

What is the Common Cultural Connections Project?

Common Cultural Connections (CCC) is a European funded project which aims to improve knowledge and understanding of the shared cultural heritage between the United Kingdom, France and Spain, encouraging people to become more involved with their past.

The project focus is on an under-represented aspect of our shared heritage: archaeological evidence and art from maritime sites during prehistory (Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age). Our coastlines and surrounding seas are rich in sites of national and international interest. Much of this was once dry land (see red shared area on figure below); the area now contains unique submerged prehistoric landscapes to shipwrecks, harbours and ports reflecting evidence of trade between the partner countries. This evidence demonstrates how cultural connections between prehistoric societies were more frequent than previously realized.

The project is raising awareness about the cultural origins of Europe through a better understanding of our common past, this is achieved through innovative, fun and interactive activities.



Common Cultural Connections Network

So far, the project has developed links between schools and groups in the partner countries and is now creating a network to research and share information about our common heritage. This ongoing initiative will provide a range of teaching materials and resources which can be used beyond the life of the project. As school that has been already involved with us, we would like you to join the Common Cultural Connections Network through e-twinning.



Getting Involved

Cultural heritage is often seen as something restricted to museums and academics. The CCC project aims to reach new audiences, improving access to cultural heritage and providing greater opportunities for young people to get insights into their common past. To achieve this, a range of interactive teaching resources are being developed that will be accessible through the e-twinning schools community platform, allowing partner schools in the Common Cultural Connections Network to share information.

Common
Cultural
Connections



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eTwinning

The community for schools
in Europe

The free and safe platform for teachers to connect,
develop collaborative projects and share ideas in Europe

Erasmus+ 344209 Teachers · 45772 Projects · 150590 Schools

Maritime
Archaeology
Trust

Common Art Connections

A key theme will be art. In particular, rock art as it delivers some of the most interesting evidence for relationships among human groups during prehistory in Europe. This prehistoric art can be viewed as a link between human communities, sharing common symbols, motifs and designs.

The Common Cultural Connections Network, will bring together the pupils of the partner countries and encourage them to discover, understand and re-interpret this common artistic backdrop to European culture.

The resources provided will include:

- Photos, 3D virtual visits of decorated caves and models of prehistoric monuments.
- Representations of decorated objects including pottery, weaponry and jewellery.
- Simplified chronologies and guides for presentation and interpretation of cultural contexts.

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