

Research and Websites

Research Process – Staff: please guide your students through this.

1. Select a general topic that interests you in some way – KWL Chart (see binder)
2. List key words to help you look up information about the topic – Brainstorm
3. Get an overview of the topic – look in an encyclopedia, dictionary, etc.
 - Using the general overview, begin to focus the topic.
 - An overview of the topic is important because it will help you to find words to help broaden or narrow your search.
 - In using the term “Liberian clothing”, I couldn’t find much. By using the term “Bassa clothing” (one of the indigenous tribes of Liberia), I was able to find more clothing, art, and articles about Liberia.
4. Research your topic – look in books, magazines, online
5. Take notes - keep track of your sources so others can follow your trail
6. Write what you have learned in your own words
7. Edit and rewrite several times - you can do this or ask someone to help you
8. Complete your finished product

WEBSITES

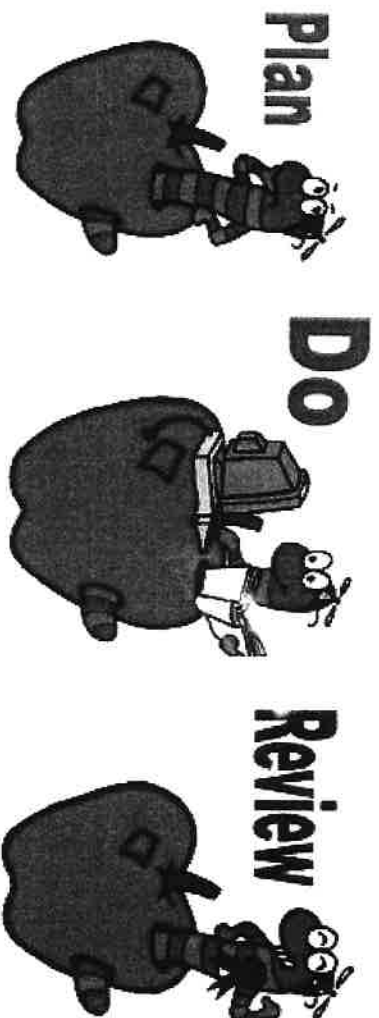
1. **Fact Monster** - <http://www.factmonster.com/>
 - Each Country Profile provides information on: Geography, Maps, Flag, History, Current ruler, Area Population, Capital, Largest cities, Language, Ethnicity/race, Religion, Literacy rate, Economy, Government
 - Click on “World”
 - Click on “Countries”
 - Select your country
 - You can also find information regarding the children in your country. It contains information on Climate, School, Play, Family, Food, Holidays. Do the following:
 - Click on “People”
 - Click on “People Fun Facts”
 - Select “Kids Around the World”
 - Select your country.
2. **Kidipede** – History and science facts for kids.
www.historyforkids.org
3. **The CIA World Factbook** -
www.cia.gov
4. **History for Kids** – Fun facts and information for kids.
www.historyforkids.net
5. **Ducksters** – History, geography, biographies, science, etc. for kids.
www.ducksters.com
 - Click on the “Geography” or “Biography” tab. (Do not type in top search box on this page.)
 - In the “Geography” section, Click on your continent and then select your country.
6. **BBC – History for kids**
www.bbc.co.uk/history/forkids

Research and Websites

WEBSITES FOR ITALY

7. **Life in Italy**—This sites has current information about Italy. www.lifeinitaly.com
8. **Italian Tourism Official site**—There is information about travelling through the country, places to visit, and basic information about the country. www.italia.it
9. **Italy: History, Geography, Government, & Culture** www.infoplease.com/country/italy.html
10. **Italy Guide -- National Geographic** travel.nationalgeographic.com/travel/countries/italy-guide
11. **Italy | history - geography | Britannica.com** www.britannica.com/place/italy
12. **Fun Italy Facts for Kids** - Interesting Information about Italy
www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/countries/italy.html
13. **Italian Food Recipes And Cuisine Ideas** - Italian.Food.com
14. **Ancient Rome for Kids and Teachers** - Ancient Rome for Kids rome.mrdonn.org

Super 3 Research Method for K – 3rd Grade Students



Before sending students off to do research, review the following items:

1. Plan

What am I supposed to do? (Be sure students are clear about the assignment)
What do I need to get the job done?
What do I want it to look like when I'm done?

2. Do

I must locate the things I will need (books, websites, materials etc.).
I need to ask questions, read, and take notes.
I need to use the information I find to create something.

- Have students submit a rough draft – give feedback
- Help students to edit and rewrite their papers/work

3. Review

Before students turn in their final product, go over the questions listed below. You can help students to self-evaluate by giving them the "I think I'm done! sheet."

