

#9068

# CUBA: PINAR DEL RIO

MARYKNOLL WORLD PRODUCTIONS

1999

Grade Levels: 4-8

14 minutes



## DESCRIPTION

Yudey lives 100 miles from Havana, Cuba, and relates her daily activities in the barrio. Her family is poor and she wants to improve her condition. Discusses her family, food, school, and hopes.

## ACADEMIC STANDARDS

### Subject Area: Geography--Environment and Society

- Standard: Understands how physical systems affect human systems
  - Benchmark: Knows the ways in which human systems develop in response to conditions in the physical environment (e.g., patterns of land use, economic livelihoods, architectural styles of buildings, building materials, flows of traffic, recreation activities)

### Subject Area: Geography--Human Systems

- Standard: Understands the nature and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics
  - Benchmark: Knows the similarities and differences in characteristics of culture in different regions (e.g., in terms of environment and resources, technology, food, shelter, social organization, beliefs and customs, schooling, what girls and boys are allowed to do)

### Subject Area: Geography—Places and Regions

- Standard: Understands the physical and human characteristics of place
  - Benchmark: Knows the human characteristics of places (e.g., cultural characteristics such as religion, language, politics, technology, family structure, gender; population characteristics; land uses; levels of development)

## INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To introduce the country, geography, and people of Cuba.
2. To dramatize the life of a 13-year-old girl who lives in Pinar del Rio, a city at the western end of Cuba.
3. To follow the process of how Cuban cigars are made.
4. To explore the history of relations between Cuba and the United States.



## BEFORE SHOWING

1. Write the name "Yudelkis Prieto Pérez" and "Pinar del Río," the name of her town on the board. Point out her city on a map.

2. Yudey comes from a very poor family. Why do you think poor people are poor?
3. Do you what *rationing* is? Ask your grandparents about ration cards during World War II.
4. Where does sugar come from? How does it grow and how is it processed?

### AFTER SHOWING

1. Did anything about the profile of Yudey surprise or shock you? Did she say something that caught your attention?
2. Are there comments on the school that Yudey attends? Or the classroom and her studies of geography of Cuba?
3. Most people never think of sawdust as a cooking fuel. Do you have any impressions on seeing Yudey's father prepare the fire?
4. Yudey's father works at a home factory, producing tomato paste, which is later sold in the market. Would you buy his product?
5. Are there any comments on the house where Yudey lives? On her parents?
6. One of Cuba's main industries involves the making and export of cigars. What is your view of tobacco, cigarettes and cigars?
7. If the United States government permitted it citizens to travel to Cuba, would you be interested in touring the country?
8. Do you know who José Martí is and the place of honor he holds with Cubans? Do you know who Ernesto "Che" Guevara is?
9. What do you know of the United States embargo against Cuba? What is an *embargo*? Are you in favor of, or against, the embargo?

### SUMMARY

Yudelkis Prieto Pérez, Yudey to her friends, is a 14-year old girl who lives with her parents and younger brother in a poor barrio in Pinar del Río, a city at the western end of Cuba. With her friend, she heads off to school where she is in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. We view her with her classmates in a geography class.

Then later on we enter one of the recently permitted home factories where her father works making tomato paste. Her mother works around the house. Yudey helps prepare the supper meal. She and her father prepare the cooking fire. The video also visits a tobacco farm and follows the process of how Cuban cigars are made. Finally, we follow Yudey as she goes to classes in mathematics on a Saturday and plays with other children before returning home.



### RELATED RESOURCES



#### Captioned Media Program

- Cuba #2462
- Cuba: Havana #9067
- Inside Castro's Cuba #3620



## World Wide Web

The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **CUBA**

<http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/cu.html>

From the CIA World Factbook, presents information on Cuba, of which Pinar del Rio is indicated on the map, such as a brief background on its history, economy, government; its geography; statistics on its literacy, birth and death, ethnic groups, and other rates; and more.

- **THE CUBAN EXPERIENCE**

[http://library.thinkquest.org/18355/che\\_guevara.html?tqskip1=1&tqtime=0131](http://library.thinkquest.org/18355/che_guevara.html?tqskip1=1&tqtime=0131)

From the ThinkQuest site, presents a brief biography of Ché Guevara. Provides several buttons such as "Culture," "Current Events," "History," "People" (including José Martí), "Cuban Presidents," and more.

- **AFROCUBAWEB**

<http://afrocubaweb.com/>

"Many people don't know that an estimated 70% of Cubans have African ancestors..." This site introduces different aspects of the African cultures of Cuba, such as music, art, theater, festivals, poets, and authors. Lists conferences and organizations that teach workshops and classes on African cultures of Cuba.

- **CUBAN HERITAGE DIGITAL COLLECTION**

<http://www.library.miami.edu/chcdigital/chcdigital.html>

Several collections of letters, documents, reports, and photographs from various periods in Cuba's history. Includes the Ten Year War; War of Independence; the Bay of Pigs Invasion; and more. From the University of Miami library.