CHRISTMAS IN ITALY

Reader, Map, Sort, Craft


My name _____

LA BEFANA

Read. Then write the letter.

Who Is La Befana?

In Italy, many children wait for **La Befana**. In the story, she is a kind old woman who flies on a broom. She visits on the night before January 6. January 6 is a holiday called Epiphany. Children hope she will stop at their house.

1. **How does La Befana travel?**
   (A) On a boat (B) On a broom (C) On a bike

The Befana Stocking

On the night of January 5, children hang up a stocking. In the morning, they look inside. Many find candy, nuts and small gifts. Some even find a sweet that looks like black coal!

2. **What do children hang up for La Befana?**
   (A) A hat (B) A boot (C) A stocking

Trace the Italian word: Befana

One thing I learned:

28 PAGES


My name _____

Cut. Glue your La Befana.

My La Befana will look like this.

GRADES 2-5

Bright Path Sped

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This is a fillable PDF

- Open it in a PDF reader (Adobe Acrobat Reader, Preview, or your browser), click into a line or a box, type, and Save As.
- The name line, every answer box, every ruled writing box and the tables on the teacher pages are type-in fields. You can also print any page and write by hand.
- It works offline. No account, no subscription, no internet connection needed after you download it.

Print at 100 percent

Turn off fit to page and shrink to fit so the cut pieces stay the size they are drawn. Every student page reads in black and white too.

Student work

A filled-in tracker or class grid carries a real student's name. Keep it in your data folder, and use a first name only on any page that leaves your hands.

Need help?

If a field will not behave or a page will not print the way you expect, use Ask a Question on the product page. Every question is read, and a fix ships as a free update.

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PREVIEW

A Five-Day Plan

One way to use the unit in a week. Swap days, skip pages, or spread it over two weeks.

Day	What to do	Pages
Day 1: Where is Italy?	Look at the map together. Read and say the Italian words.	5-6
Day 2: La Befana	Reader 1. Then the match page (the circle level of cut and paste).	7, 12
Day 3: Food	Reader 2, then color the seven fishes.	8, 11
Day 4: Scenes and music	Reader 3. Sort the customs, then build La Befana.	9, 13, 15
Day 5: Greetings, then show it	Reader 4. Write on the circle, square or triangle page, compare with home, take the quiz.	10, 16-20

Three levels, one shape each

- **The circle** is the starting level: errorless matching with a faint picture in the box (page 12), and tracing (page 16).
- **The square** is the building level: sort the customs (page 13), finish the sentences (page 17).
- **The triangle** is ready for more: put the days in order (page 14), write in your own words (page 18). It is not in a day above: add it for students who are ready.
- Use the same color of paper for every level so no one can tell whose page is which.

Getting ready

- Print pages 5 to 20 for each student, at 100 percent.
- Scissors, glue sticks and crayons or markers. Card stock is nice for the La Befana pieces.
- Cut the pieces ahead of time for students who need it. The cut pieces are 2.4 by 1.25 inches, edge to edge, so each cut is one straight line.
- Pick the answer key before you start: pages 21 and 22.

Circle time and centers

- Read one custom aloud at circle time and ask the check question out loud before anyone writes.
- Leave the seven-fishes page (page 11) at a center with crayons: color seven, then count.
- Use the map (page 6) and the Italian words (page 5) as a center: say, trace, point.

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Shed

My name _____

MY ITALIAN WORDS



Read the words. Say them.

These are Italian words for Christmas things. Read each word. Say it out loud.



Buon Natale
Merry Christmas
Say: bwohn nah-TAH-leh



Befana
the gift-bringer
Say: beh-FAH-nah



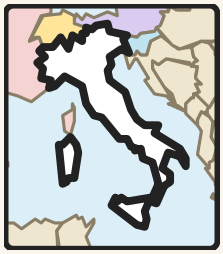
presepe
nativity scene
Say: preh-ZEH-peh



panettone
sweet bread
Say: pah-neh-TOH-neh



zampognari
bagpipers
Say: zahm-pohn-YAH-ree



Italy
a country shaped like a boot

Write your favorite Italian word. Draw it too.