Did I do what I was supposed to do?
Am I proud of what I've done?
Is there something else I should do before I say I am done?

The Big6™ Skills

The Big6 is a process model of how people of all ages solve an information problem. From practice and study, we found that successful information problem-solving encompasses six stages with two sub-stages under each:

1. Task Definition – Identify and Develop Your Topic

- 1.1 Define the information problem
 - Brainstorm, consider purpose and goal, use graphic organizers
 - State your topic idea as a question
- 1.2 Identify information needed
 - Identify the main concepts or keywords in your question

2. Information Seeking Strategies

- 2.1 Determine all possible sources
 - Use encyclopedias and dictionaries from print and online to get an overview of your topic
- 2.2 Select the best sources
 - Evaluate materials especially websites

3. Location and Access

- 3.1 Locate sources (intellectually and physically)
 - Books and textbooks
 - Journals, newspapers, and magazines articles
 - Video and sound recordings
- 3.2 Find information within sources
 - Check bibliographies for additional useful resources

4. Use of Information

- 4.1 Engage (e.g., read, hear, view, touch)
- 4.2 Extract relevant information
 - Give credit for materials used
 - See "Citations" worksheet

5. Synthesis

- 5.1 Organize from multiple sources
 - Write a first draft using information
 - Revise and edit – see Editing Checklist
 - Rewrite
- 5.2 Present the information
 - Publish works in a variety of ways, such as a class book, bulletin board, letters to the editor, school newsletter, newspapers, brochures, flyers, booklets, or website.

6. Evaluation

- 6.1 Judge the product (effectiveness)
- 6.2 Judge the process (efficiency)

Italy

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Flag Handprint Wreath



You will need:

- White paper or cardstock
- coloring pens/crayons
- Glue
- A picture or drawing of the flag

Instructions:

Give each child a piece of white card and have them draw and cut out their hand. You can have students make the flag of the country you are studying only, or let each child decorate their card hand with the design of a different flag.

Flag Bunting



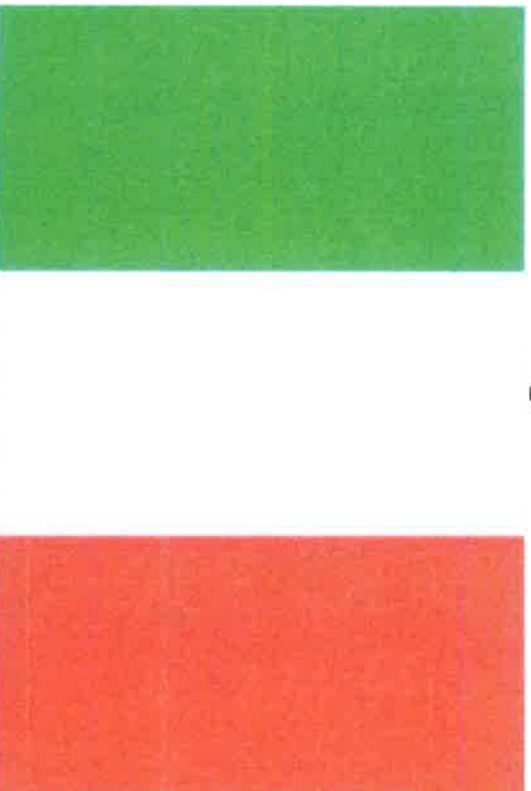
You will need:

- White paper or cardstock
- coloring pens/crayons
- Glue/tape
- A picture or drawing of the flag
- Ribbon

Instructions:

Cut out the flags. Tape the ribbon along the top end of the flags. Hang your bunting.

Italy Facts



Flag Description: three equal vertical bands of green (hoist side), white, and red; design inspired by the French flag brought to Italy by Napoleon in 1797; colors are those of Milan (red and white) combined with the green uniform color of the Milanese civic guard.

Geography

Italy, slightly larger than Arizona, is a long peninsula shaped like a boot, surrounded on the west by the Tyrrhenian Sea and on the east by the Adriatic. It is bounded by France, Switzerland, Austria, and Slovenia to the north. The Apennine Mountains form the peninsula's backbone; the Alps form its northern boundary. The largest of its many northern lakes is Garda (143 sq mi; 370 sq km); the Po, its principal river, flows from the Alps on Italy's western border and crosses the Lombard plain to the Adriatic Sea. Several islands form part of Italy; the largest are Sicily (9,926 sq mi; 25,708 sq km) and Sardinia (9,301 sq mi; 24,090 sq km).

