



Our lesson slides contain visual elements, such as historical images or timelines, associated with rich explanations. This document provides the verbal explanation that accompanies these visual elements - otherwise known as a narrative. The narrative and slides are matched via this icon:

Important coronation objects



When Elizabeth's father, King George VI, died in 1952, Elizabeth became queen. All kings and queens have a **coronation**. A **coronation** is a grand event where the king or queen is given their crown for the first time and they promise to be a good ruler. A crown is a special hat that kings or queens wear. It is usually very expensive and full of precious jewels. When the crown was put on Elizabeth's head at her **coronation**, she was **crowned**. To be **crowned** is when the crown is put on the king or queen's head. The person who **crowned** Elizabeth at this important ceremony was the Archbishop of Canterbury. Being **crowned** is important because it shows everyone who the new ruler is.

At Elizabeth's **coronation**, there were lots of important objects. Each one of the objects used in the **coronation** meant something - it was a **symbol**. A **symbol** is when an object represents something else. For example, a crown is a **symbol** of a king or queen. When they wear it and other people see it, they know that the person has power and is a king or a queen.

The crown that Elizabeth was given is called the Imperial Crown. The Imperial Crown is very heavy and expensive because it has lots of special stones such as diamonds, rubies and emeralds. It is also part of the Crown Jewels, which is a collection of some of the United Kingdom's most important objects that are kept very safe and locked away in the Tower of London.

At the **coronation**, after the crown was put on Elizabeth's head, she was given two other important objects to hold. These were called the orb and the sceptre. The orb is a sphere shape, similar to a globe, and it represents God's power over the world. This **symbol** showed that religion was important to the new queen. The sceptre is a long pole with a jewel at the top. It was used as another **symbol** to show the queen's power.



Next, Elizabeth had to sit down on a special **coronation** chair. Underneath the **coronation** chair was the Stone of Scone. This is an important **symbol** and is very special to people from Scotland. Both the Stone of Scone and the **coronation** chair were more **symbols** of power and royalty.

Next, the Archbishop of Canterbury poured a small amount of a special oil onto the new queen with a spoon. The **coronation** spoon that he used was also an important object and **symbol**. It showed that God chose Elizabeth to be the new ruler.

Ruler of the United Kingdom



As the Stone of Scone underneath the **coronation** chair showed, Elizabeth was not only becoming the new queen of England. When Elizabeth was **crowned** at her **coronation**, she became 'the Queen of four nations'. A nation is a country. The four nations that she became queen of were: Scotland, England, Northern Ireland and Wales. Together, these nations formed the United Kingdom and still do today.

The **Royal Coat of Arms** is a design which is a **symbol** of the royal family and of the United Kingdom. Elizabeth used the **Royal Coat of Arms** as a **symbol** to show she was the queen of all four nations. In the **Royal Coat of Arms**, there is a **symbol** for England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. There is not a **symbol** for Wales. This is because Wales has a different **symbol** compared to the other nations. The **symbol** for Wales is actually a person! That person is the male heir to the throne, who is called the Prince of Wales. This meant that when Elizabeth was **crowned** at her **coronation** and became the Queen of four nations, her oldest son, Charles, became the Prince of Wales.

