



# EXPLORERS

## OCEAN OBSERVATIONS & MINI-BOATS

The adventures of Seoltóir Na Gaillimhe - the Galway Sailor

**Presented by**

Cushla Dromgool-Regan, the Camden Education Trust, representing the Marine Institute's Explorers Education Programme, Ireland

Peter Kane, Kilglass National School, Galway, Ireland

Cassie Stymiest, Educational Passages, USA

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Ocean Observers Workshop

Day 1: How does the ocean regulate our climate?

29<sup>th</sup> November - 1<sup>st</sup> December

[www.explorers.ie](http://www.explorers.ie)



**CAMDEN**  
EDUCATION TRUST  
IONTAOBHAS OIDEACHAIS CAMDEN







## The adventures of Seoltóir Na Gaillimhe - the Galway Sailor

The project was supported by the Marine Institute's oceanographic team funded by the EU Interreg iFADO project, in which the Marine Institute are partners; the Institute's Explorers Education Programme team, Educational Passages in the USA , and Kilglass primary school in County Galway.





The miniboat project involves over 100 children learning about the ocean, and how it influences our climate and weather.





The boat is equipped with a sail, a satellite tracker, a packet of Irish crisps in its hull, and a local football jersey! A true message in a bottle of the 21<sup>st</sup> century!





## The boat is delivered & the voyage at sea begins

The boat is delivered to the Marine Institute's Research Vessel, the RV *Celtic Explorer*, in Galway, before it departs for a scientific mission out to the data buoy #6 in the Atlantic.







# THE VOYAGE of the Seoltóir Na Gaillimhe - Galway Sailor

Phone call from Lars Bjørnsen  
July 18, 2021  
12.96101, 67.98048

Last GPS report  
June 14, 2021

Deployed  
June 2, 2021

Prepared May 2021

EXPLORERS.IE







# KILGLASS NATIONAL SCHOOL'S MINIBOAT HIGHLIGHTS

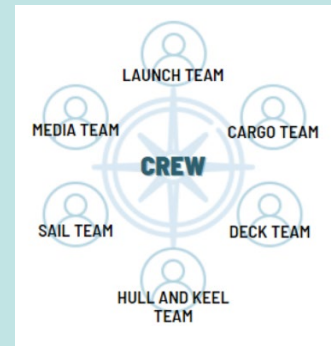
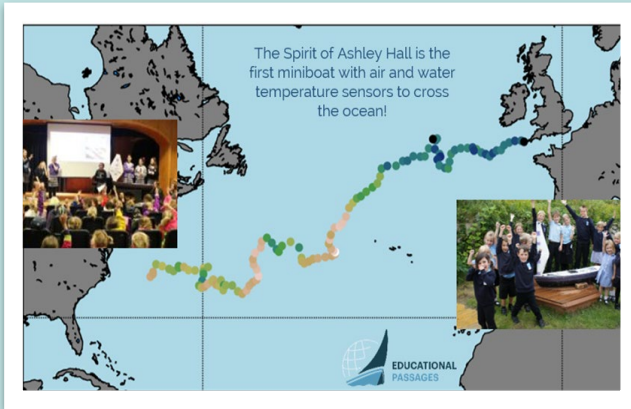


1. Unique, different project which **appealed to all ages and offers genuine inclusive, team-focused opportunities**
2. **Cross curricular:** Art, Literacy, Geography, STEM with a Marine theme central to all.
  - Introduced my favourite poem and included lines on the boat. Ancient Mariner.
  - Perfect post-covid focus. Excitement-Competition for naming the boat and guessing destination!
3. **No Text books!** Brought the ocean to the classroom in a dynamic, **hands-on** and fun way.
4. Introduced pupils to **up to-date technology** in the form of tracking/GPS system which they used at home
5. Backed up by **specialised relevant Explorers Programme workshops** on ocean currents, wind/weather tracking,
6. **Whole School Approach:** Involved almost **100 pupils** in Art, Posters, Letters, Goodies!. 'Seoltoir na Gaillimhe'. Cultural symbols. **Ownership.**
7. **Community connections:** School buzz-still there as we await next stage of the Kilglass mini-boat story. Girls felt like pop-stars!
8. **Legacy:** Pupils still logging onto Educational Passages. **Excited about the ocean.** One of the girls wants to be a Marine Biologist!
9. To be continued!





# EDUCATIONAL PASSAGES CONNECTS US AROUND THE WORLD



**EDUCATIONAL PASSAGES MINIBOAT PROGRAM**

**1. BUILD**  
PREPARE AND ASSEMBLE YOUR MINIBOAT. ADD THINGS INSIDE THE HATCH FOR THE FINDER - YOUR VERY OWN MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE.

**2. LAUNCH**  
SET YOUR MINIBOAT TO SEA BY WORKING WITH THE MARITIME COMMUNITY. DEPLOY WITH STRONG WINDS AND CURRENTS FOR THE BEST CHANCES OF GLOBAL TRAVEL.

**3. LEARN**  
CREATE AN INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING OPPORTUNITY WITH STEAM, HISTORY, OCEANOGRAPHY, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, GEOGRAPHY, AND MORE.