Languages: Italian (official), German (parts of Trentino-Alto Adige region are predominantly German-speaking), French (small French-speaking minority in Valle d'Aosta region), Slovene (Slovene-speaking minority in the Trieste-Gorizia area)

Religion: Christian 80% (overwhelmingly Roman Catholic with very small groups of Jehovah's Witnesses and Protestants), Muslim (about 800,000 to 1 million), Atheist and Agnostic 20%

Population: 61,855,120 (July 2015 est.) (growth rate: .38%); birth rate: 9.06/1000; infant mortality rate: 3.36/1000; life expectancy: 81.86

Government: Italian Republic **National name:** Repubblica Italiana

President: Giorgio Napolitano (2006) **Prime Minister:** Enrico Letta (2013)

Land area: 113,521 sq mi (294,019 sq km); **total area:** 116,305 sq mi (301,230 sq km)

Capital and largest city (2009 est.): Rome, 3,357 million **Other large cities:** Milan 2.962 million; Naples 2.27 million; Turin 1.662 million; Palermo 872,000 (2009)

Monetary unit: Euro (formerly lira)

Italy Facts

Literacy rate: 99% (2003 est.)

Economic summary: GDP/PPP (2011 est.): \$1.871 trillion; per capita \$30,900. **Real growth rate:** 0.4%. **Inflation:** 2.8%. **Unemployment:** 8.4%. **Arable land:** 26.41%. **Agriculture:** fruits, vegetables, grapes, potatoes, sugar beets, soybeans, grain, olives; beef, dairy products; fish. **Labor force:** 25.08 million; services 67.8%, industry 28.3%, agriculture 5% (2001). **Industries:** tourism, machinery, iron and steel, chemicals, food processing, textiles, motor vehicles, clothing, footwear, ceramics. **Natural resources:** coal, mercury, zinc, potash, marble, barite, asbestos, pumice, fluorospar, feldspar, pyrite (sulfur), natural gas and crude oil reserves, fish, arable land. **Exports:** \$522 billion (2011 est.); engineering products, textiles and clothing, production machinery, motor vehicles, transport equipment, chemicals; food, beverages and tobacco; minerals, and nonferrous metals. **Imports:** \$556.4 billion (2011 est.); engineering products, chemicals, transport equipment, energy products, minerals and nonferrous metals, textiles and clothing; food, beverages, and tobacco. **Major trading partners:** Germany, France, U.S., Spain, UK, Switzerland, Netherlands, China (2011).

Communications: **Telephones:** main lines in use: 21.6million (2009); mobile cellular: 82 million (2009).

Broadcast media: two Italian media giants dominate - the publicly-owned Radiotelevisione Italiana (RAI) with 3 national terrestrial stations and privately-owned Mediaset with 3 national terrestrial stations; a large number of private stations and Sky Italia - a satellite TV network; RAI operates 3 AM/FM nationwide radio stations; some 1,300 commercial radio stations (2007). **Internet hosts:** 25.456 million (2010). **Internet users:** 29.235 million (2009).

Transportation: **Railways:** total: 20,255 km (2008). **Roadways:** total: 487,700 km; paved: 487,700 km (including 6,700 km of expressways) (2007). **Waterways:** 2,400 km; note: used for commercial traffic; of limited overall value compared to road and rail (2012). **Ports and terminals:** Augusta, Cagliari, Genoa, Livorno, Taranto, Trieste, Venice oil terminals: Melilli (Santa Panagia) oil terminal, Sarroch oil terminal.

History

The migrations of Indo-European peoples into Italy probably began about 2000 B.C. and continued until 1000 B.C. From about the 9th century B.C. until it was overthrown by the Romans in the 3rd century B.C., the Etruscan civilization was dominant. By 264 B.C., all Italy south of Cisalpine Gaul was under the leadership of Rome. For the next seven centuries, until the barbarian invasions destroyed the western Roman Empire in the 4th and 5th centuries A.D., the history of Italy is largely the history of Rome. From 800 on, the Holy Roman Emperors, Roman Catholic popes, Normans, and Saracens all vied for control over various segments of the Italian peninsula. Numerous city-states, such as Venice and Genoa, whose political and commercial rivalries were intense, and many small principalities flourished in the late Middle Ages. Although Italy remained politically fragmented for centuries, it became the cultural center of the Western world from the 13th to the 16th century.

