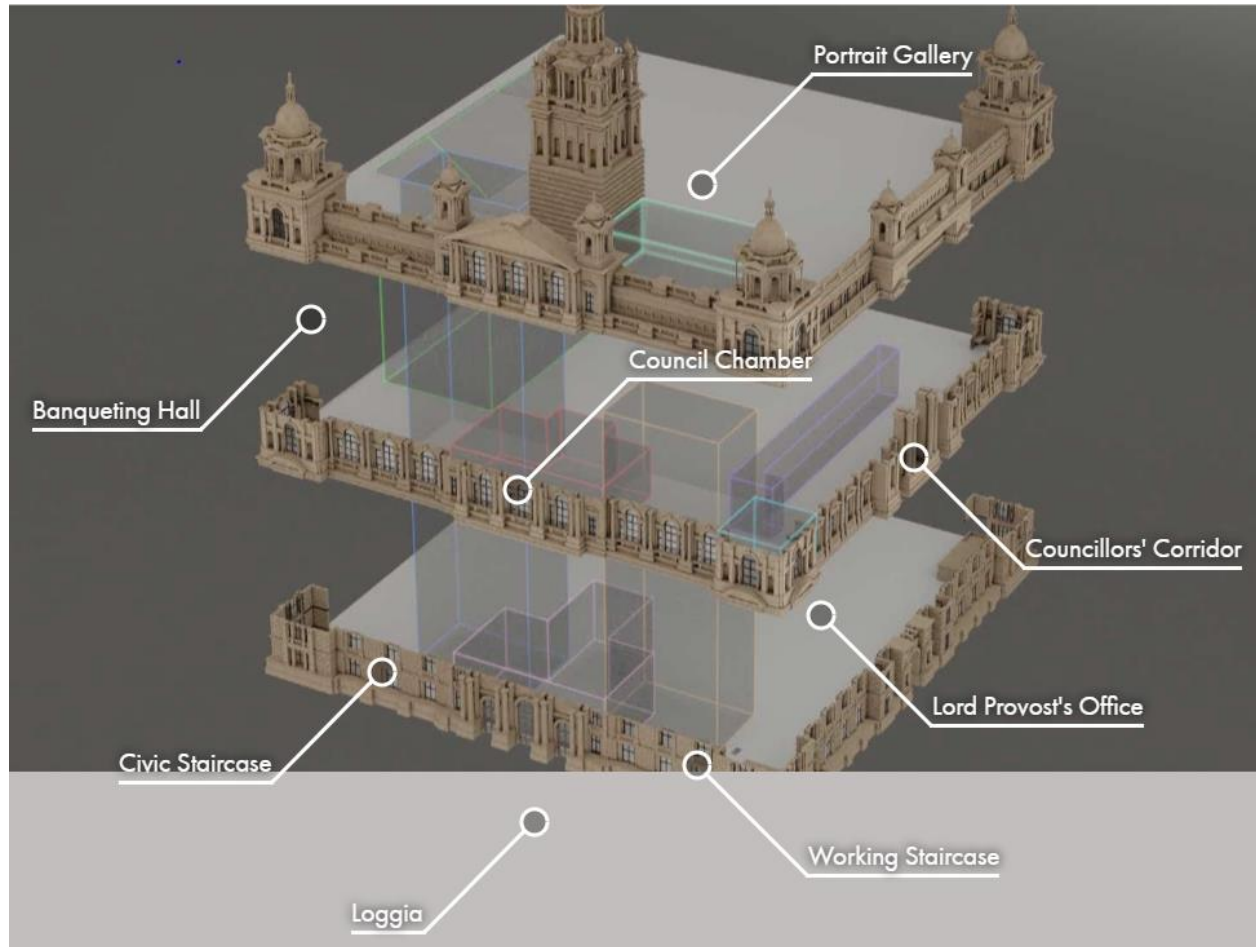


Make your own child friendly trail about the heritage of your local area. You can use Book Creator or access our kids trail template on [Canva](https://www.glasgowheritage.org.uk/kids-trail-toolkit/)