**4. TRACK**  
FOLLOW THE VOYAGE ON YOUR WEBPAGE (EDUCATIONALPASSAGES.ORG/BOATNAME). MAKE PREDICTIONS AND ANALYZE DATA AND FORECASTS IN OUR PATH ANALYSIS TOOL.

**5. RECOVER**  
IF YOUR MINIBOAT APPROACHES THE SHORE, CONTACT THE LOCAL COMMUNITY TO HELP FIND IT, RECOVER IT, AND BRING IT TO A NEARBY SCHOOL.

**6. CONNECT**  
SHARE YOUR STORY AND MEET NEW PEOPLE. IF YOUR MINIBOAT LANDS, YOU CAN CONNECT EVEN FURTHER.

**7. REPAIR & RELAUNCH**  
IF IT'S POSSIBLE, REPAIR AND DEPLOY YOUR MINIBOAT AGAIN AND AGAIN TO KEEP IT SAILING AROUND THE WORLD!







# THE VOYAGE CONTINUES...

## of the Seoltóir Na Gaillimhe - Galway Sailor

Iceland

September 2: Email from Nina Mathissen, Headmaster of Mausund school and kindergarten.

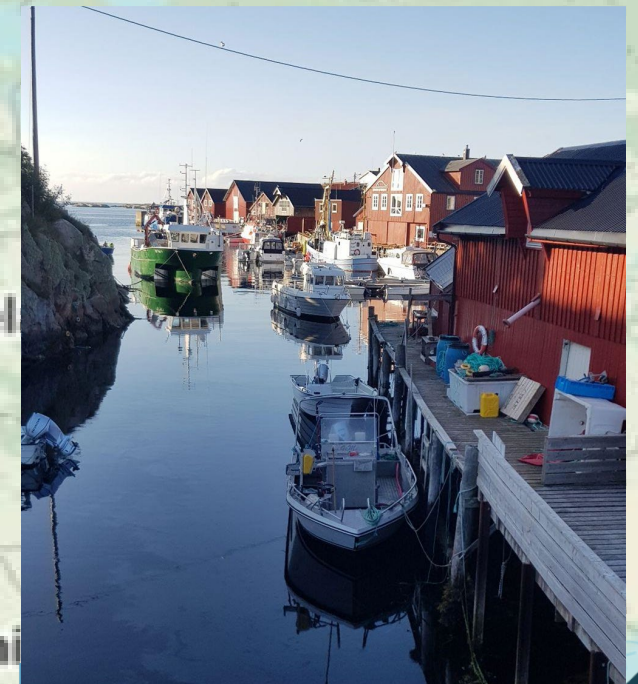
“There are a lot of fishermen here and some also work on fishing farms (mainly salmon)... We are really looking forward to hearing from you again and I hope we will get the boat here as soon as possible.”



Ireland

United Kingdom

France





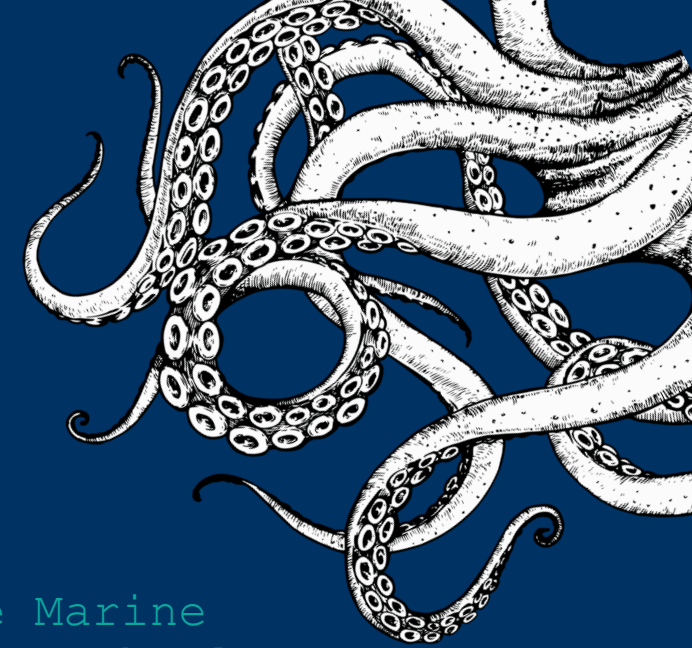


# EXPLORERS EDUCATION PROGRAMME

## THANK YOU

The Explorers Education Programme is funded by the Marine Institute, Ireland's state agency for marine research, technology development and innovation.

The Miniboat project was supported by the Marine Institute's oceanographic team and funded by EU Interreg iFADO (Innovation in the Framework of the Atlantic Deep Ocean) project, in which the Marine Institute are partners).



[www.explorers.ie](http://www.explorers.ie)

**FOLLOW EXPLORERS**  
on **SOCIAL MEDIA**



*Foras na Mara*  
*Marine Institute*



**CAMDEN**  
EDUCATION TRUST  
IONTAOBHAS OIDEACHAIS CAMDEN

