

SAM LABS CELEBRATES
ST. PATRICK'S DAY



St. Patrick's Day: SAM Blockly

Recommended Read Aloud: [Tim O'Toole and the Wee Folk](#) by [Gerald McDermott](#)

The recommended read aloud is an Irish Folk story about leprechauns and the luck they bring. Have students retell the story, focusing on how Tim O'Toole became lucky.

Additional facts about St. Patrick's Day, specifically around the history of leprechauns and the belief/phrase 'luck of the Irish' can be found here:

[- Parade Article](#)

Note: SAM Labs cannot be held responsible for third party links. Please be sure to view the links and select facts prior to teaching this lesson with your students.

Have students compare and contrast depictions of and beliefs around leprechauns.

Students can use the [additional resources](#), including various graphic organizers to organize thoughts and aid in the compare and contrast process.



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Sample Code:

Students will develop a Lucky Shamrock, our twist on a Magic 8 ball. Using functions, students will be told whether they have found leprechauns, and will receive luck, or not.

Students can use the printout of a 4 leaf clover, or shamrock, found in the additional resources. They can attach the DC Motor to a wheel, securing the shamrock on top of the wheel. The variable 'shakeIt' will spin the Lucky Shamrock, similar to shaking a Magic 8 ball.

```
program start
  set shakeIt to random integer from 1 to 10
  repeat shakeIt times
    do
      set DC Motor motor speed to 50
      set RGB Light LED color to green
      wait for 0.5 seconds
      set RGB Light LED color to orange
      wait for 0.5 seconds
      set RGB Light LED color to yellow
      wait for 0.5 seconds
  chooseLuck

  to chooseLuck
    if shakeIt < 4
      do tryAgain
    else if shakeIt > 7
      do luckyYou
    else
      do unlucky

  to luckyYou
    print "Lucky You! You have spotted the leprechauns!"

  to tryAgain
    print "You aren't sure if you hear leprechauns or not. ..."

  to unlucky
    print "Uh oh! No leprechauns here!"
```

These possibilities are based around leprechaun luck depicted in the read aloud.

Aligned to standards: CSTA (1B-AP-09, 1B-AP-10, 2-AP-11, 2-AP-14);
CCSS (RL.4.9, RL.6.9)