

## **France: My House in Bordeaux** **My Beautiful House Series**

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

**Synopsis:** Nine-year-old Pierre lives in Pardaillan castle, in the French city of Bordeaux. With his pony, he takes us on a guided tour around the vineyards on his estate. He also shows us through his castle home and his playground, a miniature stronghold built by his father for Pierre and his brother and sister.

### **Learning Objectives:**

- Objective 1)** Students will be able to compare and contrast their culture, family and activities with Pierre'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 France on a map or globe.
- Objective 4)** Students will be able to identify cultural traditions of France.
- Objective 5)** Students will be able to compare how Pierre's basic needs are met with the way their own needs for food, clothing and shelter are met.

### **Vocabulary:**

Bordeaux, France, castle, eleventh century, vineyards, wine production, cultivating, three generations, specialty, clarinet, arranged, "the stories that these walls could tell if they could speak," knights, inherited, tradition, fiend, radar, aged, chai (storage room for wine), disguises, masterpiece, authentic, fortress, ramparts, drawbridge, watchtower, invasion

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

- 1) Locate France on a map or globe. Ask students on which continent France is located. Point out Bordeaux, Paris and the Atlantic Ocean on the map. Make sure viewers know where France is in relation to the rest of the world, including the United States and North America.
- 2) Discuss general characteristics of France 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 Pierre's family. How many brothers and sisters does he have? Do you have brothers or sisters? If so, how many? What do Pierre's parents do to earn a living? What kind of work do your parents do? What does Pierre's mother do with the children before they go to bed? Does someone in your family read to you? If so, who is it? What kind of stories do you like?

What kind of food does Pierre like to eat? Where do they cook the roast? How do Pierre and his brother and sister wake their parents?

- 2) Describe Pierre's house. What kind of house is it? In what kind of house do you live? How is Pierre's house similar or different from your home? What is unique about the dining room at Pierre's house? What makes your house special?
- 3) Compare and contrast your activities with Pierre's activities. How are they similar or different? What kind of animal does Pierre have? Do you have any pets? If so, what kind? Where does Pierre like to play? Describe Pierre's fortress. Do you have a special place where you like to play? Describe it. How does Pierre help his father? Do you do chores for your parents? If so, what kind of chores?

**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) Have the students prepare a geographic profile of France noting its size, location, climate, natural resources and outstanding cultural traits. Have the students describe France's history, people, language, principal industries and major tourist attractions.

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