Italy Becomes a Unified Peninsula

In 1713, after the War of the Spanish Succession, Milan, Naples, and Sardinia were handed over to the Hapsburgs of Austria, which lost some of its Italian territories in 1735. After 1800, Italy was unified by Napoléon, who crowned himself king of Italy in 1805; but with the Congress of Vienna in 1815, Austria once again became the dominant power in a disunited Italy. Austrian armies crushed Italian uprisings in 1820–1821 and 1831. In the 1830s, Giuseppe Mazzini, a brilliant liberal nationalist, organized the Risorgimento (Resurrection), which laid the foundation for Italian unity. Disappointed Italian patriots looked to the House of Savoy for leadership. Count Camille di Cavour (1810–1861), prime minister of Sardinia in 1852 and the architect of a united Italy, joined England and France in the Crimean War (1853–1856), and in 1859 helped France in a war against Austria, thereby obtaining Lombardy. By plebiscite in 1860, Modena, Parma, Tuscany, and the Romagna voted to join Sardinia. In 1860, Giuseppe Garibaldi conquered Sicily and Naples and turned them over to Sardinia. Victor Emmanuel II, king of Sardinia, was proclaimed king of Italy in 1861. The annexation of Venetia in 1866 and of

Italy Facts

papal Rome in 1870 marked the complete unification of peninsular Italy into one nation under a constitutional monarchy.

The Rise and Fall of Mussolini

Italy declared its neutrality upon the outbreak of World War I on the grounds that Germany had embarked upon an offensive war. In 1915, Italy entered the war on the side of the Allies but obtained less territory than it expected in the postwar settlement. Benito ("Il Duce") Mussolini, a former Socialist, organized discontented Italians in 1919 into the Fascist Party to "rescue Italy from Bolshevism." He led his Black Shirts in a march on Rome and, on Oct. 28, 1922, became prime minister. He transformed Italy into a dictatorship, embarking on an expansionist foreign policy with the invasion and annexation of Ethiopia in 1935 and allying himself with Adolf Hitler in the Rome-Berlin Axis in 1936. When the Allies invaded Italy in 1943, Mussolini's dictatorship collapsed; he was executed by partisans on April 28, 1945, at Dongo on Lake Como. Following the armistice with the Allies (Sept. 3, 1943), Italy joined the war against Germany as a cobelligerent. A June 1946 plebiscite rejected monarchy and a republic was proclaimed. The peace treaty of Sept. 15, 1947, required Italian renunciation of all claims in Ethiopia and Greece and the cession of the Dodecanese islands to Greece and of five small Alpine areas to France. The Trieste area west of the new Yugoslav territory was made a free territory (until 1954, when the city and a 90-square-mile zone were transferred to Italy and the rest to Yugoslavia).

Italy Moves to Stabilize Its Economy

Italy became an integral member of NATO and the European Economic Community (later the EU) as it successfully rebuilt its postwar economy. A prolonged outbreak of terrorist activities by the left-wing Red Brigades threatened domestic stability in the 1970s, but by the early 1980s the terrorist groups had been suppressed. "Revolving door" governments, political instability, scandal, and corruption characterized Italian politics in the 1980s and 1990s.

Italy adopted the euro as its currency in Jan. 1999. Treasury Secretary Carlo Ciampi, who is credited with the economic reforms that permitted Italy to enter the European Monetary Union, was elected president in May 1999. Italy joined its NATO partners in the Kosovo crisis. Aviano Air Base in northern Italy was a crucial base for launching air strikes into Kosovo and Yugoslavia.

Italy's Cultural Contributions

Europe's Renaissance period began in Italy during the 14th and 15th centuries. Literary achievements--such as the poetry of Petrarch, Tasso, and Ariosto and the prose of Boccaccio, Machiavelli, and Castiglione--exerted a tremendous and lasting influence on the subsequent development of Western civilization, as did the painting, sculpture, and architecture contributed by giants such as da Vinci, Raphael, Botticelli, Fra Angelico, and Michelangelo.

The musical influence of Italian composers Monteverdi, Palestrina, and Vivaldi proved epochal in the 19th century, Italian romantic opera flourished under composers Gioacchino Rossini, Giuseppe Verdi, and Giacomo Puccini. Contemporary Italian artists, writers, filmmakers, architects, composers, and designers contribute significantly to Western culture.

Italian Attractions and Major Cities



The Vittorio Emanuele Bridge over the Tiber River in Rome with Vatican City (and St. Peter's Basilica) in the background.



Pietà by Michelangelo in Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome. The sculpture was created from 1498 to 1499 of Carrara marble when the sculptor was only 25 years old.



View of Saint Peter's Square in Rome showing an Egyptian obelisk, the Via della Conciliazione, and colonnades with statues on the sides of the square. The square, designed by Gian Lorenzo Bernini, was constructed between 1658 and 1667.