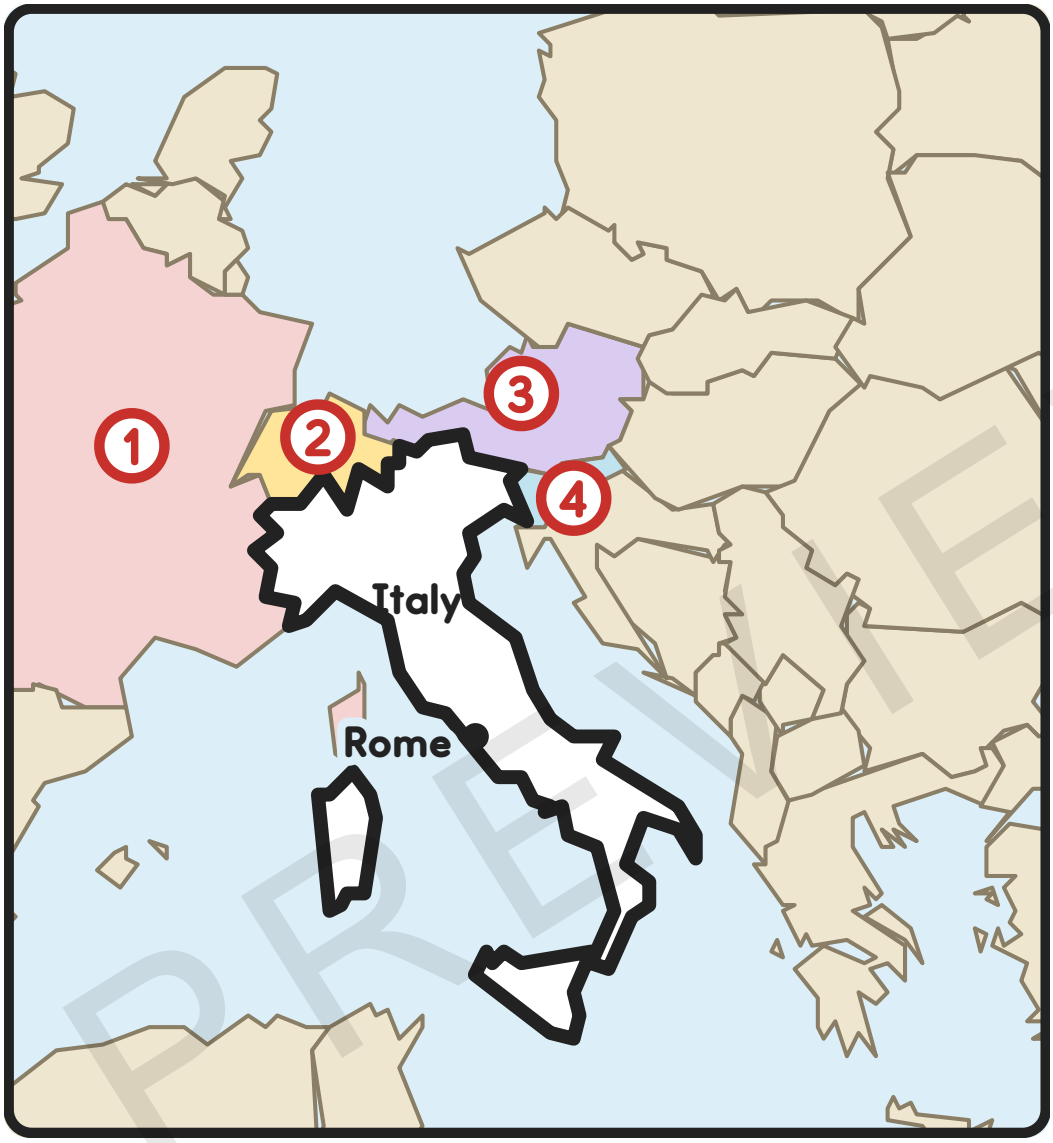
PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Shed

My name _____

WHERE IS ITALY?

Find Italy on the map.



1. Color Italy green.
2. Draw a star on Rome. It is the capital.
3. Write the names of Italy's neighbors.

Austria
Slovenia
France
Switzerland

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 Italy is a country in...

A Asia B Europe C Africa

Write one thing you see on the map:

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Shed

My name _____

SWEET BREAD AND FISH

Read. Then write the letter.

Panettone

Panettone is a tall, soft, sweet bread. It is shaped like a dome. Bakers add raisins and bits of candied fruit. Many families in Italy eat panettone at Christmas. Many people say it began in the city of Milan.

