

1.

The Protestant Reformation started as a protest against the Roman Catholic church, and the people who enforced church rules—the Pope, the bishops and the priests. Have you ever been to a Catholic or a Protestant church?

2.

In most countries before the Protestant Reformation, there was no separation between church and state: the Roman Catholic Church had total power over people and required them to pay money to the church.

3.

After the printing press was invented, more people could afford to own a Bible and read it for themselves. They didn't need priests to tell them what it said, and what it meant. Do you have a Bible? Have you ever read any of it for yourself?

4.

People wanted independence from the church. They wanted to be able to think for themselves about religious questions and govern their own congregations.

1.

The nation that many people call “England” or “Britain” is properly known as the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, or UK.

What is the proper name of the country often called America, and does it have letters that are used for short?

2.

England, Scotland and Wales are all on the island known as “Great Britain.” The word “British” is used to describe all people from the UK, including Northern Ireland. People from the USA are all called “American” —but is there another name for Americans in the part of the USA you live in?

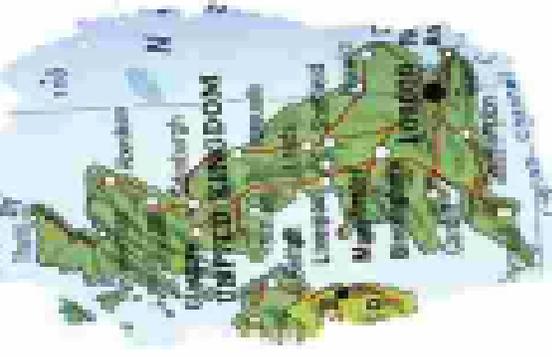
3.

People of the UK often call their homeland “the British Isles” with good reason: there are some 2,000 islands in the UK.

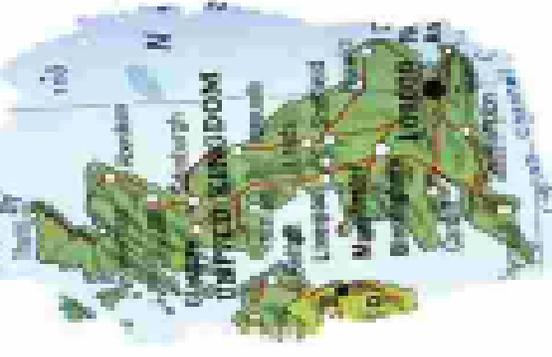
4.

Saint David is connected with the Welsh symbol, the leek. One story says that David told Welshmen to wear a leek in their hats during an important battle, which they then won. In the Welsh regiment of the British army, soldiers eat a raw leek on Saint David's Day. Did you ever eat a leek? Or see one?

