



DERRY CITY COUNCIL  
COMHAIRLE CATHRACH DHOIRÉ  
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## The Pursuit of Happiness

We hope you have enjoyed reading about the Barr family's departure for a new life in America. Here are some activities to help you find out more about emigration from the city.

- 1) In 1912 many people chose to emigrate from Ireland to America from the port in Derry. Why do you think the Barr family left Derry for New York at this time?
- 2) Why did the family have to get the smaller boat to the port at Moville? Do you think its location was important?
- 3) The journey from Derry to America was long. How does young Paul Barr manage on the journey?
- 4) Name some of the challenges families may have experienced on the journey across the Atlantic. Look online and find out if there were any disasters at this time involving ships crossing the Atlantic?
- 5) Many people leaving Derry saw America as a land of opportunity. What changes would the Barr family face in New York? Were any risks involved in starting a new life so far from Derry?
- 6) In the comic the Barr family have to go through the immigration station at Ellis Island in New York. Look for information online about Ellis Island. Write a short paragraph to describe what happened there.
- 7) Imagine your family moved to America from Ireland in 1912. Write a post-card to a friend back home and tell them about your journey and your new life in America.
- 8) Do you know anyone that has emigrated from Derry to America? Why do you think there are so many people living in America today with ties to the city?