

ESTONIA

Dear little friends,

If you look at Estonia on a world map, it seems tiny. Not much bigger than a dot. But if you take a closer look, you will see that it is not so small at all. It takes three to four hours to drive from the capital city of Tallinn in the north to the border with Latvia in the south. Estonia is located on the Baltic Sea. About 1,3 million people live here and believe it or not – it has more than 1500 islands, the biggest of which is called Saaremaa.

Winters in Estonia are very cold. Sometimes snowdrifts are higher than the top of a child's head! And guess what? You can actually drive across the frozen sea in winter. Summers are famous for their white nights when you can read a book outside even at the midnight. In the fall, Estonian families rush to the woods to pick wild berries and mushrooms for winter times. Half of Estonia is covered in woods. And in the woods, there are many wild animals. How many moose, foxes, wolves, bears, wild boar, hares, squirrels or hedgehogs are there? Who knows? But you can be sure there are more than you can count!



Two old games from Estonia

1. Snake (from Põide)

Players take each other to hold hands, with one player standing one way and another the other way around. The first player is the snakes „head“, the last is the „tail“. The snake moves in zigzag, while the tail makes great arcs. Snakes task is to catch the tail. For catching, the snakes head goes under the childrens hands. During the rotation, slip through smoodly and don't let go of the hands. When the tail is caught, he will be the next snakes head.

2. Poor kitty (from Häädemeeste)

Players sit in a circle. „Kitty“ in the middle. „Kitty“ goes down for each player sitting, does the cats tricks and voice, pampers the player (tickles chin) and says: „Poor kitty!“. Players must be serious. The one who laughs , become the new „Poor Kitty“.

Here's some estonian writers, whose work has been translated to other languages

1. Eno Raud

- „Karu maja”
 - lithuanian: Lokio trobelė, 1974
- „Kassid ja hiired”
 - bulgarian: Котките и мишките, 1990
- „Lugu lendavate taldrikutega”
 - bulgarian: История с „летящи чинии”, 1978
 - slovenian: Lietajúce tanriere, 1981
- „Naksitrallid” (1.-2. rmt) / „Jälle need naksitrallid” (3.-4. rmt)
 - bulgarian: Маншон, Полуобувка и Мъхеста брада (1.-2.) 1980, 1986 (2 vlj), 1996; И отново маншон, полуобувка и мъхеста брада (3.-4.) 1988
 - lithuanian: Pabaldukai (1.-2.) 1998

- slovenian: Rukávník, Sandálik a Machnáčik (1.) 1980; Dobrodružstvá Rukávníka, Sandálika a Machnáčika (2.) 1982
- Sipsik” / „Anu ja Sipsik”
 - lithuanian: Cypliukas 1965; Cypliukas. Ana ir Cypliukas, 1982; Cypliukas, 2006

2. Andrus Kivirähk

- „Sirli, Siim ja saladused”
 - lithuanian: Sirlė, Simas ir slėpiniai, 2010

3. Edgar Valter

- „Pokuraamat”:
- lithuanian: Puokiai, 2008
- „Pokulood”
 - lithuanian: Puokių istorijos, 2014

4. Piret Raud

- „Printsess Lulu ja härra Kere”
 - lithuanian: Princesė Lulu ir ponas Skeletonas, 2015
- „Härra Linnu lugu”
 - lithuanian: Pono Paukščio istorija, 2013

5. Ellen Niit

- „Pille-Riini lood”
 - slovenian: Dievčatko Pille-Riini, 1972
- „Suur maalritöö”
 - lithuanian: Sumanus dažytojas, 1975

- „Triinu ja Taavi uued ja vanad lood”
 - slovenian: Nové a staré príbehy Triiny a Taaviho, 1982

6. Aino Pervik

- „Paula ja Patrik”
 - lithuanian: Paula ir Patrikas, 2008
- „Paula lõpetab lasteaija”
 - lithuanian: Paula baigia vaikų darželį, 2008
- „Presidendilood”
 - bulgarian: Приключенията на президента, 2009
- „Õhupall”
 - lithuanian: Balionėlis, 1972

