

Sweden: My House in Sweden **My Beautiful House Series**

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

Synopsis: Sandra, a little blond girl, shows us her holiday home in the Swedish fjords. This typical seaside house between the cliffs has its own bread oven. Sandra and her family love living close to nature; in fact, they take their morning shower in the sea—at a chilly temperature not much above freezing.

Learning Objectives:

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

Vocabulary:

Sweden, fjords, Stockholm, bread oven, recipe, kneading, particularly, traditional, Swedish costume, generation, buffet, "the walking table" (Swedish term for buffet), trolls, fairy tales, sacred, hospitality, embroidery, beams, creepy, artist, watercolor painting

Pre-Viewing Activities:

- 1) Locate Sweden on a map or globe. Ask students on which continent Sweden is located. Point out Stockholm, Iceland, the North Sea, and the Atlantic Ocean on the map. Make sure viewers know where Sweden is in relation to the rest of the world, including the United States and North America.
- 2) Discuss general characteristics of Sweden 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 children's maps.

Post-Viewing Questions and Discussion:

- 1) Describe Sandra's family. How are they similar or different from your family? How many family members go to the vacation home? How many brothers and sisters does Sandra have? How big is your family? Who prepares Sandra's meals? What kind of meal does Sandra's family have while at the vacation house? What kind of food does her family eat? What do you like to eat? Who prepares your meals? What does Sandra's mother make in the big oven?

- 2) Describe Sandra's summerhouse. What kind of house is it? Compare your home to Sandra's. How are they like or unlike? Where does Sandra take a bath? Why does she wash there? Where do you take your bath? How many bathrooms are in your house? How big is your house?
- 3) Where is the woodpile at Sandra's house? Why does Sandra's family make a fire? How do you keep your house warm? What is the attic at the summerhouse used for in the winter? Do you have an attic in your house? If so, how is it used?
- 4) Compare and contrast Sandra's activities to your own. How are they similar or different? What kind of chores does Sandra do? What do you do to help at home? What does Sandra do with the flowers she brings in the house? Where do Sandra and Alexander play? What kind of activities do you enjoy? Where do you like to play?

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 Sweden noting its size, location, climate, natural resources, and outstanding cultural traits. Have them describe Sweden's history, principal industries, people, and major tourist attractions.

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