The ancient and historic city of Rome, showing the dome of the Pantheon on the left, the Monument of Victor Emmanuel II in the left background, and various church domes.



The Colosseum in Rome was first used in A.D. 80. In Roman times, it was called the Flavian Amphitheater and held 50,000 spectators. The name "Colosseum" was introduced in medieval times and referred to a giant statue of Nero that stood nearby. The outer walls have three levels of arches with columns topped by Ionic capitals at the lower level and Doric and Corinthian at the top. The 80 entrance/exit arches, known as vomitoria, allowed spectators easy access and the ability to clear the building in minutes.

Italian Attractions and Major Cities



The Campanile (Bell Tower) of the Duomo (Cathedral) in Pisa also goes by the name of the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Construction on the tower began in 1173. The bell tower began to lean five years after construction began because of weak subsoil and poor foundation. The lean has been stabilized at 4 degrees. The tower is 55.9 m (183.3 ft) high.



The Pantheon in the Plaza della Rotonda in Rome. Its current form dates from about A.D. 126 when the Emperor Hadrian rebuilt it over Marcus Agrippa's original temple dating from 27 B.C. The temple was dedicated to the classical gods. The name comes from the Greek words pan (all) and theos (god). The Pantheon has been a Christian church since about 608.



Carnivale is a yearly holiday that starts two weeks before Ash Wednesday and ends on Shrove Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday). It has been banned at certain times in Venice's history, but after 1979 it became a growing tourist attraction. Many of the masks worn at Carnivale are considered works of art.



Mt. Etna, the largest active volcano in Europe, looms over rooftops on the island of Sicily. Standing 10,958 feet tall on the Italian island of Sicily, Mount Etna is the largest active volcano in Europe. Etna's first known eruption was in 475 B.C. It was described by the great Greek playwright, Aeschylus (ESS-kil-us). The last major eruption was in 1992, but there have been several minor eruptions like the eruption in 2002. No one was hurt during the eruption, although thousands fled the area.

Italian Attractions and Major Cities



Venice

In this city on water, gondoliers paddle boats along 150 narrow canals and under 409 ancient bridges. Built on 117 small islands, Venice is considered one of the most beautiful cities in Italy, and the world. But erosion, pollution and dredging are causing the city of canals to slowly sink into the Adriatic Sea. All over the world, people are working to save the city and its precious landmarks and art work.



A view of some of the ruins at Pompeii, buried in the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in A.D. 79 and not rediscovered until the 18th century. In the photo on the right is the forum at Pompeii with Mt. Vesuvius in the background.

Italian Attractions and Major Cities



Florence

Florence, or Firenze in Italian, is the capital of the region of Tuscany. Visitors spend their time wandering through a mix of galleries, churches, and museums. Among its landmarks are the beautiful Duomo, or cathedral. The Florence Duomo is made of pink, green and white marble. Construction began in 1296 and wasn't complete for 150 years! At the Accademia Gallery stands Michelangelo's famous statue, David.



Tuscany

The beautiful region of Tuscany holds the cities and boroughs of Florence, Pisa, Siena, San Gimignano, and Arezzo. Tuscany is spotted with olive plantations where some of the world's best olive oil is made. Miles of vineyards produce celebrated wines. Tuscany may be best recognized for its bright, gigantic sunflowers that paint its hills.



Milan

Visitors can get down to business in Milan, Italy's economic and fashion center. Its shops feature some of the world's most magnificent clothes. Not far from world's top design houses lies the city's business and financial center. The Duomo, or cathedral, in Milan is not to be missed — it's one of the largest in the world. The late-Gothic style cathedral boasts marble pillars and a nail said to come from Christ's cross.

Significant Figures in Italian History

Architects & Sculptors

Bernini, Gian Lorenzo (1598-1680)

He created the Baroque style of sculpture and is considered the greatest sculptor of the 17th century.

Canova, Antonio (1757-1822)

Includes a brief biography and a collection of his works, which include Cupid and Psyche, Ebe, and Hebe.

Donatello (1386-1466)

The founder of modern sculpture. His bronze statue of David was the first nude statue of the Renaissance.

Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)

You can get a firsthand look at the drawings, paintings and sculptures of this great artist who was well ahead of his time.

Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475-1564)

A magnificent artist who created such masterpieces like the statue of David and the statue of the Pieta. This is a great site that goes through the stages in Michelangelo's life.

Authors

Dante Alighieri

Dante is considered by many as the greatest Italian poet. This includes a biography of Dante as well as many resources to his texts online.