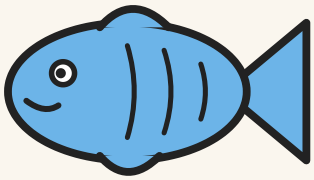


1 **What is panettone?**

(A) A kind of sled (B) A sweet bread (C) A winter hat

The Seven Fishes

Some families in Italy have a big fish dinner on Christmas Eve, December 24. It is called the Feast of the Seven Fishes. Cooks make seven kinds of fish and seafood. Some Italian American families have this dinner too.



2 **How many kinds of fish are at the feast?**

(A) 3 (B) 12 (C) 7

Trace the Italian word: panettone

One thing I learned:

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Shed

My name _____

GREETINGS AND DATES

Read. Then write the letter.

Buon Natale

Buon Natale is how people in Italy say Merry Christmas. Friends and family say it to each other in December. Many people write it on cards. Christmas Day is December 25. Many families share a big meal.



1 **What does Buon Natale mean?**

(A) Merry Christmas (B) Good night (C) Happy birthday

A Long Season

In Italy, the Christmas season is long. For many families it lasts from December until January 6. Towns hang lights. Many families put up a Christmas tree and a presepe. Some children get gifts on December 25. Others get them on January 6.



2 **On which date does the season end for many families?**

(A) November 1 (B) February 14 (C) January 6

Trace the Italian word: Buon Natale

One thing I learned:

PREVIEW

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My name _____

CUT AND PASTE: SORT

Cut. Sort the pieces. Glue.

La Befana	Food	Sights and Sounds
		

PREVIEW

Cut on the dashed lines.

Listen to the zampognari play.	Fly on a broom to visit.	Cook seven kinds of fish.
Set up tiny figures in a presepe.	Hang up a stocking.	Eat a slice of panettone.

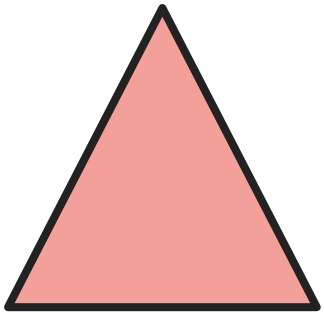
Preview - Print Page Sized

My name _____

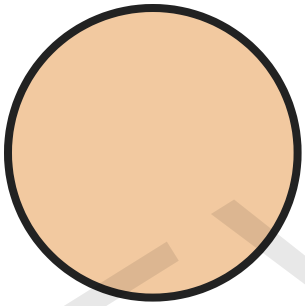
Cut. Glue your La Befana.



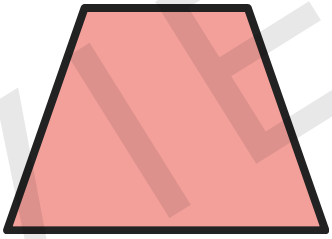
My La Befana will look like this.



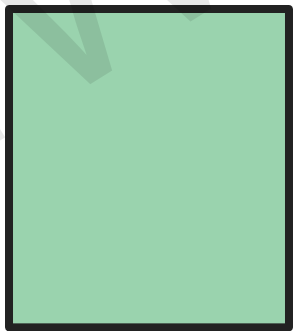
kerchief (point up)



face



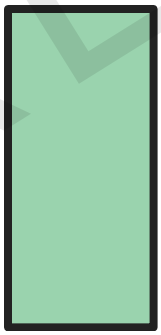
shawl



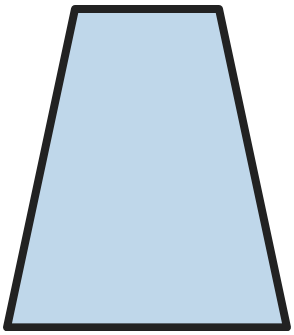
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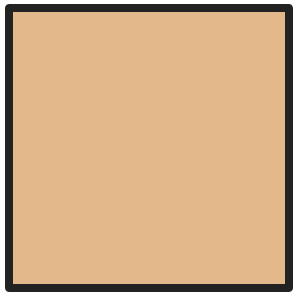
arm



