

USA: My Loft in New York **My Beautiful House Series**

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

Synopsis: Lino shows us his top-floor apartment in New York. The roof of his loft is perfect for bike riding with friends. He shows us what life is like for a young citizen of New York City.

Learning Objectives:

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

Vocabulary:

United States, New York, Manhattan, sky-scrapers, Victorian style, typically, loft, warehouse, merchandise, stocked, divert, experience, formal, affair, dedicated, only child, unfortunately, "The jig is up," "traffic is heavy," water reserves, elastic

Pre-Viewing Activities:

- 1) Locate the United States on a map or globe. Ask students on which continent the United States is located. Point out New York, Manhattan, Albany, Long Island Sound, the Atlantic Ocean and your own state and city on the map. Make sure viewers know where New York is in relation to the rest of the United States.
- 2) Discuss general characteristics of New York 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 Lino's family. How is your family like or unlike Lino's? How many brothers and sisters do you have? Lino doesn't have any brothers or sisters. What does he say he is? How does Lino help his mother? How do you help at home? What foods does Lino like to eat? What do you like to eat? Who cooks for Lino? Who cooks at your house? Where does Lino's mom work? Where do your parents work?

- 2) Describe Lino's home. How is it like or unlike your home? What was Lino's loft before it was a home? Why can noises be heard almost anywhere in a loft? Where is the loft? How big is your home? Do you live in a city, like Lino? If not, where do you live?
- 3) Compare and contrast Lino's activities to your own. How are they similar or different? What activities do you enjoy? What kind of activities does Lino enjoy? Where do Lino and his friends ride bikes? Where does Lino roller skate? Where do you play? What kind of lessons does Lino take?

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 students prepare a geographic profile of the United States and New York noting its size, location, climate, natural resources, and outstanding cultural traits. Have the students describe New York's history, people, languages, principal industries and major tourist attractions.

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