



# Growing Up



## Programme I

Granda is persuaded by his grandchildren to tell them one of his Irish stories.

He relates to them the story of Setanta (a.k.a. Cú Chulainn) who enjoys a happy school-free childhood until he feels that he must fulfil his destiny. An eagle informs the boy that he is special and the God Lugh has a special role for him as a warrior. He must go to Emain Macha to train and learn the skills of war. His arrival is met with consternation by the other trainees. King Conor accepts him but extracts a pledge from Setanta that he will serve the other students. "I will if they will serve me", replies Setanta, so beginning his career as a warrior and a legend.

### **Key words/concepts**

Legend, kinship, loyalty, destiny, oral tradition.

### **Before the programme:**

- ◆ Prepare the pupils by discussing the ideas in the key concepts.
- ◆ Ask pupils to look out for birds and animals which appear, sometimes fleetingly, in the programmes.

### **After the programme:**

- ◆ Discuss the episode drawing out issues eg: education, sport, destiny, co-operation.
- ◆ Setanta was a great sportsman. Explore through reading, writing, art or music present day sporting heroes.



- ◆ Create a class comic strip version of the story so far (to be continued if so wished).
- ◆ Schools are familiar places of learning to pupils. Explore with them other modes and venues for learning.
- ◆ **Worksheet One:** Mark Emain Macha on the Map, (Emain Macha is near Armagh City).
- ◆ **Worksheet Two:** List the creatures you spotted in episode one.