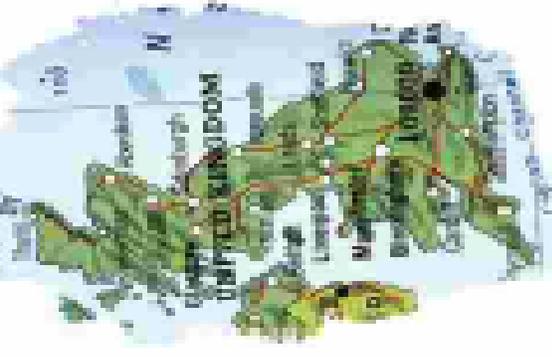
CUSTOMS



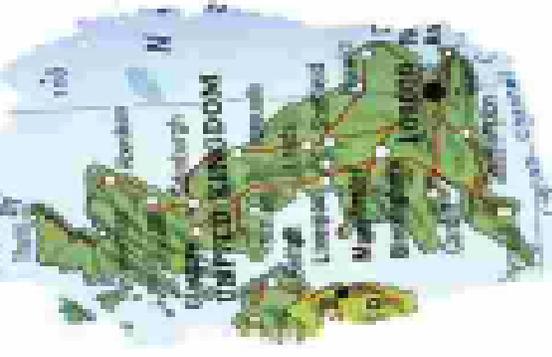
CUSTOMS



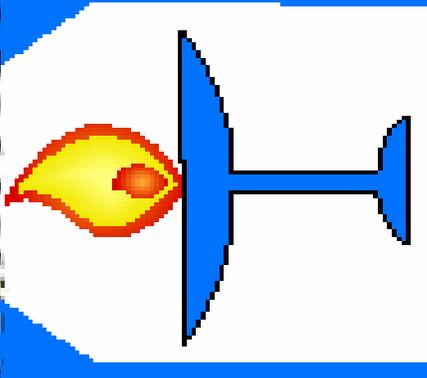
CUSTOMS



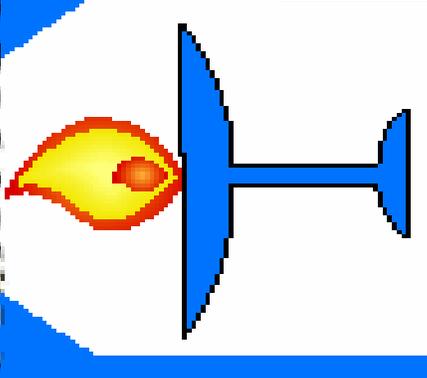
CUSTOMS



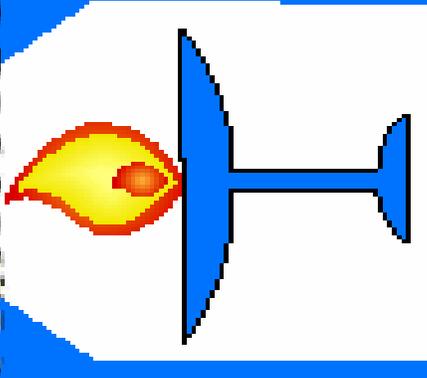
WELLS & PRACTICES



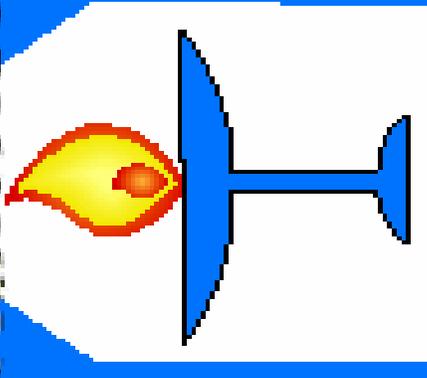
WELLS & PRACTICES



WELLS & PRACTICES



WELLS & PRACTICES



5.

The Church of England decided to be led by the King instead of the Pope. Some traditional practices were kept, but some new ways of worshipping were also allowed. Who decides how things will be done in your church?

5.

The UK has one of the highest numbers of people per square mile in the world. 90% of the population lives in cities. Do you live in a city, a small town, or in the country?

6.

The Church of Scotland was even more “protestant” than the Church of England: the government supported the church but it did not control it. Each congregation governed itself.

6.

Most British people live in a house of five or six small rooms: two or three bedrooms, a living room, kitchen and bathroom. How many rooms are in your house?

7.

The Puritans believed they had a direct agreement, or covenant, with God to establish churches and communities that would follow God’s commandments.

7.

Greater London, the capital of the UK, is Europe’s largest city.

Does your church have a covenant? If so, what is it you agree to do?

What is the capitol city of your country?

8.

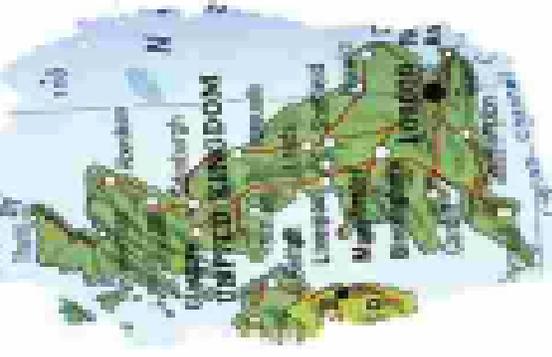
The Puritans in New England established independent congregations. The church and the government supported each other but neither was allowed to interfere with the others’ affairs.

