

SIXTH GRADE SCHOOL TOURS AT THE HACKETT HOUSE

Regensburg, Germany

GREETING: GRUSS GOT (Greetings of God)

I. Location/Geography (Arizona History and Social Science Standards 6.G1.1, 6.G2.1, 6.G3.2, 6.G4.1)

A. Hemisphere/Continent

1. Regensburg is in the northern hemisphere; on the continent of Europe; in the country of Germany; and in the state of Bavaria. **Show German flag, then blue-checkered flag of Bavaria on mug in case. Children receive a "Bavarian blue" pencil as souvenir.*
2. In Germany the elevation ranges from the mountains of the Alps (9,718 feet) to sea level on the shores of the North Sea in the northwest and the Baltic Sea in the northeast.
3. Regensburg is located at the confluence of the Danube and the Regen ("rain") Rivers, at the northernmost bend in the Danube.

B. Influence of Water on Development

1. The Danube River aided the economic position of the city in the Middle Ages through the transportation of goods, especially salt. **Wood was transported and an abundant natural resource. Show items of carved wood on wall.*
2. The Stone Bridge, the Steinerne Brucke, opened major international trade routes between Northern Europe and Venice. **Show photograph of Stone Bridge on south wall.*

II. Historical Perspective (Arizona History and Social Science Standards 6.SP1.1, 6.SP1.3, 6.SP2.1, 6.C4.1)

A. The Romans established a camp in the first century as a center of power on the Upper Danube.

1. The camp, Castra Regina, began the important trading tradition of Regensburg.
2. A remnant of a Roman wall still stands in the city today.

B. Today Regensburg is a modern city with a large medieval center.

1. The Cathedral (Dom) of St. Peter (1250-1520) is Gothic in architecture and anchors the city center. **Show photograph of Cathedral on south wall. Ask students to find other representations of Stone Bridge and Cathedral around the room. Show poster of the Domspatzen or "Cathedral Sparrows," a world-renown boys choir from Regensburg.*
2. The Stone Bridge (1135-1146) carried the knights of the Middle Ages across the Danube River and carries pedestrians today.
3. Regensburg was spared much of the bombing of World War II and medieval buildings remained intact.

III. Cultural/Connections (Arizona History and Social Science Standards 6.SP1.2, 6.SP1.3, 6.H1.2, 6.H3.2)

A. How are we in Tempe connected Regensburg?

1. The size and population (150,000) of Tempe and Regensburg are similar.
2. The modern lifestyles are similar. McDonald's and Starbucks are popular destinations in both cities.
3. Both cities have a river and major universities.

B. Oktoberfest

1. Oktoberfest originated as the wedding celebration of the Crown Prince Ludwig, later to become King Ludwig I and Princess Therese of Saxony-Hildburghausen on October 12, 1810. The citizens of Munich were invited to attend the festivities held on the fields in front of the city gates to celebrate the happy royal event. **Show lederhosen and dirndl as traditional clothes.*
2. Today Tempe Sister Cities hosts Oktoberfest at Tempe Town Lake to commemorate the Bavarian tradition and raise funds for Sister Cities student exchanges and other programs.

IV. Economic/Trade (Arizona History and Social Science Standards 6.E3.2, 6.E5.1, 6.G3.1, 6.G3.2, 6.H1.2)

A. Trade Routes

1. Salt mines are a natural resource of the area.
2. Regensburg was the historical head of navigation on the Danube for the transportation of salt. (Salt's ability to preserve food was a foundation of civilization. It eliminated the dependence on the seasonal availability of food and it allowed travel over long distances. However, salt was difficult to obtain, and so it was a highly valued trade item.)
3. The Stone Bridge (1135-1146) linked Regensburg to Venice by providing a land option to transport goods. It was an unprecedented feat for the time. Venice was a center of the silk, grain and spice trade.
4. The boatmen of Regensburg expedited the journey of the Crusaders.

B. Barter

1. Regensburg became the cultural center of southern Germany in the Middle Ages and was celebrated for its gold work and fabrics.
2. The opening of the Stone Bridge started Regensburg's golden age as a city of wealthy trading families.

V. Conclusion

The large medieval center of Regensburg is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The city blends the modern and medieval. Residents can drive a new BMW produced in Regensburg over the Stone Bridge that was built by stonecutters of the Middle Ages. Men wear traditional lederhosen and women wear dirndls to current festivities. The Salzstadel or salt barn of hundreds of years ago houses the current visitor center of the World Heritage Site. Tempe has enjoyed a vibrant Sister City relationship with Regensburg since 1976.

Timeline:

1146 AD The Stone Bridge over the Danube River provides a link for international trade and secures the wealth of the city

1810 AD The First Oktoberfest

1976 Regensburg becomes Tempe's second Sister City

ARTIFACT GIVEN TO STUDENTS: BLUE PENCILS
SYMBOLIZING THE BAVARIAN BLUE

ARTIFACTS FROM REGENSBURG:

German flag

Child's leather lederhosen

Ceramic beer stein

Regensburg dishtowel

Photo of St. Peter's Cathedral and Regensburg Stone Bridge (built in the year 1140)

Hand-painted snuff boxes

Pottery wine holders

Wood-carved child and mother figurine

Book on Regensburg

Wax plaque with city seals of Regensburg and Tempe

Hand-painted wedding box

Silk shawl

FLAG OF GERMANY



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The flag of Germany was re-adopted on May 23, 1949; it had been Germany's flag beginning in 1848 (when the German feudal states united) until 1871 (when Bismarck came into power). In 1919, Germany became a republic and the black, red and gold flag was reinstated - until the Nazis took power in 1933. In 1949 (after World War 2), the flag was again adopted as the flag of West Germany (Germany was split into East and West Germany after the war); in 1990, Germany was reunited. The

German flag is a horizontal tricolor, with black, red, and yellow stripes. The colors of the flag were the colors of the German soldiers during the Napoleonic Wars.

REGENSBURG, GERMANY

Regensburg is a beautiful Bavarian city about the same size as Tempe and located at the northernmost point of the Danube River about an hours drive north of Munich and very close to the Czech border. Her history dates all the way back to the first century. Today Regensburg is a charming blend of cathedrals, castles and dense forests, along with very modern hotels, shops, breweries and schools, including the University of Regensburg. It is a city characterized as being “simultaneously old and new.” It is sometimes called the “city of churches” because it is the home of many beautiful old churches. The most famous church in Regensburg is St Peter’s Cathedral and is easily recognized by its twin spires in the “old town”. The people of Regensburg send their popular greeting to you ... “Gruss Gott” or Greeting from God.

VOCABULARY WORDS IN GERMAN

Der vater = Father

Der Mutter = Mother

Die Schwester = Sister

Der Bruder = Brother

Die Oma = Grandma

Der Opa = Grandpa

Die Lehrerin = Teacher (Female)

Der Lehrer = Teacher (Male)

Das Fernseher = Television

Museum = Das Museum

Die Nacht = Night

Die Arztein = Doctor

Die Blumenhandlerin = Florist

Die Cornflakes = Cereal

Das Huhnerfleisch = Chicken



Photo by Jan Young