

# #11969

## ITALY

NEW DIMENSION MEDIA/QUESTAR, 2005

Grade Level: 6–10

30 Minutes



### CAPTIONED MEDIA PROGRAM RELATED RESOURCES

[#3242 EUROPE: SOUTHERN REGION](#)  
[#7943 DISCOVERING ITALY](#)  
[#7970 VENICE](#)

**TEACHER'S GUIDE**  
**Grades 6 to 10 & Up**

**Italy**  
**Beyond Our Borders Series**

**Subject Areas:** Geography, Social Studies, History, Architecture, Art History

**Synopsis:** Provides a geographical and historical visit to contemporary Italy with an emphasis on Italian cultural history. Beginning in Sicily, highlights Greek influences and the violence of Sicilian history. Continues up the mainland to Campania, the Amalfi Coast, Liguria, Tuscany, Siena, Florence, Lombardy, Venice, Assisi and finally, Rome. Emphasizes the vitality of the Italian spirit and the richness of Italian culture.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Objective 1)** Students will be able to Describe Italy's location on the European continent and assess the distinctive geographical and historical regions of Italy.
- Objective 2)** Students will be able to explain the foundations of Italian culture and the Italians' pride in their country.
- Objective 3)** Students will be able to compare and contrast architecture that is truly Italian and that which evolved from the influence of other cultures.
- Objective 4)** Students will be able to relate the contributions of Italian artists and architects to the glory of the Italian Renaissance.

**Vocabulary:**

massacre, incident, eons, azure, inspiration, baptistery, literary work, influential, competitive, oculus, basilica, contradas, Renaissance, cultural diversity, scopa, patronage, campanile, purgatory, Romanesque, Gothic, tranquility, spirituality, Baroque, piazza, aqueduct, regional influences, lyrical, passionate

**Pre-Viewing Questions and Activities:**

- 1) When we think of Italy and Italian civilization, what images come to mind?
- 2) What images do you associate with Sicily?
- 3) Who was Leonardo da Vinci? Why is he so famous? Where did Leonardo live and work?
- 4) What kind of foods do Italians eat? What do they do for recreation? How do they support themselves?

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- 5) What is the most outstanding feature of the Italian landscape?

### **Post-Viewing Discussion:**

- 1) If you could visit only one region of Italy, which would you choose? Why would you choose this region?
- 2) What part of Italy contains Greek architectural ruins?
- 3) Why do Sicilians think the family is their most important cultural institution?
- 4) What evidences of the Roman Empire are still standing in contemporary Rome?
- 5) Explain the role of St. Peter's and Vatican City in the lives of Catholics.
- 6) What is La Scala? What part of Italian culture does it symbolize?
- 7) Who was St. Francis? Why was he so well known?
- 8) Give several reasons why Milan is considered to be the center of Italian design.

### **Additional Activities:**

- 1) Research the diaries of Leonardo da Vinci to discover drawings of technological devices, which have been perfected in the Twentieth Century.
- 2) Investigate the current condition of "The Last Supper". Was there a technical flaw in the great masterpiece?
- 3) Several outstanding artists have illustrated Dante's Divine Comedy. Discover who they were and how their illustrations highlighted Dante's visions of good and evil.
- 4) Investigate the operas being staged at La Scala this year. Who are the composers? What are the operas about? Who will be starring in these performances?
- 5) If possible, visit a neighborhood Italian restaurant to taste some authentic recipes.

FOR INFORMATION, OR TO ORDER CONTACT:

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