arm



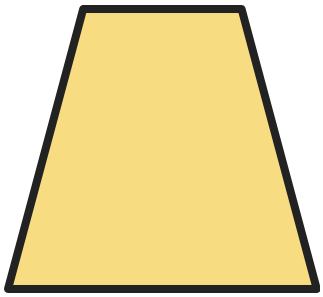
apron



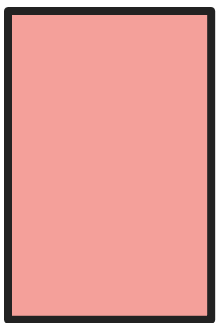
sack



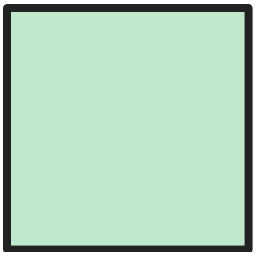
broom handle



broom bristles



stocking



gift

PREVIEW

My name _____

WRITE: FINISH

Finish the sentences.

Pick a word from the box. Finish each sentence.

seven	Christmas	broom	stocking

1. La Befana flies on a _____.
2. Children hang up a _____ on January 5.
3. There are _____ fishes at the feast.
4. Buon Natale means Merry _____.

My favorite thing from Italy is...

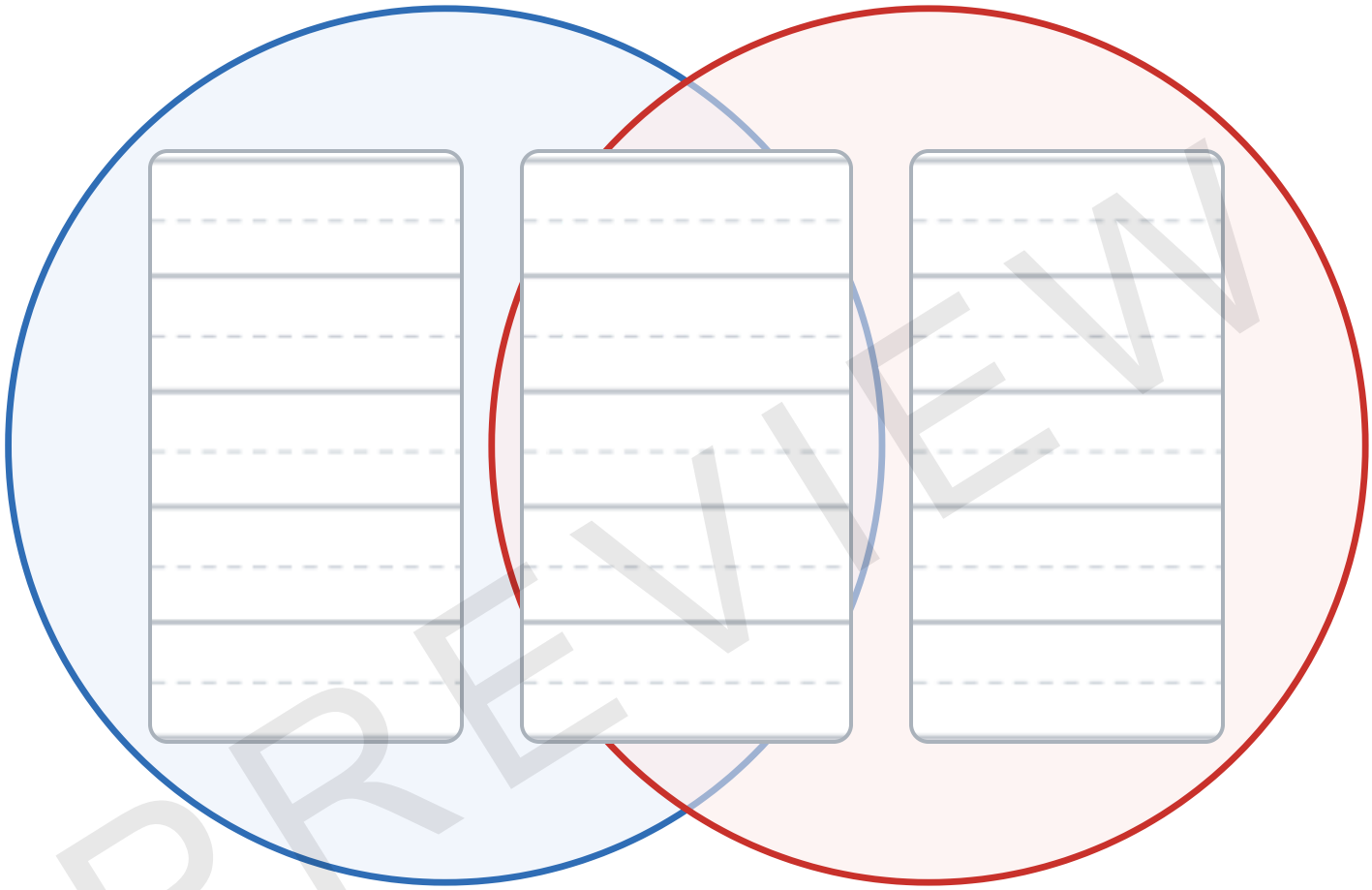
PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Ezee Shop