Niccolò Machiavelli

Step into the life of this political philosopher, historian, writer, statesman, and diplomat.

Francesco Petrarca

Born during the 14th century he is regarded as the greatest scholar of his time.

Italian Discoveries

Discovery	Founder	Year
The Americas	Christopher Columbus	1492
Four Moons of Jupiter	Galileo Galilei	1610
Golgi Complex	Camillo Golgi	1897
Great Red Spot on Jupiter	Giovanni Domenico Cassini	ca. 1665
HIV Virus	Robert Gallo & Luc Montagnier	1983
Nitroglycerin	Ascanio Sobrero	1847
Nuclear Isotope	Enrico Fermi	1932

Significant Figures in Italian History

Italian Explorers

Giovanni Caboto

Read more about the voyages of 1497 and 1498 by the man more commonly known as John Cabot.

Christopher Columbus

Your guide to the life and times of Columbus, Admiral of the Ocean Sea.

Marco Polo

Learn more about the life and journeys of this fascinating explorer.

Giovanni da Verrazzano

He is most noted for his discovery of New York Harbor, which is now spanned by the Verrazzano Narrows bridge.

Amerigo Vespucci

This gives you a great account of his life and voyages.

Italian Kings

Throughout history there have been many kings who have ruled various regions of Italy. It wasn't until Italy became a unified nation in 1861 that a king actually ruled the entire peninsula. Since that time there have been four kings of Italy all of which were from the House of Savoy. The monarchy reigned until Italy became a republic in 1946. It officially ended on June 12, 1946 when Umberto II abdicated his throne and was exiled from Italy.

Vittorio Emmanuel II	1861-1878
Umberto I	1878-1900
Vittorio Emmanuel III	1900-1946
Umberto II	1946

Mathematicians

Leonardo Pisano Fibonacci (1170-1250)

He is considered the greatest mathematician of the middle ages. He is best known for the creation of the Fibonacci numbers.

Italian Painters

Botticelli, Sandro (1445-1510)

View many of the wonderful works from this Florentine Renaissance painter.

Caravaggio (1571-1610)

This famous Italian baroque painter's works include: The Musicians, Fortune Teller, and the Burial of Saint Lucy.

Significant Figures in Italian History

Giotto (1267-1337)

Giotto is widely considered one of the first in a long line of great artist who contributed to the Italian Renaissance.

Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)

An incredible artist whose paintings include The Mona Lisa and The Last Supper.

Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475-1564)

His work on the Sistine Chapel and his painting of the Last Judgement are just two examples of the incredible talent that he possessed.

Raphael (1483-1520)

A number of high quality images from this great Renaissance artist.

Tiepolo, Giovanni Battista (1696-1770)

Last of the great Venetian painters who is best known for his frescoes.

Tintoretto (1518-1594)

A painter from the Venetian school whose works include The Last Supper, St. Nicholas, and The Birth of St. John the Baptist.

Titian (1488-1576)

An extensive collection of paintings from this magnificent artist.

World Cultures

Scavenger Hunt

Fill in the form and draw pictures to show what you have learned about this country.

Name of the country: _____

On which continent is the country located? _____

What is the capital? _____

What grows in this country? _____

What is the weather like? _____

What are some games children play in this country? _____

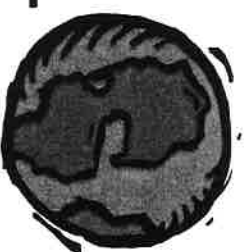
What do the people eat? _____

What interesting animals live in this country? _____

What are the religions in this country? _____

What is a special holiday or event? _____

Country Fact Sheet



Capital City:

Population:

Terrain:

Climate:

Natural Resources:

Type of Government:

Bordering Countries:

Map:

Flag:

Holidays and Traditions:

Famous people:

Famous landmarks:

Foods:

Cultural Investigators Worksheet

Write the name of a popular visitors' attraction (such as a museum or landmark).	
What is the biggest city in the area?	
What's the city's population?	
What is the name of a sports team in the area?	
What language is spoken there?	
Who are the people (ethnic groups) who live there?	
What is a popular food eaten there?	
What is one interesting fact about the area?	
What's one thing you would want to do if you visited the city?	
What is the climate?	
What is the major export product?	
What is a major import product?	
What is a tradition of this particular culture or place?	
What is a special holiday for this country?	
Who is the current leader of the country?	
What is the country known for?	
What colors are in the country's flag?	