8.

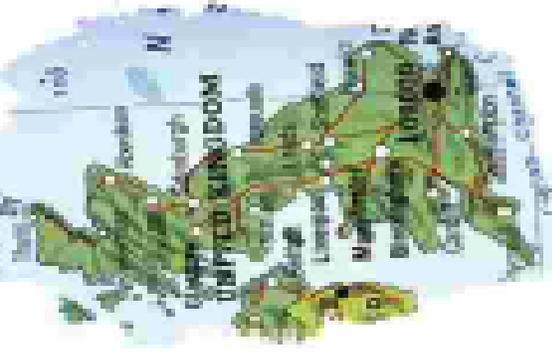
Each country of the UK has its own symbol: England is the rose, Scotland the thistle, Wales the leek and Northern Ireland a red hand.

Does your country or state have a symbol, such as an animal or plant?

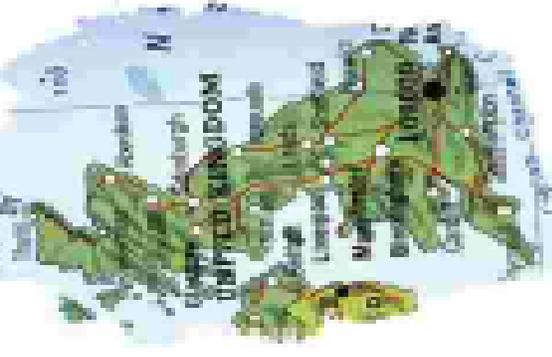
CUSTOMS



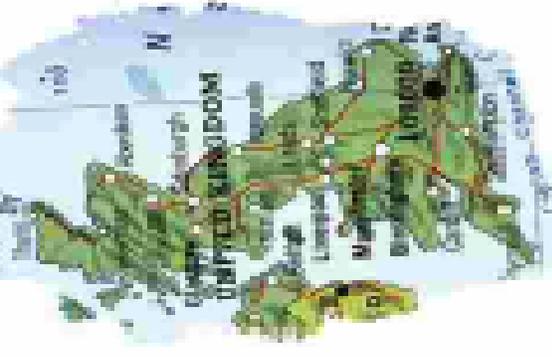
CUSTOMS



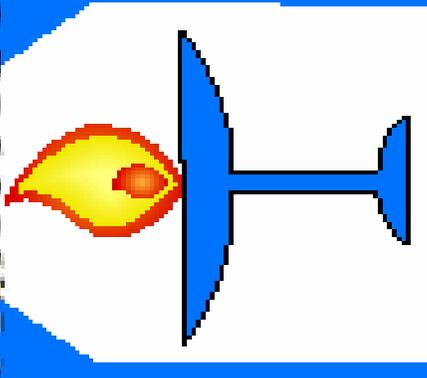
CUSTOMS



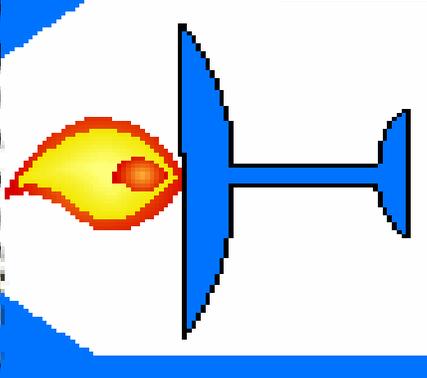
CUSTOMS



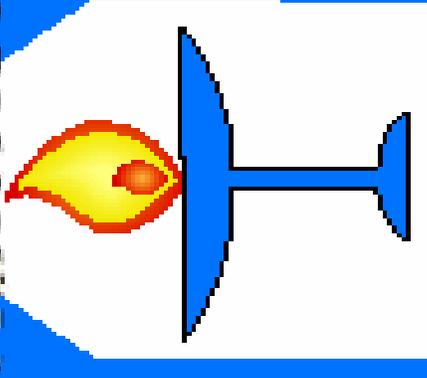
WELLS & PRACTICES



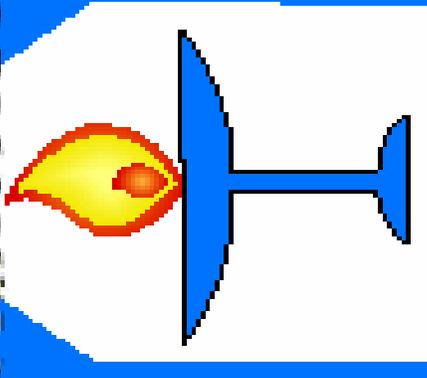
WELLS & PRACTICES



WELLS & PRACTICES



WELLS & PRACTICES



9.

The Puritan belief in the importance of covenants—or agreements among members—led to America’s first democratic institution: the town meeting. Many New England towns still make decisions at town meetings. How do people in your city or town decide things? Do people have meetings?

10.

A “non-subscribing” congregation is one that does not require its members to agree to a common creed or statement of belief.

Do members of your church have to believe in the same thing or not?

11.

The early *British and Foreign Unitarian Association* helped start congregations, supported ministers, and printed books on Unitarian thought and practice. American Unitarian Universalists have an organization in Boston that does the same things for them.

12.

