



HOME-SCHOOL INSPIRATION



If you can't go out, why not travel the world from home?

This week we travel to Portugal.

Geography and Language

Portugal, or the Portuguese Republic, as it is officially known, is the westernmost country of mainland Europe. It has borders with the Atlantic Ocean to the west and south and by Spain to the north and east. Its capital city is Lisbon (Lisboa in Portuguese). There are roughly 10.4 Million inhabitants in Portugal. The language of Portugal is Portuguese. With a huge 250 million speakers, Portuguese is the sixth most natively spoken language in the world. Beyond Brazil and Portugal, Portuguese is spoken in some African countries, like Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, and Cape Verde.

Learn to count to 20 in Portuguese [here](#). Click on



the picture to learn the colours in Portuguese. Learn the months of the year by



clicking on the calendar.

Explorers and Traders

Portuguese explorers and navigators played a huge part in finding new places and bringing new ingredients back and forth between continents. Chilli peppers, potatoes and tomatoes were brought to India by the Portuguese. Today these are key ingredients in the making of typical Indian dishes like curry. The Portuguese also brought black pepper back to Europe from Asia. Later, they also introduced coffee to Brazil (then a Portuguese colony).

Did you also know that the Hawaiian ukulele we know today is a descendant of Portuguese instruments brought to Hawaii by Portuguese immigrants from Madeira (Portuguese island)?

To learn about Vasco de Gama, one of the many famous Portuguese explorers, click [here](#).

Many of the explorers sailed to new places. Can you make a paper [boat](#)? You can't sail very far, but you might have a boat race in school or at home!

Rooster Symbol



The unofficial symbol of Portugal is a rooster! It is called the Barcelos Rooster. It is found in many shops on clothing, bags, statues and pictures. It is almost always very brightly coloured. But why a rooster? The story goes that a pilgrim (a person who followed God) sentenced to death in the city of Barcelos claimed that if he was innocent, a rooster would come and crow at the time of his execution. When that time came, a rooster did appear on a table, just as the pilgrim was going to be killed. The judge realised his mistake and freed the man just in time. The pilgrim said that God had protected and saved him.

To colour a Rooster, click [here](#). You can use the end of a pencil/kebab stick/cotton bud and paint to create dots or dashes in the style of [pointillism](#).

Rice Pudding (Arroz Doce)

Arroz Doce is a favourite Portuguese dessert and is almost like an ice cream cone to Portuguese children. It is generally served chilled, but some people prefer theirs at room temperature or slightly warm.

Find the recipe [here](#): If you can't

make it, why not try

Rice Pudding with
cinnamon on top!



Find out more...

- The longest bridge in Europe is in Portugal. What is it called? See it [here](#). Can you make your own bridge?
- What does the flag look like?
- There are lots of famous Portuguese footballers. Do you know any?