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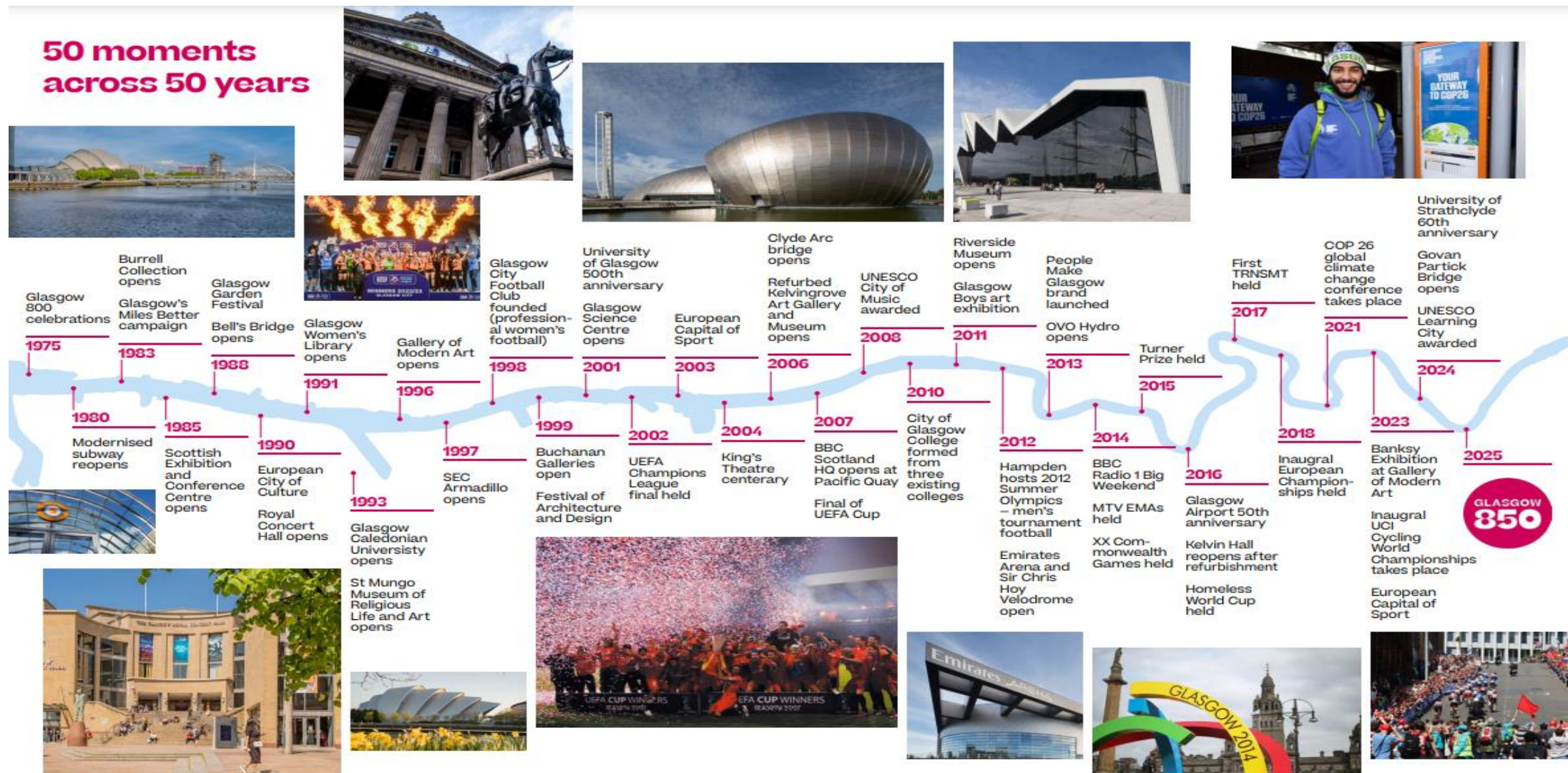
## Curriculum Resources

### Glasgow City Chambers



A digital learning resource developed in collaboration with Glasgow Heritage, Education Services, and local schools, focusing on the architecture, design, and social heritage of Glasgow City Chambers.

# Glasgow 850 Timeline



## IDL activities (see accompanying document for more detail)

Timeline Investigation | A Day in Glasgow" – Creative Writing | Debate – Glasgow's Most Defining Moment |  
 Create a Digital Glasgow 850 Timeline | Drama – "Glasgow Through Time" | What's Next for Glasgow?



## CREATE



CREATIVITY AND EXPRESSIVE ARTS TRANSFORMING EDUCATION

### **City Singing**

All primary schools - all levels. Song - 'It's Our Home, Glasgow'

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/glasgowcreate/glasgow850/>

### **Glorious Glasgow**

All expressive arts areas - primary level teaching resource.

Can be taught as discrete Art, Drama, Dance and Music,

or as an IDL. <http://glasgowcreate.online/glorious-glasgow/>

### **Scottish Opera – Clyde Chorus**

Open to all primary and primary ASL – 10 schools will be selected to perform the opening performance for Glasgow artists on the evening of 29<sup>th</sup> May in the Armadillo. Resources are free and transport will be provided.

## PEPASS

- Celebrating and profiling 850 at our city-wide and local events
- Celebrating 20 years of active schools
- Leadership – Journey / DYW through sport
- 850 – Sportscotland School Sport Award
- Determined to Dance
- 850 sporting challenge, link in with your ASC
- **IDLs** – <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/pepassglasgow/idls-2/>
- **Blog:** <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/pepassglasgow/>



# GEORGE SQUARE





**We encourage everyone to help mark the year  
the city turns 850**



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