In 1928 the *General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches* replaced the *British and Foreign Unitarian Association* as the unifying organization. What is the organization called that gathers Unitarian Universalists in the US?

9.

English is the official language of the UK but Welsh is taught in schools in Wales and special dictionaries are printed in Scotland to include the different “Scots” words they use. Gaelic (a language related to Irish) is also used in the Scottish Highlands. What languages are spoken in your school?

10.

Education in the UK is free and required from age 5 to 16. Publicly funded schools are called “state” schools. “Public” schools in the UK are what people in the United States would call “private” schools. When did you begin school? Is it one your parents paid for or one that every child could attend?

11.

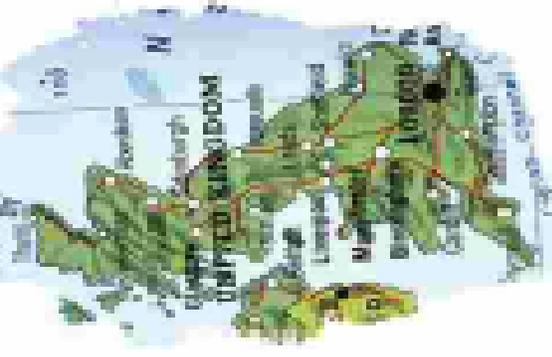
The two official religions of the UK are Anglican (Church of England) and the Church of Scotland. However, the British people are free to choose whatever religion they want. Do you choose to belong to the same religion as most other people in your community?

12.

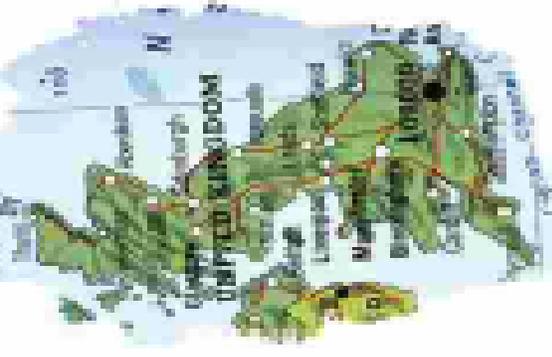
With a large immigrant population from India, Africa and Asia, there are many Sikh, Hindu, and Muslim communities in England.

Do you know anyone in your community who came from another country?

