



Maggie's Activity Pack

Name _____

Date _____

What's In a Name? Pomegranate?

Pomegranate in Spanish is Granada. It is also the name of an important city in Southern Spain that has been populated since 5500 BC. If you visit, be sure to see the famous sites, take in the rich cultural heritage of the neighborhoods, taste the food, and enjoy the geography in Granada.

Many people visit this beautiful city to see the Alhambra. The Alhambra is an Islamic palace that was abandoned for a long time and at one point was occupied by squatters. Washington Irving took up residence in the Alhambra in the late 1800s. His book, "Tales of the Alhambra" introduced this spectacular palace to the western world. Today the Alhambra is a celebrated World Heritage Site.

One famous neighborhood is called, *Sacromonte*. It is made up of cave-like homes built into the mountainside. This area was settled by the Romani people and became a popular place to see flamenco. Flamenco is an art form that combines singing, dancing and guitar playing. If you attend a flamenco show you will see and hear lots of hand clapping and rhythmic stomping.

Granada is known for its tapas. Tapas are small plates of food. In Granada you are usually served free tapas. This is very popular with the more than 80,000 students that attend the University of Granada.

Granada is situated between the Sierra Nevada mountain range and the Mediterranean Sea. You can go to the beach in the morning and snow skiing in the afternoon. This shows how diverse geography can influence our activities!

Famous sites +
neighborhoods +
food + geography =
?



Using the Details

1. Think about the key details and vocabulary in the text. What is the main idea of this informational text?

2. Use the information about Granada to write a caption for this photo.



3. What would you like to see and experience the most if you visited Granada? Use details from the text in your answer.

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to Part 2 of our Cities of Spain activities! As we mentioned, our executive producer lived in Spain and often visits, especially as her daughter spent this semester studying here. She loves this beautiful city and wanted to introduce you to the cultural richness found here. As you will note, our Maggie talking head gives your students a good way to think of main idea. Will you point this out or let children discover this on their own?

As we head into the holiday season, we hope this WAP will be an inspiration to you as you encourage your children to look around and discover the cultural richness of your own areas. What does your town do to celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Ramadan, Kwanza or any other holidays? Are streetlights decorated? Is special food served? Are there groups of people that get together for special times? Children can share the key details of the celebrations in your area.

The wonderful photos that Mason has shared remind me of a valuable writing prompt. Collect postcards from anywhere – even your hometown. Put numbers on the back and ask children to write a caption about the photo. They can even use these to plan an imaginary guided excursion around the town. It helps to learn about other places but it can be enlightening to see the richness of your own backyard, too!

Happy teaching,
Dr. Kathy

Answers will vary.

Goals:

Children will read an informational text about the cultural richness of the Spanish city, Granada. They will sue key details from the text to find main idea, write a picture caption, and respond to a higher-order text dependent question. This WAP is available on the primary and intermediate levels. There is a companion emergent reader activity. It aligns with goals in the RI Standard of Common Core and with “Students read a wide range of print and non-print texts to build an understanding of texts, of themselves, and of the cultures of the United States and the world; to acquire new information; to respond to the needs and demands of society and the workplace; and for personal fulfillment. Among these texts are fiction and nonfiction, classic and contemporary works” of the ILA and NCTE Standards.