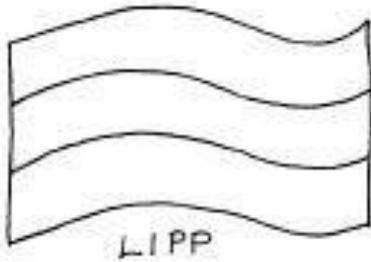
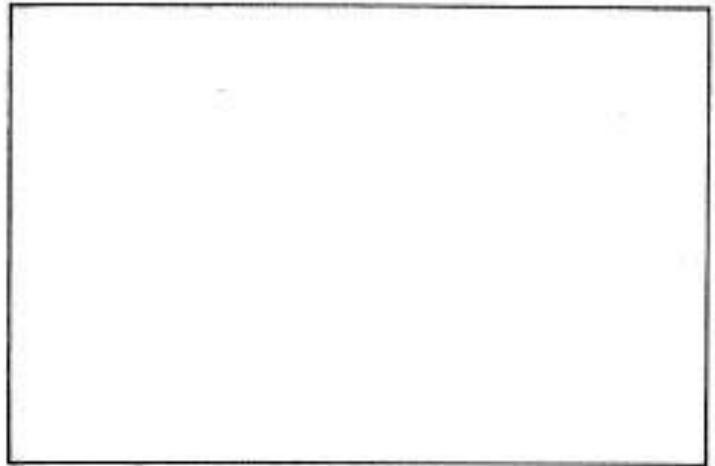
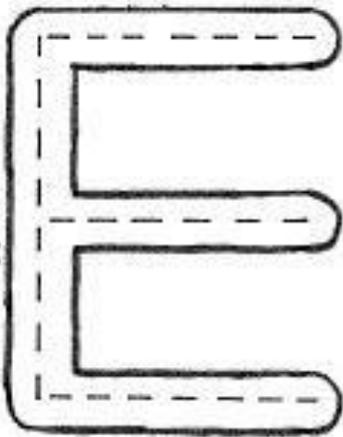
Eno Raud's „Sipsik“ (en. „Raggie“) wears Estonias flag colors

Who is Raggie? Raggie is a cute and sweet rag doll, who is a great playmate and is simple to draw, and sometimes when you feel sad, Raggie will comfort you. Six-year-old Mart makes the doll as a birthday present for his younger sister Anu. The doll, sewn with love and affection, comes to life, and becomes the best friend as well as best playmate for the little girl.



Worksheet „letter-E“ (E is for Eesti/Estonia)

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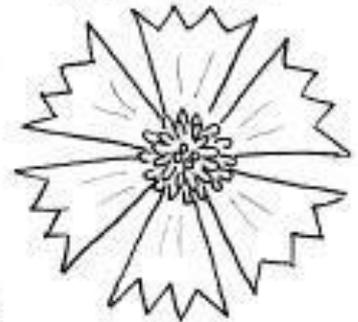


LIPP

SUITSUPÄÄSUKE

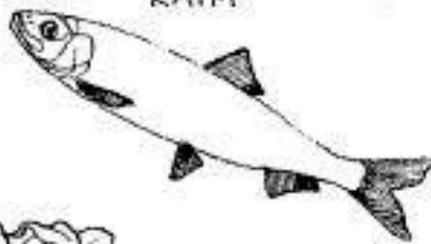


RUEKILILL



VAPP

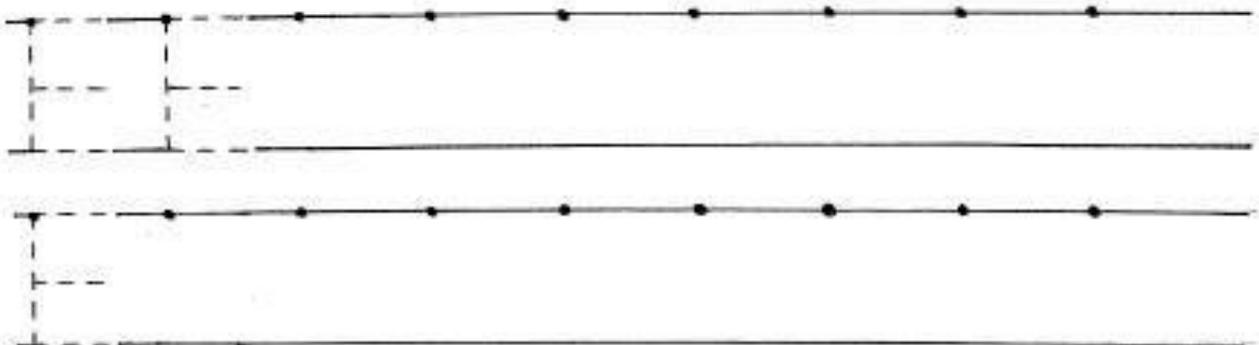
RÄIM



PAEKIVI



TAMM



Worksheet contains Estonian national symbols:

- Flag (Lipp)
- Coat of Arms (Vapp)
- Flower – Cornflower (Rukkilill)
- Bird – Barn Swallow (Suitsupääsuke)
- Fish – Baltic herring (Räim)
- Rock – Limestone (Paekivi)
- Tree – Oak (Tamm)

*The box in the right corner is for children to think for a word which starts with letter-E and to draw it.

Estonian literary character Lotte

Lotte is a jolly doggy-girl who entered the lives of Estonian children in 2000. Soon after a book and an anima-film were issued, Lotte became the favourite character, even a role model for thousands of Estonian children. She is pithy, fair and just, so that even the grown-ups cannot help liking her. By now a lot of products on the topic of Lotte have appeared and the anima-films have become popular in other countries as well.

<http://www.literarycharacters.eu/EE-lotte>



We have made a Domino game out of Lotte and her friends. Print out the pictures/domino blocks and play with children.