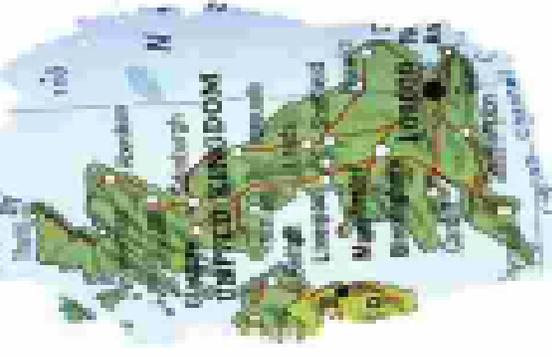
CUSTOMS



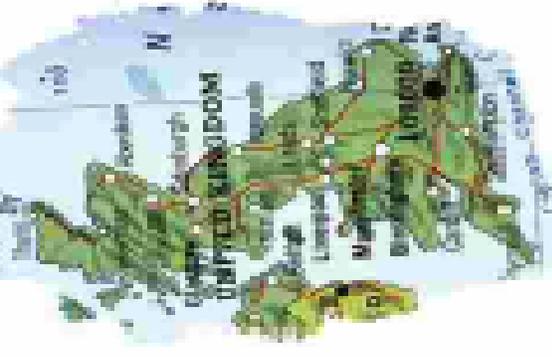
CUSTOMS



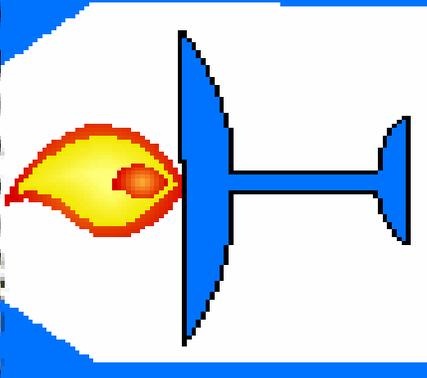
CUSTOMS



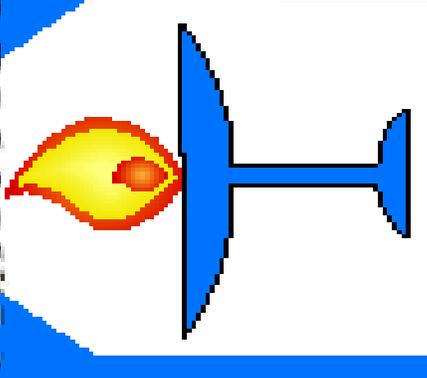
CUSTOMS



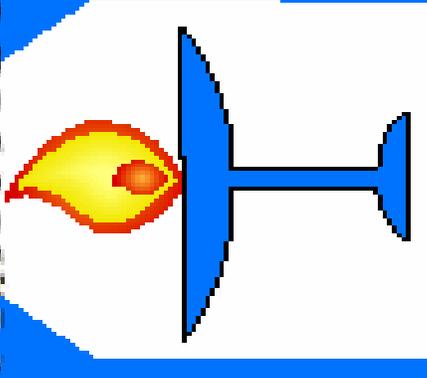
WELLS & PRACTICES



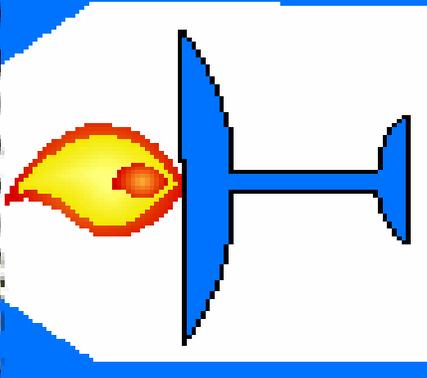
WELLS & PRACTICES



WELLS & PRACTICES



WELLS & PRACTICES



13.

A ceremony to celebrate the birth or adoption of a child may be called a Welcoming, a Naming, a Dedication, a Blessing, a Thanksgiving, or, more traditionally, a Baptism or Christening.

Have you seen how your church celebrates children?

14.

In the UK, Unitarian and Free Christian congregations may be called churches, meetings, chapels or fellowships. They may or may not have a minister, who could be a woman or a man. They vary in size from a couple of hundred to less than ten. What about your church?

