



*Hands-on learning-
our traditions and local craft*

Learning in museum

Culture4Kids-Beyond the Textbook
I.C. 3 "Don Pepe Diana" – PORTICI (NA) ITALY



Visiting a local museum

Local museum: National Museum of San Martino

If you want to discover more Neapolitan cribs, in the National Museum of San Martino on Vomero hill you can see a famous collection of Neapolitan nativity scenes including the largest nativity scene, the **Presepe Cuciniello**, with 162 people, 80 animals, angels, and about 450 miniature objects, among the finest nativity scenes in the world.

Aims of the visit

- Stimulate observation
- Know the protagonists of the Holy Family and the crib.
- Acquire simple notion about the history of the Neapolitan Nativity scene and the technique of making a miniature and a shepherd.
- Know the stages of processing and transformation of certain materials of the crib.
- Stimulate individual and group participation.

What kind of craft saw kids

The Cuciniello Nativity scene in the Charterhouse of St Martin, Naples. Considered one of the masterpieces of 18th century Neapolitan style Christmas cribs, the best Neapolitan artists of their times made this fabulous opera.

Visiting a local museum: video



Cuciniello's Crib



Ancient crib
Human-size shepherds



The smallest crib in the world



Small Cloister



Royal Carriage



Real boats



Visiting and Learning from Craftspeople

Description of the craft, materials, tools, final result



NATIVITY SCENE

The workshop took place in two meetings. The cribmaster met children for the first time and introduced the magic of the Neapolitan crib of the eighteenth century, recalling history, art and culture. He showed finely crafted shepherds, over 30 cm tall, with **glass eyes** and **fine dresses**. The **clay** was manipulated to compose the characters in all their parts. The body takes shape first, The shape of a ball is given to the head and is added to the body with the help of a **stick**. The arms and legs were manipulated with small pieces of **clay**. The head, the face and the beard for St. Joseph and the veil for Mary, were finely dug with a **wooden stick**. The cribmaster cooked the characters in a special oven called "pozzetto" and cooled down for more than 12 hours. In the second meeting the children painted them and the workshop ended with the drying of the **colors**.

THE ART OF THE MINIATURE IN THE CRIB

Our pupils have had two moments of relevance with the presence of craftspeople. The first, theoretical, was characterized by the interesting explanation of the symbolic role of the "historical" figures of the Neapolitan crib. Each character of the crib hides a fascinating story. Then, our kids learnt the allegory of miniatures, they are objects, accessories that complete the figures and scenes of the crib, such as the arts and the arts that represent the months of the year. In a second day of learning crafts, the craftsman explained how to make **a wicker basket** and how to manipulate the modeling **dough** to produce fruit and vegetables for the crib miniatures that help to enrich and define the scenes. Finally, our pupils made **delicious baskets full of fruits and vegetables**.

'700 Neapolitan Style Nativity Scene

The crib craftman met the kids and introduced the magic of the '700 Neapolitan crib and its culture and art

Handling of clay to create the character in all its parts

They have to be cooked

After drying and coloring, kids brought their statues at home



Visiting and Learning from Craftspeople

The art of miniatures in the crib

The workshop was held in two days, at school

Firstly, the craftwoman taught the kids the history about some characters in the Neapolitan crib

Then, her husband, also a craftman, taught how to make fruits, vegetables

Pupils worked with Play-Dough to create the miniatures



More Local Crafts in our area

Description, information

Napoli is famous for its crib tradition and it has even a road exclusively with crib shops: Via San Gregorio Armeno. If you want to see really all about the Neapolitan Crib, the “presepe”, you should definitely visit the street of the nativity scene makers, in Naples’s historic centre.

Via San Gregorio Armeno is one of the most amazing [attractions in Naples](#). In the pedestrian road in the [historic city of Naples](#), you can admire numerous shops with creative [nativity scenes](#) and figurines in all variations. Besides the Jesus- and Madonna figurines you will also find detailed copies of pizzerias, fruit markets, all household objects, gastronomic delights, exotic animals, and sometimes even caricatured politicians and football players.

During [Christmas time in Naples](#), more than half a million tourists from all the world come to see the shops with the original miniature figurines and the the street is especially busy. A good period to visit the street is in september-november, when all the handicraftsmen start to prepare their shop for the busy Christmas time.

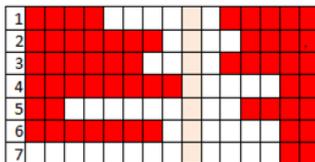


Taking information back to the classroom

Feedback activities



DETECTIVE GAME

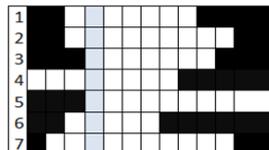


1. It is made of wicker.
2. At home, in addition to the Christmas tree.
3. Material used to make handcrafted pieces.
4. Hand tool used by craftspeople.
5. He works to create handcrafted.
6. A building where objects of historical, scientific, or artistic interest are kept
7. The place where you can see the scene of Jesus Christ's birth.

Nativity scene- Crib- Basket- Craftsman- Stick- Clay- Museum

VERIFICA

Trova la parola nascosta. La troverai nelle caselle colorate.



1. Si realizzano con il midollino.
2. Realizza manufatti.
3. Materiale per miniature.
4. Si allestisce a Natale.
5. Accessori per il presepe.
6. Espone opere d'arte o oggetti.
7. Attrezzo dell'artigiano.

QUAL E' LA PAROLA NASCOSTA? _____

883380 - Artigiano- Argilla- Miniatura- Museo-Presepe- Bastoncino.



Pupils play with Domino



Feedback miniatures activities



Domino Game
(Museum/Workshop activities)



Further information-Websites

<https://www.portanapoli.com/en/naples/san-gregorio-armeno-cribs/>

<http://www.italianways.com/the-cuciniello-nativity-in-naples-a-glimpse-of-heaven/>

<https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=https://media-cdn.tripadvisor.com/media/photo-s/06/f3/8e/2a/certosa-di-san-martino.jpg>

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