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Pride Month

1st June marks the start of Pride Month.

Taking place each June, Pride Month is an annual celebration of inclusivity and the LGBTQ+ community.

The month-long event is seen as an opportunity for people to come together and celebrate positivity, love and friendship.

Pride Month is a chance to promote equal rights for all. It's also a time to think about what still needs to be done so that everyone is treated fairly.

Photo: A large rainbow flag at a Pride parade.

The rainbow flag has six stripes - red, orange, yellow, green, blue and violet. Each stripe stands for something different.

Red for life, orange for healing, yellow for sunlight, green for nature, blue for peace and violet for spirit.

During June, many famous places and landmarks can be seen decorated or lit up with the colours of the rainbow flag.

Why is Pride Month in June?

- **Pride Month is celebrated in June to mark the anniversary of the Stonewall riots which happened in 1969.**

- **These riots took place in New York between the police and members of the LGBTQ+ community. In response to violent police raids and discrimination against them, members of the community fought back and it started six days of protests.**

- **These events are thought to have started the LGBTQ+ movement.**

A Pride parade took place in New York one year after the Stonewall riots. It's thought to be America's first Pride parade. Two years later, the first London Pride parade took place.

In that first year, a few hundred people marched from Hyde Park to Trafalgar Square.

This year, more than 30,000 people will join the parade while around one and a half million people watch on.

Parades will take place in other UK cities over the next few weeks too, such as Edinburgh, Cardiff, York and Bristol.

Although Pride parades had been taking place since the 1970s, it wasn't until 1999 that US President Bill Clinton declared June to be Pride Month.

Probably the most famous symbol associated with the month is the rainbow flag.

So, keep an eye out and see how many of these symbols of equality and inclusivity you can spot in the coming weeks!

Glossary
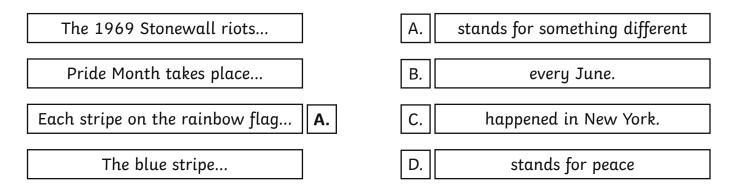
inclusivity	Making sure that everyone is made to feel included and has equal opportunities.
promote	Increase the awareness or success of something.
discrimination	Treating someone unfairly because of their gender, race, disability or age.
equality	Having the same rights and freedoms as everyone else.

Questions

1. In which year were the Stonewall riots?

   _____

2. In each box, write the correct letter to complete the sentence. **One has been done for you.**

The 1969 Stonewall riots...		A.	stands for something different
Pride Month takes place...		B.	every June.
Each stripe on the rainbow flag...	**A.**	C.	happened in New York.
The blue stripe...		D.	stands for peace

3. Find and copy a word which is similar in meaning to 'a procession that moves through the streets of a town or city to celebrate an event or special day.'

   _____

4. Find and copy two UK cities that will host Pride parades this year.

   1. _____

   2. _____

5. Which of the following **does not** define the meaning of the word 'protests' as it is used in the fact box? **(tick one)**

   Showing that you disagree with something and want it to change by doing something publicly

   Showing that you disagree with something and want it to change by saying something publicly.

   Gathering with others to show that you are fine with how things are.

   Events where people get together publicly to demand that something changes.

6. **The London Pride parade is less popular now than when it started.** Find one piece of evidence that **does not** support that statement.

   _____

   _____

   _____