15.

Unitarian and Free Christian congregations in the UK meet in a variety of places: They may own a building – anything from a 17th century meeting house to a modern church – or they may rent space, or meet in private homes. In what kind of place does your church meet?

16.

British Unitarian worship often includes: music, meditation, Bible readings, prayer, stories, hymns and songs, a sermon, words from other faiths, communion, discussion, drama, sharing joys and concerns. Do you do any of these things in your church?

13.

Before leaving school at age 16, students take exams in various subjects. Those who want to go to a university must study for another two years for advanced level exams. About half the students choose to go on to higher education. Do you think you will want to go to a university after high school or not?

14.

Everyone in the UK is entitled to free health care, regardless of how much money they make. Do you have free health care or do you (or your parents) have to pay for visits to the doctor and dentist?

15.

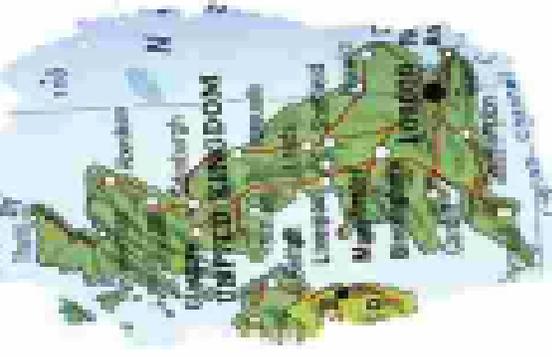
The Edinburgh Festival (Scotland) is held in August and is one of the greatest arts festivals in the world. There are more than 1,000 dance, theater, music and film performances at the festival. Have you ever been to or taken part in, a film festival or a performance of dance, theatre or music?

16.

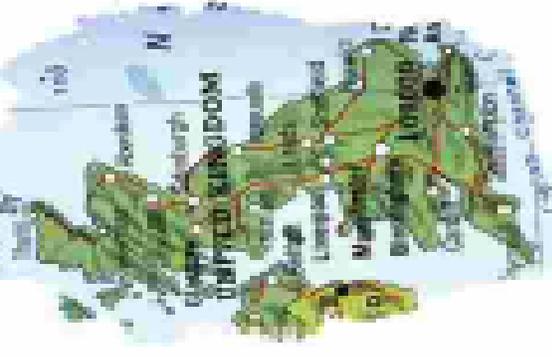
Belfast, the capital of Northern Ireland, was the chief shipbuilding center in the late 1800s: the famous ship “Titanic” was built there.

Have you ever been on a ship at sea? Would you like to?

