

✓ Check these words

- giant • fit • surface • legend • powerful • enemy • fight
- huge • terrified • result • volcanic eruption • boiling
- lava • cool • wonder of nature • mysterious • myth

1 Do you know of any tales about giants? Tell the class.

Finn MacCool & the Giant's Causeway

What it is

The Giant's Causeway is a bridge of rocks between Ireland and Scotland. It is made up of tens of thousands of tall pieces of rock. Most of the pieces have six sides that fit together and make a surface people can walk on. They can't walk to Scotland though because most of the Giant's Causeway is under the sea! According to an Irish legend, a powerful giant called Finn MacCool built the Causeway.

The legend

Once, there were two giants. Finn MacCool lived with his wife in Ireland and Benandonner lived across the sea in Scotland. They were enemies, but they couldn't cross the sea to fight. Then, one day Finn had an idea. He threw rocks into the sea and made a bridge. After this, he was very tired so he went to sleep. Over the sea in Scotland, Benandonner started running across the bridge. Finn's wife couldn't wake her husband up so she dressed him in babies' clothes. When Benandonner saw the sleeping baby, he imagined the huge size of the father and was terrified. He ran back home over the Causeway and as he ran, he pulled up the rocks to stop Finn following him to Scotland.

The science

Scientists believe that the Giant's Causeway is the result of a volcanic eruption over 50 million years ago. The boiling lava pushed up through the ground and cooled into the shapes we can see today.

So ... what do you think? Is the Giant's Causeway a wonder of nature or is it a mysterious place of myth and legend?

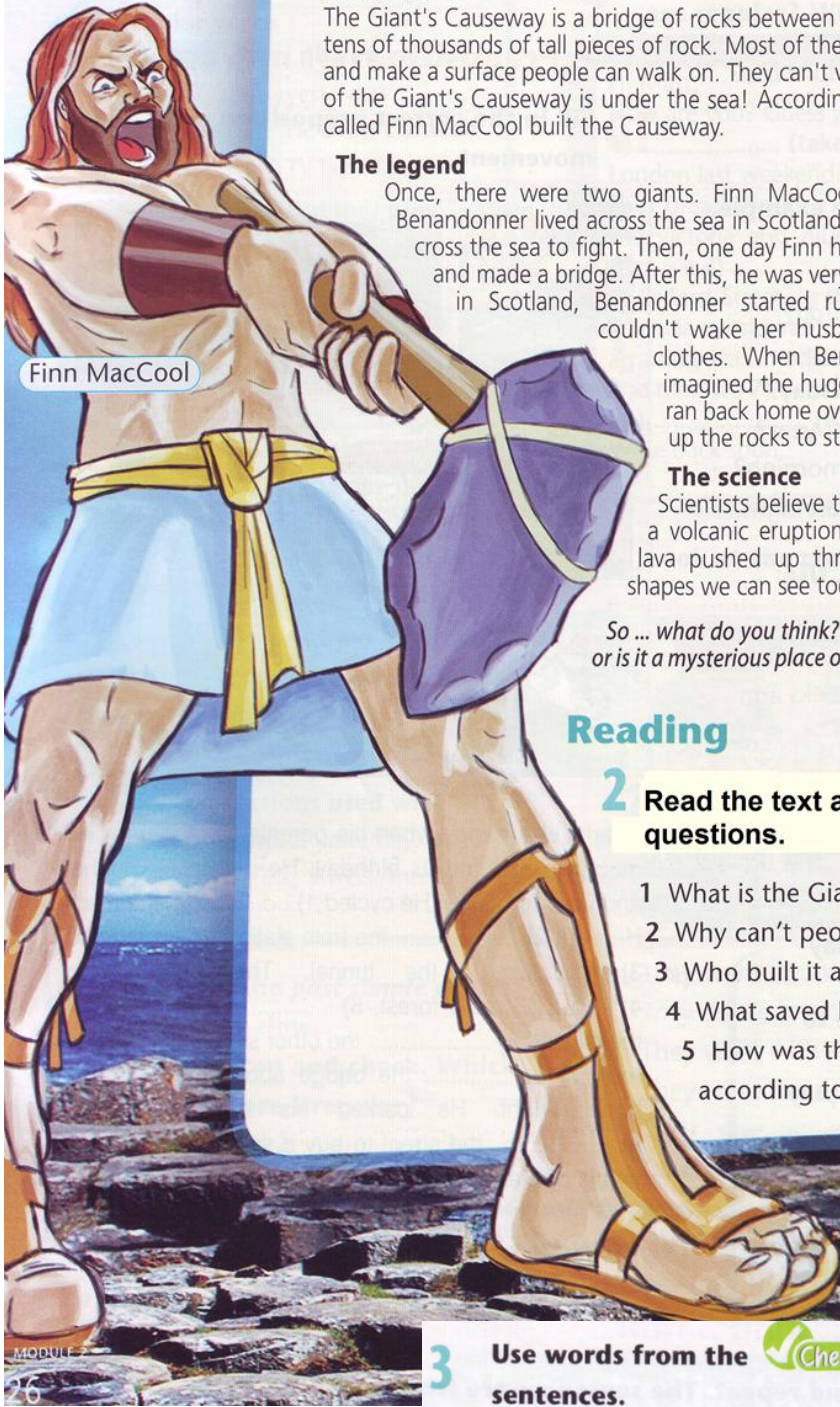
Reading

2 Read the text and answer the questions.

- 1 What is the Giant's Causeway?
- 2 Why can't people walk on it?
- 3 Who built it and why?
- 4 What saved Finn?
- 5 How was the Giant's Causeway created according to scientists?

3 Use words from the ✓ Check these words section to complete the sentences.

- 1 Finn MacCool was a very giant. Everyone was scared of him.
- 2 He managed to tall pieces of rock together to form a bridge.
- 3 People were when they saw the giant.
- 4 A formed the Giant's Causeway according to scientists.
- 5 The Giant's Causeway is a of nature.
- 6 According to an Irish Finn MacCool built the Causeway.



Finn MacCool