

## **Greece: My House in Athens**

### **My Beautiful House Series**

**Subject Areas:** Social Studies, World Geography and Cultures, Multicultural Studies

**Synopsis:** Marianna is ten years old. She lives in the Greek capital of Athens. Besides playing the organ and the flute, she loves swimming. Traditional food plays an important part in the daily life of this little girl who is also fascinated by the ancient mythological tales of her ancestors.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Objective 1)** Students will be able to compare and contrast their culture, family, and activities to Marianna's culture, family, and activities.
- Objective 2)** Students will be able to demonstrate an appreciation for the diversity of cultures on our planet.
- Objective 3)** Students will be able to locate Greece on a map or globe.
- Objective 4)** Students will be able to identify cultural traditions in Greece.
- Objective 5)** Students will be able to compare how Marianna's basic needs are met with the way their own needs for food, clothing and shelter are met.

#### **Vocabulary:**

Athens, capital, Greece, kiriaki (Greek for Sunday), realm, Remos and Gletsos (Greek pop stars), organ, recorder, synchronized swimming, medals, patio, specialty, souvlaki ( a Greek dish), pita bread, Karegyozi (Greek folk hero), cellar, competition, languages, comedy, democracy, surrounded, kalispera (Greek for good night), mythology, ancient, gods and goddesses, Athena, Hercules, Cyclops, kalimera (Greek for good morning)

#### **Pre-Viewing Activities:**

- 1) Locate Greece on a map or globe. Ask students on which continent Greece is located. Point out Athens, the Mediterranean Sea, and the Atlantic Ocean on the map. Make sure viewers know where Greece is in relation to the rest of the world, including the United States and North America.
- 2) Discuss general characteristics of Greece such as climate, geographical features, the people, customs, etc.
- 3) Ask students to draw a map of their homes. Have them include the number of rooms, number of bedrooms, who lives with them, etc. Compare and contrast the different maps.

#### **Post-Viewing Questions and Discussion:**

- 1) Describe Marianna's family. How are they like or unlike your family? Who does the cooking in your house? Who cooked souvlaki at Marianna's? Where was it cooked? Does your family cook outside? If so, when? How many brothers and sisters does Marianna have? How many

brothers and sisters do you have? What kind of competition did Marianna's family have?  
What kind of games do you play with your family?

- 2) Describe Marianna's house. How is it like or unlike your home? Who built Marianna's house? What does Marianna's bedroom look like? What does your bedroom look like? What kinds of pictures decorate the walls in the living room at Marianna's? What kind of pictures do you have in your house? Where does Marianna's family keep the wood for the fireplace? How do you keep your house warm in the winter?
- 3) Compare and contrast Marianna's activities with your own. How are they similar or different? Where does Marianna like to play? Where do you play? With whom does Marianna play? What does Marianna do with her brother? Who is Marianna's favorite character from Greek mythology? What is your favorite book or character from a book?

**Additional Activities:**

- 1) Have students draw a picture of their neighborhood or write a story about their family and home. Then, have the students read their stories or display and describe their drawings for the class.
- 2) Ask the students to prepare a geographic profile of Greece noting its size, location, climate, natural resources, and outstanding cultural traits. Have them describe Greek history, principal industries, people, and major tourist attractions.

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