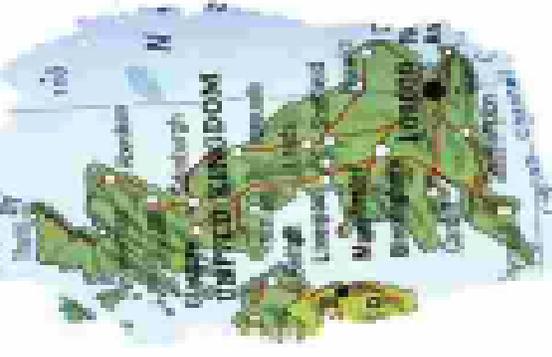
CUSTOMS



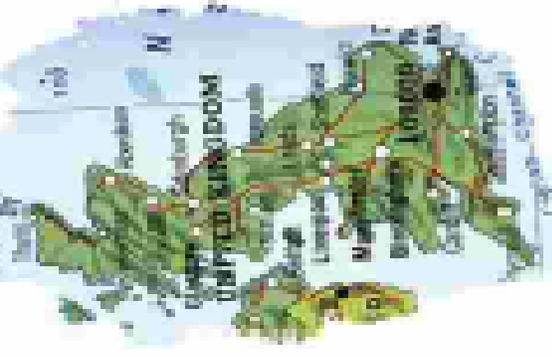
CUSTOMS



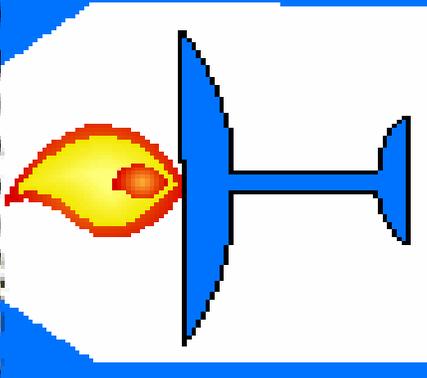
CUSTOMS



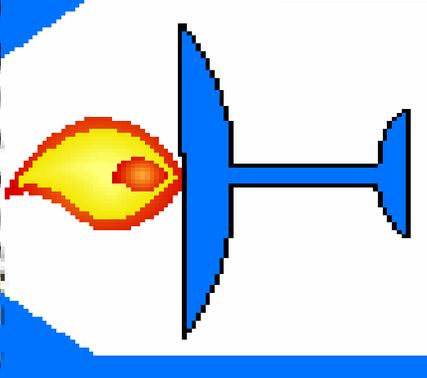
CUSTOMS



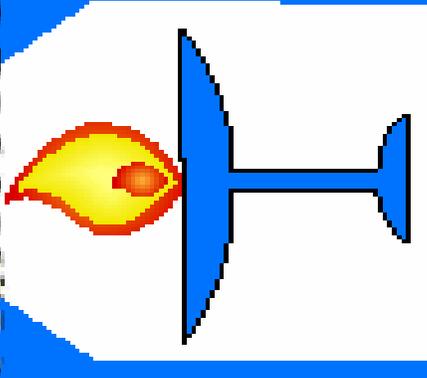
WELLS & PRACTICES



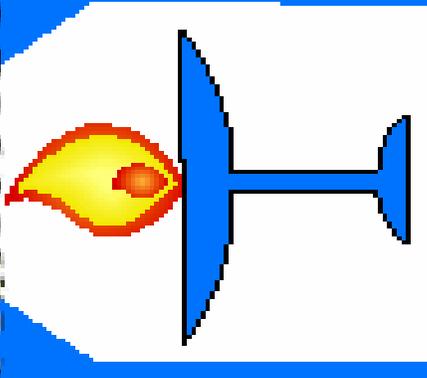
WELLS & PRACTICES



WELLS & PRACTICES



WELLS & PRACTICES



17.

A guiding principle for those leading Unitarian worship is to make it meaningful for people with differing beliefs and needs.

18.

Communion, where practiced, expresses thanks for Jesus and all 'great souls', and reminds people of their connection with the whole human family and their dependence on the earth.

17.

Sports are very popular in the UK. Tennis, soccer and rugby were all introduced by the English. The game of golf developed in Scotland. Are any of these sports popular in your community?

18.

Wales is famous for its music, especially choirs. On St. David's Day (March 1) a male voice choir with 1,000 singers performs in the Welsh capital Cardiff.

Did you ever sing in a choir? Or hear one?

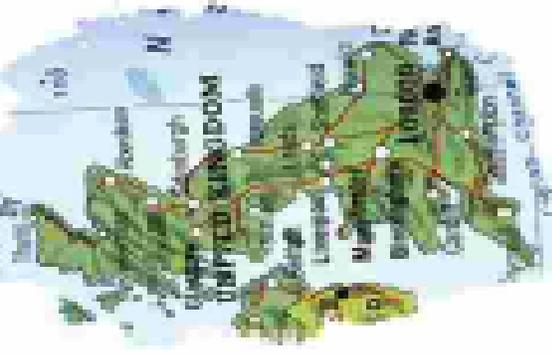
19.

The UK has the third-largest internet industry in the world. Does your family use the internet? What for?

