

- ASK** 5. What is a spud?  
 A. A potato  
 B. Chocolate pudding  
 C. An Irish swamp

What's the answer? (After response, play the DVD clip.) The answer is A, a potato. Potatoes, or spuds, are a favorite Irish vegetable.

- SAY** Give yourselves a hand for answering our five questions about Ireland. Now let's imagine we are flying into Ireland.

- ▶▶** Play the Unit DVD "Imagine Ireland" segment as you say the following.

- SAY** As we fly over the island of Ireland we see its famous green fields where shamrocks grow and sheep graze. We see a coastline with the imposing Cliffs of Moher, as well as friendly bays and great beaches.

As our plane drops lower we see old stone churches and castles standing guard over the countryside. One of those castles is Blarney Castle where people kiss the Blarney Stone.

When we land, we'll see the best part of Ireland—the friendly, lively people of Ireland.

## Spud Russet Visits

In this skit, we'll introduce Spud Russet, a serious couch potato who would rather sit around and watch TV than live his life. Unfortunately, Spud doesn't seem to care if life passes him by.

- Have someone place Spud's chair onstage near you as you introduce the skit. The plusher the chair, the better.

- SAY** I think we're going to really enjoy our visit to Ireland! There's so much to see and do here, and everywhere you look the scenery is absolutely breathtaking. Of course, we have to leave the hotel lobby in order to see anything.

- ▶▶** Start the Unit DVD "Spud Russet Visits" segment for background as Spud Russet enters.

**Spud:** (Enter from the side, wave a dismissive hand toward some unseen person, and slowly walk to the chair.) Whatta ya mean I can't sit there anymore? I was right in the middle of a *Space Trek: 2001* rerun! That's the last time I'll eat at this hotel's restaurant!

## HIGH POINT REVIEW

If your group has used the Respect HighPoint unit, ask the kids to name another island country that they have visited.

## T!P

if your Spud Russet is thin, have the person stuff a pillow under his shirt.

## GETTING READY

### PREPARATION:

- ▶ Print the script from the Unit CD-ROM.
- ▶ Make a sandwich, let Spud take several bites, then wrap the sandwich.
- ▶ Before he enters, Spud should place the food in his pockets.

### SUPPLIES:

- Unit DVD, DVD player, TV or projection screen
- Unit CD-ROM, computer, printer
- Costume for Spud Russet
- Chair for Spud
- Magazine
- Half-eaten wrapped sandwich
- Can of soda
- Big bag of chips

**T!P**

See page 16 for a description of Spud Russet's costume.

**T!P**

Spud can hide his script inside the magazine.

*(Plop down with a heavy sigh and open the can of soda. Look around expectantly, then notice the Pilot and speak to him.)*  
Oh, hey—would you do me a favor, please?

**ASK** Excuse me?

**Spud:** Yeah—since you're up and I'm already sitting—would you change the channel on the lobby TV? It's right over there. *(Point toward an unseen TV, then pick up a magazine to read. The magazine is a good place to hide the script.)*

**SAY** Well, we were just on our way out to explore Ireland, but I guess I could do that for you, Mr. . . . ?

**Spud:** *(Produce a half-eaten sandwich from a shirt pocket and proceed to chow down. Speak with mouth full.)* Mmm—Spud Russet.

**ASK** Excuse me?

**Spud:** *(With mouth still full.)* Spud Russet.

**SAY** I'm sorry. I can't understand you.

**Spud:** Oh—I'm sorry. *(Swallow with a big gulp.)* My name is Spud Russet.

**SAY** It's nice to meet you, Spud. Are you here on vacation?

**Spud:** Yep. Flew here with a group.

**ASK** So you're waiting on them so you can all go sightseeing together, right?

**Spud:** What? Oh, no. They left a couple of hours ago. They're gonna explore a really old town. I think they called it "medieval." It's got an old castle and lots of other old stuff. *(Open the bag of chips and begin to munch. Spill some of the chips.)*

**ASK** And you didn't go with them?

**Spud:** Nah. Sounds like a lot of walking to me. I saw a documentary about Ireland last night, so I think I'm good. Besides, they're showing a *Space Trek: 2001* marathon here. I never get tired of that show.

**ASK** So you would rather sit in a hotel lobby and watch old reruns than go sightseeing?

**Spud:** Well, I'll probably go out with the group tomorrow. I like to pace myself, you know?

**ASK** Where does your group plan to visit tomorrow?

**Spud:** Hmm, I'm not really sure. We've got everything all planned out. I just haven't taken the time to read it yet.

**ASK** Because your schedule's so full, right?

**Spud:** Nah, I just figure the rest of the group's got it all figured out. Why should I bother with the details?

**ASK** Do you mind me asking why you decided to travel to Ireland?

**Spud:** My friends told me I needed to get out more. You know, live life to its fullest—get some exercise. Besides, I like it here. They show some great old TV shows here!

**ASK** Weren't your friends disappointed that you stayed behind at the hotel?

**Spud:** Hmm, they might have been, now that you mention it. I'm afraid I was pretty wrapped up in the "Gelatinous Brain" episode of *Space Trek* when they left.

**SAY** It is a shame though. You're not going to see that castle. I mean, how often are you going to be in Ireland?

**Spud** Oh, I'm sure there will be other castles. There's a great picture of one in my hotel room. Besides, I'll go out with the group tomorrow.

**SAY** I sure hope so, Spud. *(Glance at imaginary TV.)* Sorry, but I think there's an out-of-order sign on that TV.

**Spud:** What? That's just great. And they've already thrown me out of the restaurant. Guess I'll have to go back to my room and watch the show there. *(With much dramatic effort, rise from the chair.)* Fortunately, my room's on the first floor, so I don't have far to go. *(Slouch offstage, dropping things in the process, but not picking them up.)*

**SAY** That is . . . fortunate, I guess.

**Spud:** *(Wave halfheartedly while leaving.)* Hey, maybe I'll see you guys again sometime.

**SAY** That would be great, Spud. Bye! *(Wave to Spud.)*

*(Address the kids once Spud is out of sight.)* I have a feeling we'll have to be near a chair and TV before we can see Spud again. I wonder why he would rather watch an old show than go sightseeing?

**ASK** Do you think Spud understands that his choices are causing him to miss out on a lot of life? *(Group response)*  
I don't think he gets The Point.

What's The Point?



**Every day, I will make good choices to serve God!**

- Repeat The Point several times.

**ASK** We sure don't want to be like Spud, do we? *(no)* I think he misses out on a lot by being a couch potato.

**SAY** Let's move into our Hub Groups for Hub Time to talk about things Spud needs to learn about everyday choices. We probably need to learn those things too.

# T!P

Leave Spud's chair on display throughout this unit. Let kids take turns sitting in Spud's chair before and after the HighPoint sessions.

# T!P

Discuss characteristics of a couch potato. Be sensitive to kids who have family members who fit the description.