Research Key Events in History



As a way to review important events in history, have students research events or teach students about these events and place them on the handout “Historical Timeline.” This will become the rough draft for the following activity “A Comic Scroll through Time.” Following the basic instructions of this activity, have students create comic historical timelines. You can have students create their own timeline, or break up the events and have students create one event on the timeline and produce a group timeline. This will be a great display in the multipurpose room in general and especially for Family Night.



Historical Timeline

for _____

A blank historical timeline template. It features a central horizontal line. Above the line, there are seven empty rectangular boxes of varying sizes, each connected to the line by a vertical line. Below the line, there are seven empty rectangular boxes of varying sizes, each also connected to the line by a vertical line. The boxes are intended for students to write historical events or dates.

A Comic Scroll Through Time

Objectives

Children read and/or listen to stories and respond to the narrative text by retelling the sequence of events with appropriate references to setting and characters.

Students demonstrate their understanding of a favorite story by translating the events into a sequence of drawings on a scroll using speech bubbles to narrate it.

Multiple Intelligences

Interpersonal	Logical-mathematical
Linguistic	Spatial

National Standards

Visual Arts Standard #6

Making connections between visual arts and other disciplines

English Language Arts Standard #12

Students use spoken, written, and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion, and the exchange of information).

Background Information

Comic books are at least as old as movies. In search of new ways of graphic and visual communication and expression, Richard Fenton Outcalt's creation, *The Yellow Kid*, was credited with the start of comics in 1896. Outcalt introduced a new element: the dialogue balloon, a space where he wrote what the characters said, and that pointed to their mouths with a kind of tail.

In the first decades of this art form's life, comic books were funny. Some early creations are among the best stories in comic book history: *Little Nemo in Wonderland* by Winsor McCay, *Mutt & Jeff* by Bud Fisher, *Popeye* by E. Segar, and *Krazy Kat* by George Herriman.

Resources

20th Century Children's Book Treasury selected by Janet Schulman
More than 40 favorite children's stories for most elementary grades.

So, You Wanna be a Comic Book Artist? How to Create Your Own Superheroes, Sell Your Strip, and Become Famous! by Philip Amara and Pop Mhan
Practical introduction to creative and production aspects of work in the field of comic arts. Illustrated with line drawings and fun trivia. Includes interviews with several experts.

Walt Disney's Comics in Color illustrated by Carl Barks

A series that includes several classic Disney comic books reprinted in full. A classic collection from a classic era.

Vocabulary List

Use this list to explore new vocabulary, create idea webs, or brainstorm related subjects.

- Action
- Animate
- Animation
- Author
- Beginning
- Character
- Comic book
- Comics
- Design
- Details
- Dialogue
- Drawing
- Ending
- Expression
- Frame
- Graphic
- Illustration
- Illustrator
- Middle
- Narration
- Patterns
- Perspective
- Plot
- Point of view
- Scenes
- Scroll
- Sequence
- Setting
- Speech bubble
- Storyboard
- Storyline
- Visual



Artwork created by students from
 Olde Sawmill Elementary School
 Dublin, Ohio
 Abrikadoodle Director: Jeff Houck
 Program leader/teacher: Jan Hall



Dream-Makers

Building fun and creativity into standards-based learning

A Comic Scroll Through Time

K-2

3-4

5-6

Suggested Preparation and Discussion

Invite children to share their favorite comic book drawings depicting a sequence of events. Ask questions such as: Why is a comic strip different from other drawings? How is a comic strip similar to a written story? How is it different?

Identify children's favorite books. Choose one to use as an example. Work together, on in small groups, to determine what parts of the story to place in separate boxes in a comic book. Complete a sample project to inspire children.

Practice listening skills through storytelling. Encourage children to "picture" the stories in their minds. Share details.

Encourage children to read award-winning books on their grade level such as *A Flamingo Immigrant* by William Douthett, *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan, *The Negro League*, *Birmingham*, *Alabamnia, 1948* by Walter Dean Myers, or others.