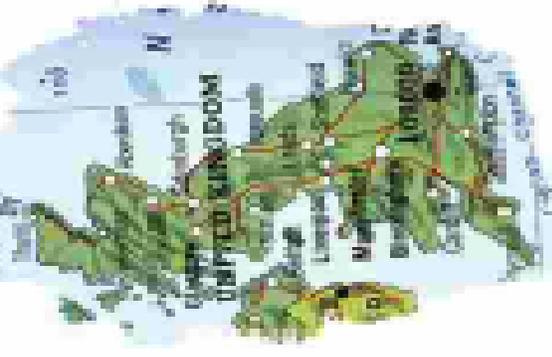
20.

May Day (May 1) is an ancient celebration of spring that goes back thousands of years in England. It includes weaving ribbons around a maypole, parades, and stories told in dance by Morris Dancers. Did you ever weave, or dance around a May Pole?

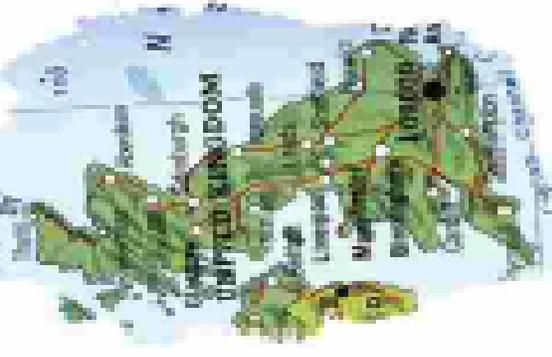
CUSTOMS



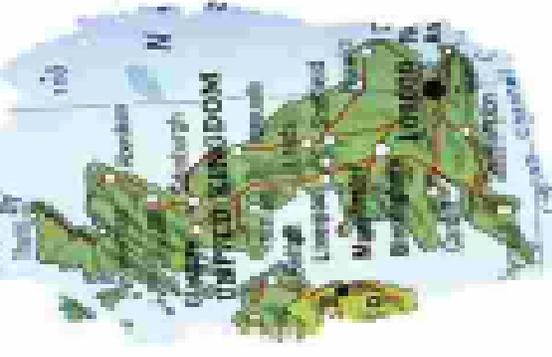
CUSTOMS



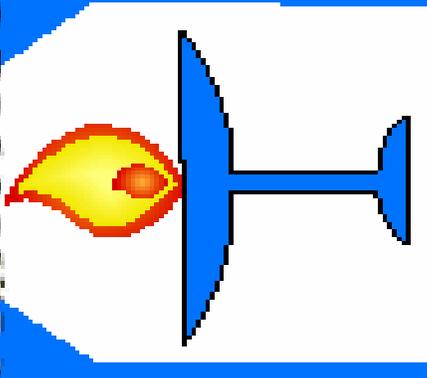
CUSTOMS



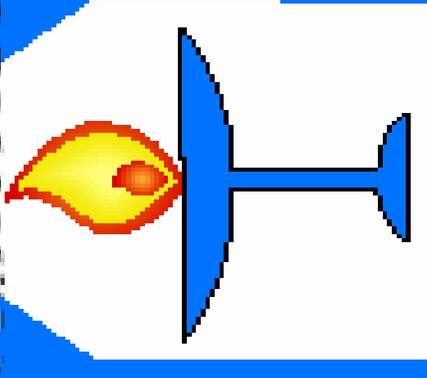
CUSTOMS



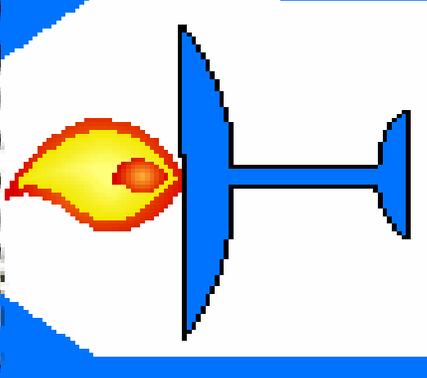
WELLS & PRACTICES



WELLS & PRACTICES



WELLS & PRACTICES



WELLS & PRACTICES