*Please note these worksheets will be added to in subsequent programmes.*



BBC Northern Ireland Schools

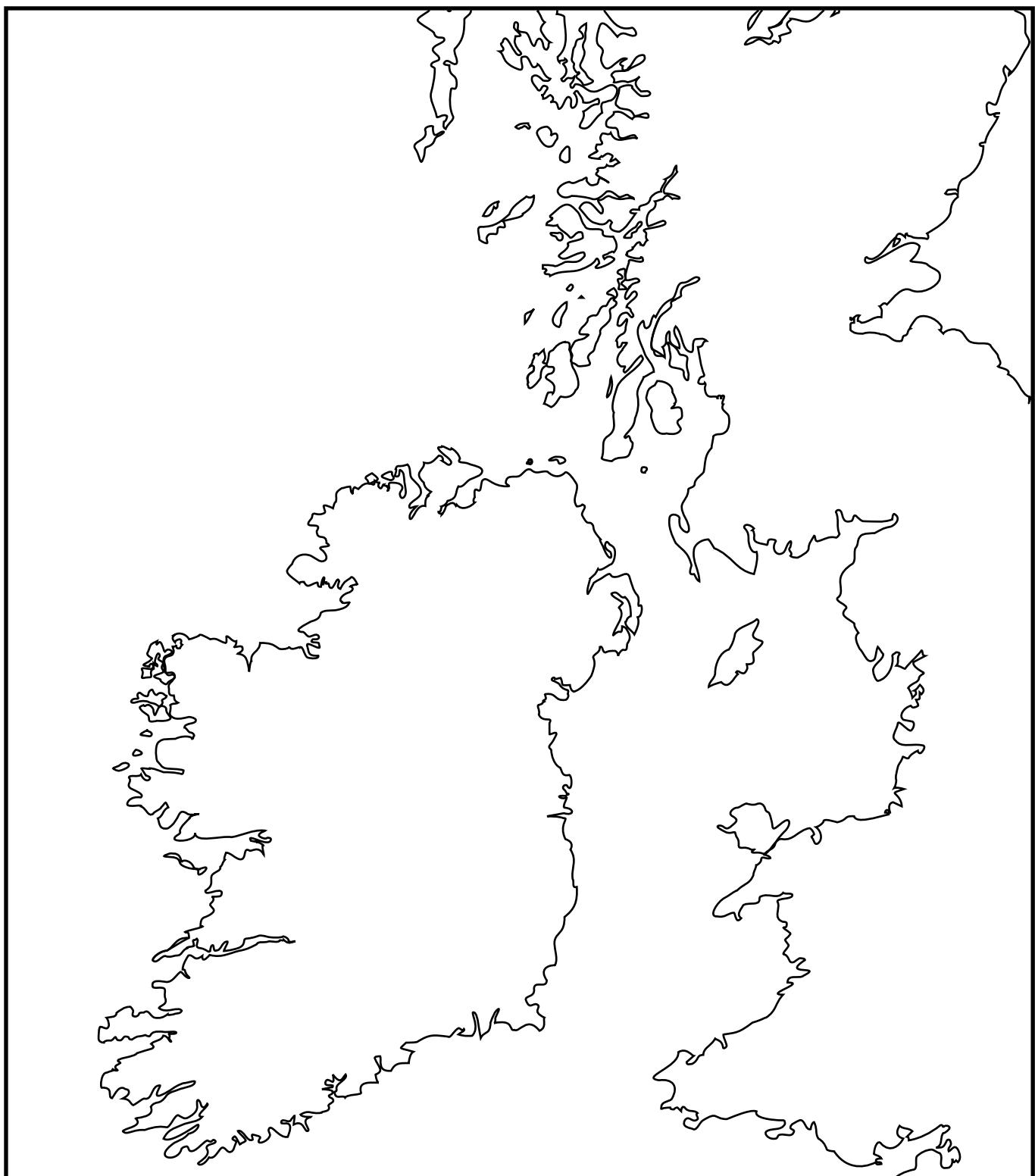
# Cú Chulainn



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### Programme I Worksheet I

To be filled in after each programme using places referred to in the story:





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# Cú Chulainn

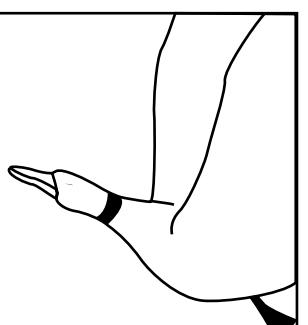
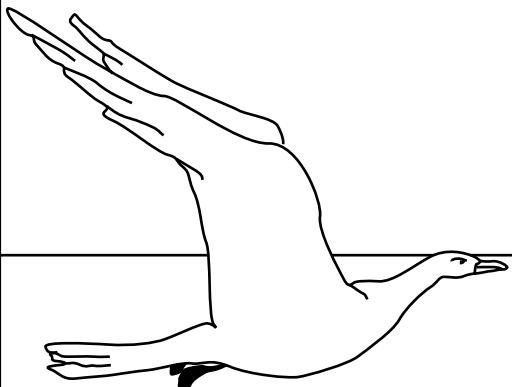


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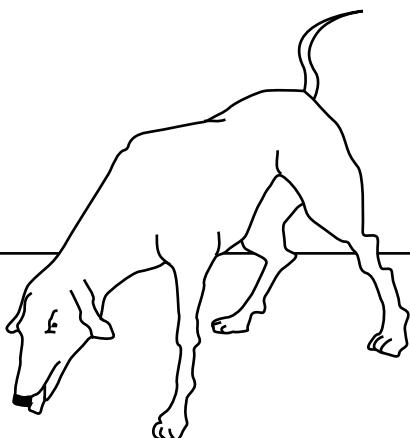
Programme I  
Worksheet 2

To be filled in with names of birds and animals observed in the video:

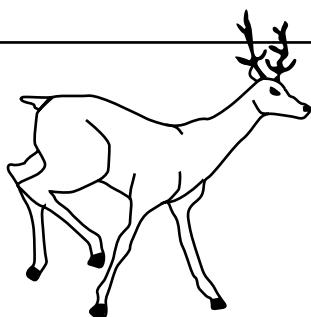
### 1. Growing up



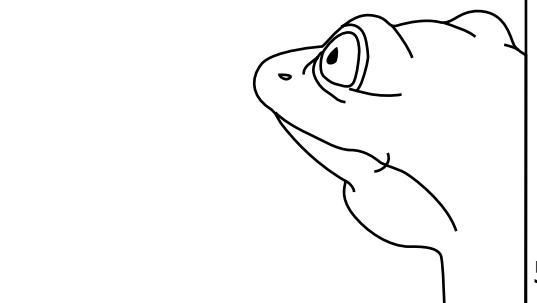
### 2. The Name



### 3. In Love and War



### 4. The Great Challenge



### 5. The Hero's Death