Crayola® Supplies

• Glue • Markers • Scissors

• Colored Pencils

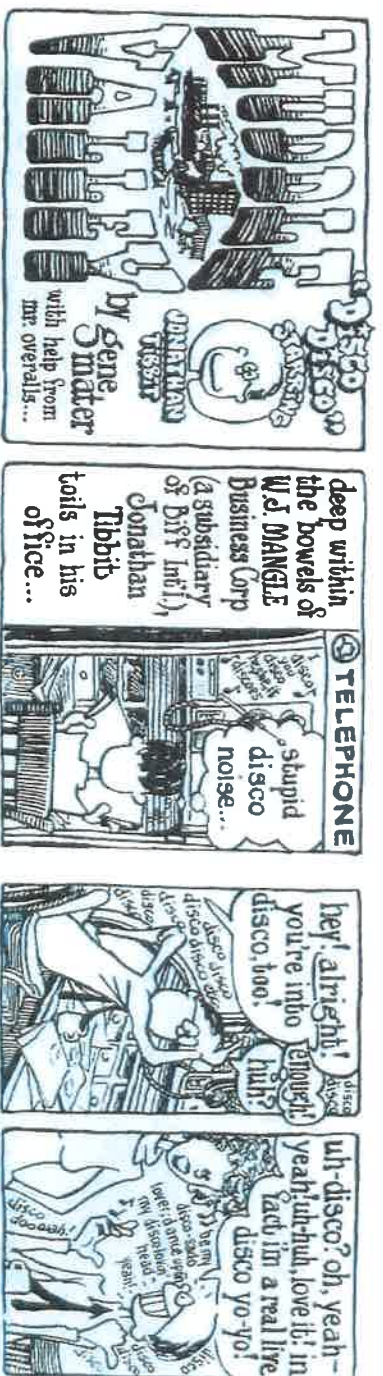
Other Materials

• Brown paper grocery bags • Paper • Paper clips • Ribbon or yarn • Rulers • White drawing paper

Process: Session 1 20-30 min.

Make the scroll

1. Cut open a brown paper grocery bag. Lay it flat. Cut out two 6- x 24-inch rectangles. Roll each rectangle to create two tight 6-inch-long cylinders. Glue the edges. Use paper clips to keep the paper rolled. Air-dry the glue.
2. Cut two sheets of drawing paper in half lengthwise. Glue the four pieces together to create a long strip. On one side, add designs to decorate the back of the scroll. Use interesting colors, lines, shapes, and patterns. Turn the paper over.
3. Glue one cylinder to each of the short ends of the paper strip. Hold with paper clips until the scroll air-dries.



Muddle Valley Comic
Artist: Gene Mander
Ink on paper
7" x 12"
Collection of the Artist

Process:
Session 2
20-30 min.

K-2

3-4

5-6

Illustrate the story

4. Choose 5 or 6 major events from a story, including something from the beginning and the end.

5. Cut paper into 4- x 7-inch pieces. Draw pictures of major events. Show action and setting details!

6. Arrange pictures in sequence. Glue them to the scroll. Add speech bubbles to help tell the story.

7. Roll both ends of scroll toward the center. Tie with ribbon or yarn.

Illustrate the story

4. Choose 7 or 8 major events from the story, including something from the beginning, middle, and end. Roll out the entire scroll. Measure and mark the number of spaces needed to show these scenes.

5. Illustrate events and characters sequentially. Include setting details. Outline story boxes and figures to make them stand out.

6. Add captions and/or speech bubbles to help tell the story.

7. Roll both ends of scroll toward the center. Tie closed with ribbon or yarn.

Process:
Session 3
15-20 min.

Share the stories

8. Exchange scrolls. In small groups, children read the stories aloud and summarize the illustrations. Check that the scrolls match the plots of the stories.

Assessment

- Story illustrations cover all major events and are arranged in proper sequence on the scrolls. The scrolls include characters and settings. Older and more skilled children's comics are increasingly elaborate and detailed.
- Cartoon-style drawings are simple, bold, and colorful. Children stretch their illustrating skills to draw in increasingly sophisticated ways. Students use both visual and written language to retell their stories. The captions and dialogue suit the illustrations.
- Scrolls are well constructed and roll easily to reveal the cartoon sequences.
- Students engage in their group discussions and offer constructive comments about the scrolls they review.
- Ask students to reflect on this lesson and write a DREAM statement to summarize the most important things they learned.

Extensions

Follow up this project with similar ones based on historic timelines, events in the students' own lives, life cycles of animals, and other suitable material.

When working with groups of young children or students with special needs, create a group scroll based on a story shared by the whole class. Discuss the story events. Each child illustrates one of them. Children work together to arrange the illustrations in order and glue them to the scroll.

Encourage children with a gift for cartooning to create original story scrolls or comic books. Provide opportunities for them to share their work with classmates.

Visit a television studio to see how storyboards are used. Write a play, design storyboards, sets, and costumes, and produce it for an audience.

Recycled cardboard rolls can be used for the ends of the scrolls. Ask families to save paper towel and gift-wrap rolls.

Encourage children who are interested in cartooning careers to research the topic and report back to the group.

Invite a local cartoonist to talk with the group.



Dream-Makers
Building, fun and creativity are standards-based learning.