Arnol Blackhouse
Explorer Quiz

Explore the Blackhouse and White House with this fun, fact-finding mission.
Ask a steward to help you say the Gaelic words!

1. Blackhouses are called taighean-dubha in Gaelic. When did people last live in this one?

2. What fuel is burned on the fire? In Gaelic it is called mòine.

3. How many hot bottles are sitting on the dresser?

4. What was kept under the settle (bench) in the living area?

5. How many box beds (called leapannan dùinte in Gaelic) are in the blackhouse?

6. Go into the barn - called an sabhal in Gaelic. What is the rope made from?
7. How many fish are hanging on the hogweed beside the door?

8. How many windows can you find in the living and sleeping parts of the house?

9. In Gaelic, the byre is called am bàthach. What animals were kept there?

10. This object is called a biota in Gaelic. What do you think it was used for?

11. How many windows does the White House have?

12. What colour is the mantelpiece painted in the White House kitchen?

Say the sounds in capital letters to discover what these Gaelic words sound like.

Mòine - MAWNYE - peat
Caoran - COO-RAN - peat fragment
Smùir - SMOOR - peat dust
Tairseir - TARISHKER - peat cutter
Taigh-dubh - TIE-DOO - Blackhouse
Am bàthach - AM BA-HACH* - the byre
*soft ‘ch’ sound as in loch

An Sabhal - AN SA-AWL - the barn
Croit - CREW-ITCH - croft
Beathaichean - BEYOW-EECHAN* - animals
Caoraich - COO-REECH* - sheep
Cearcan - CYAR-KAN - chickens
Teine - CHEENYA - fire
Coirce - KORKA - oats