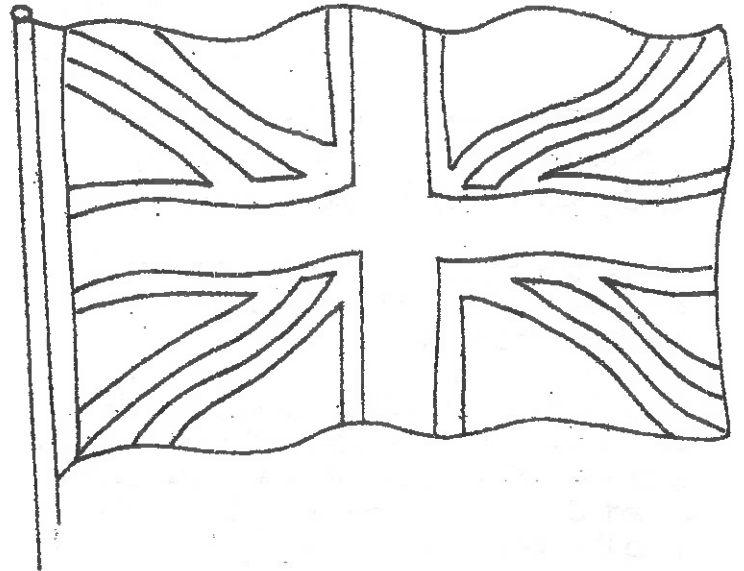


England

England is a land of history. It is on the continent of Europe. On the map, you can find it in the Atlantic Ocean, west of France.

The capital city of England is London. Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield, and Liverpool are other big cities in England. The people who live in England are called British or English. The people speak English. The flag of England is called the Union Jack. The flag is blue with red and white diagonal stripes. There is a red and white cross over the stripes. England has its own kind of money called pounds.



England makes steel, metals, cars, ships, textiles, and electronics. The farmers grow grains, sugar beets, fruits, and vegetables. Coal, tin, oil, gas, limestone, and iron are mined in England. Fishermen catch cod, haddock, and mackerel off the coast of England.

Some cars that are made in England are very expensive and fancy. The textile industry makes woolen cloth that people all over the world want. English china and dishes are very popular. In London, policemen are called bobbies. There are double-decker buses on the streets. The subway is called the underground.

The Queen lives in a palace in London. People will wait for hours to see the changing of the guard there. The world's most famous clock, Big Ben, is there. The city is famous for its banks and insurance companies, too. London is one of the most interesting cities in the world.

Visitors come to England to visit London, but there is much more to see in the country. They visit Stratford. It was the home of William Shakespeare. Oxford University is interesting. Cheddar cheese comes from a place in England. Some of the finest knives in the world are made in the city of Sheffield.

The English people like sports. They play cricket, rugby, polo, and soccer. Recently, American football teams have played games in London. The English people seem to enjoy watching the sport. The Summer Olympics have been held twice in London.

BONUS: Steel is one of England's most important products. On a separate sheet of paper, write a report about steel.

LAZY JACK

An English Folktale Adapted by Elizabeth McKinnon

Once upon a time there was a boy who never did any work at all. People called him Lazy Jack.

One day his mother said, "It's not right for a boy to be so lazy. Tomorrow you must go out and find some work."

So the next day, which was Monday, Jack went to work for a neighbor. When the work was done, the neighbor gave Jack a penny. Jack started for home with the penny in his hand, but along the way he dropped it.

"Silly boy," said his mother. "You should have put it in your pocket."

"I'll do so next time," said Jack.

On Tuesday Jack went to work for a farmer who gave him a little pitcher of milk. Jack remembered what his mother had said. He put the pitcher in his pocket and started off on his way. But as he walked, the milk splashed out of the pitcher. By the time he got home, his clothes were soaking wet and the pitcher was empty.

"Silly boy," said his mother. "You should have carried it on your head."

"I'll do so next time," said Jack.

On Wednesday Jack went to work for a cheesemaker who gave him a soft cream cheese. Jack put the cheese on top of his head and started off on his way. But the sun was very hot. By the time he got home, the cheese had melted down all over his ears and face.

"Silly boy," said his mother. "You should have carried it in your hands."

"I'll do so next time," said Jack.

On Thursday Jack went to work for an old woman who had nothing to give him but a tomcat. Jack picked up the cat and carried it in his

hands as he started off on his way. But the cat didn't like that. It scratched Jack's hands so much that he had to let it go.

"Silly boy," said Jack's mother when he got home. "You should have tied it with a string and led it along behind you."

"I'll do so next time," said Jack.

On Friday Jack went to work for a butcher who gave him a leg of lamb. Jack tied a string around the leg of lamb and pulled it behind him as he started on his way. But the ground was all covered with dirt. And by the time Jack got home, the leg of lamb was all covered with dirt too.

"Silly boy," said his mother. "You should have carried it on your shoulder."

"I'll do so next time," said Jack.

On Saturday Jack went to work for a farmer who gave him a donkey. It was hard work, but Jack finally got the donkey up on his shoulders and started off for home.

Along the way he passed a house where a rich man lived with his daughter. The daughter was very beautiful, and she had a pretty smile. But she didn't know how to laugh.

Now the daughter happened to look out the window as Jack walked by with the donkey on his shoulders. It was such a funny sight that she burst out laughing for the very first time in her life. This made her father so happy that he asked Jack to be his daughter's husband.

So the two of them were married and went to live in a fine house. Lazy Jack became very rich and never had to do a day's work again. He invited his mother to come stay in his house, and they all lived happily together.