

## Irish Potato Famine

The Irish **Potato** Famine occurred in 1845-1849 when Ireland's potato crop failed. The failures were caused by a plant disease called **blight**. This **disease** kills the leaves of the plant and causes the root (the potato) to **rot**, making it inedible.

Blight was accidentally brought over from North America, where it then thrived in Ireland's cool, moist soil. At the time, the potato was Ireland's staple **crop** and a lot of people relied on the potato as an important source of their **diet**.

Since the blight destroyed most of the potatoes, many people went **hungry**. Some even **starved** to the point of death. The Irish potato famine was the worst famine to occur in Europe during the 19th century.



Normal Potato



Blight Potato



This is a picture of the famine statues in Dublin, Ireland. These statues were made to honour all the lives lost during the Irish Potato Famine.



## Word Search

Can you find all the words in the word search below?

Y	A	Y	T	J	S	D	H	E	B
E	B	O	P	T	L	N	S	T	L
F	R	S	A	B	C	A	L	E	I
I	A	R	M	B	E	L	F	I	G
J	V	M	H	S	B	E	F	D	H
E	R	T	I	Y	E	R	A	H	T
U	J	D	Q	N	P	I	B	X	Z
C	D	O	R	J	E	O	M	K	Q
C	P	O	T	A	T	O	R	W	T
Y	R	G	N	U	H	M	H	C	E

BLIGHT

FAMINE

DISEASE

POTATO

ROT

STARVE

CROP

HUNGRY

IRELAND

DIET