My name _____

ITALY AND MY HOME

Write how they are the same and different.



One way Italy and my home are the same:

PREVIEW

Answer Key: Cut and Paste, Writing

Read each strip left to right, top row first. The three cut pages are on pages 12, 13, 14.

Match page 12

Piece (row, column)	Piece says	Box
r1, c1	picture of a panettone	panettone
r1, c2	picture of a stocking	Stocking
r1, c3	picture of bagpipes	zampognari
r2, c1	picture of La Befana	Befana
r2, c2	picture of a fish	Seven Fishes
r2, c3	picture of a presepe	presepe

Sort page 13

Piece (row, column)	Piece says	Box
r1, c1	Listen to the zampognari play.	Sights and Sounds
r1, c2	Fly on a broom to visit.	La Befana
r1, c3	Cook seven kinds of fish.	Food
r2, c1	Set up tiny figures in a presepe.	Sights and Sounds
r2, c2	Hang up a stocking.	La Befana
r2, c3	Eat a slice of panettone.	Food

Order page 14

Piece (row, column)	Piece says	Box
r1, c1	January 1: The first day of the new year.	Fourth
r1, c2	December 24: Eat seven kinds of fish.	First
r1, c3	January 6: Look in the stocking.	Sixth
r2, c1	December 31: The last day of the year.	Third
r2, c2	January 5: Hang up a stocking.	Fifth
r2, c3	December 25: Say Buon Natale.	Second

Open pages: what to look for

- **Trace (page 16):** the sentences traced; a drawing of anything from Italy.
- **Finish (page 17):** 1. broom; 2. stocking; 3. seven; 4. Christmas.
- **Your words (page 18):** two customs named, one fact each, in the student's own words.
- **Compare (page 19):** any true statement is fine. For example, both have families, food and decorations; Italy has panettone and a presepe.
- **Craft (page 15):** a standing La Befana made of all pieces (kerchief to gift).

PREVIEW

Class Progress Grid

Every student on one grid: items right by kind of page.

Class or group _____ Month _____

Student	Map (of 5)	Readers (of 8)	Cut and paste (of 18)	Quiz (of 8)	Total (of 39)

PREVIEW

How to fill this in

For each column, add up how many items the student has right with no prompt (the tracker rows). One glance across a row shows which kind of page is easiest and which is next.

Grouping for small-group time

Students low in Readers need the readers read aloud and the check read to them (pages 7 to 10). Students low in Cut and paste can start with the match page (page 12). Students near full marks can move to the order page (page 14) and the writing page in their own words (page 18).

Christmas in Italy at Home

Dear family, this week we are learning how families in Italy get ready for Christmas. Not every family celebrates Christmas, and families who do celebrate in many ways. These questions are for talking, not for a grade. If you like, tell us about a custom from your family and your child may share it with the class.

Student _____ Week of _____

Three things to talk about

- Ask: "Who is La Befana?" A kind old woman in an Italian story who flies on a broom and leaves treats in stockings.
- Ask: "What is panettone?" A tall, soft, sweet bread with raisins and candied fruit.
- Ask: "What does Buon Natale mean?" Merry Christmas.

Italian words we learned

Buon Natale (Merry Christmas) - **Befana** (the gift-bringer) - **presepe** (nativity scene) - **panettone** (sweet bread) - **zampognari** (bagpipers)

Share a custom from your family

A custom we have at home _____

When we do it _____

Why we like it _____

Note from the teacher

Note from home

PREVIEW