Paint my Europe











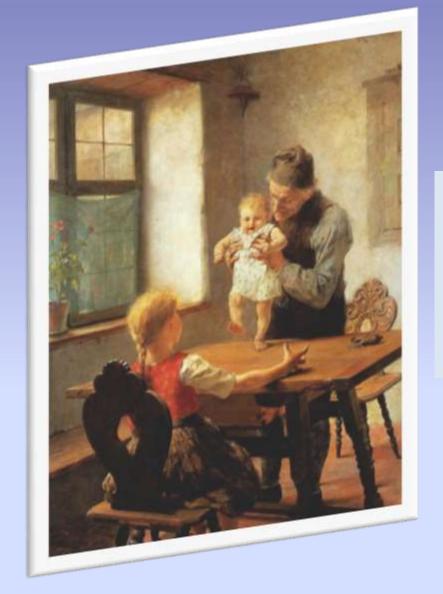






All these paintings belong to European artists but do you know where they come from? Guess the country and click on it on the digital map. Get one point for each right answer.



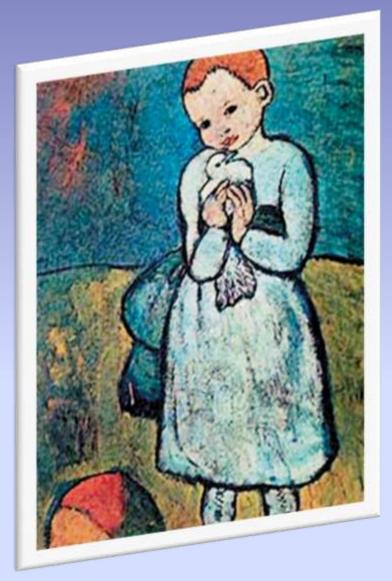


Giorgos lakovidis *First Steps* Greece

Once upon a time...

The students of 6th grade in **Ralleios Model Experimental Primary School** get inspired by different period paintings on the theme of family and begin their exploratory journey - "their first steps" - on EU mobility through story writing.





Picasso *The Child and the Pigeon* Spain

The Maltese Dream

It was a brilliant day. A girl was coming home from school. Suddenly she saw a pigeon which was hurt. She took in her arms, held it tightly and brought it home. She wanted to look after it and help it survive.

Back in her room she felt sad. Sad for the pigeon and sad because next morning they were leaving Valetta to move to Nicosia, Cyprus. Her father was an army officer fighting in the war against Italians. 'Will he survive? Will my pigeon survive?' These were the thoughts troubling her little mind while she was standing by her bedroom window overlooking the garden.

She fed the pigeon with a few bread crumbs and tied its hurt leg. With the little bird in her arms she went out in the garden. 'I wish my father were here with me. I wish the war would stop. I wish I could travel to Cyprus with my father just on a holiday.' She tied a piece of paper on the pigeon's neck with a message written on it. The paper said, "peace not war'. She was looking forward to the day when peace returned to Malta, to Europe and the world, like the pigeon back to its nest...

Chain story written collectively by:

Violet Petsa, age 12 / Michael Kontopoulos, age 12 / Aspa Lampardaki, age 12 / Efthymis Pappas, age 12





George Cotman *One of the Family* U.K.

It was a lovely, shiny afternoon in the vineyard. The family was sitting around the table. The children were full of joy because of their meal. But suddenly they heard someone screaming 'The Germans are coming'. The family was so disappointed because they could not stay in their country. They were obliged to leave their country and move somewhere safer.

'The war will not make us leave our homes. This is ridiculous' said the eldest boy of the family. But it was for the best of the family. The father tried to find a train ticket for Austria, but it was no good.

They lived through lots of difficulties during the war, but they proved to be stronger than the war. After a long time, they were sitting again around the same table, having a good time and enjoying their meal. It was the first time after the war that they were so glad to be together.

chain story written collaboratively by:

Emily Poulaki, age 12 /George Haritos, age 12 /Christine Rigas, age 12 /Eratosthenis Amaslis, age 12 /Michael Gounelas, age 12





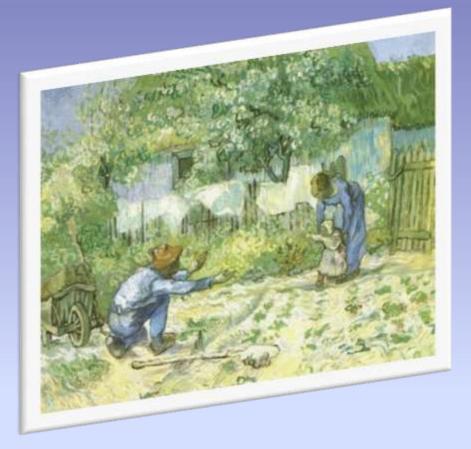
Pierre August Renoir *The Artist's Family* France

My family has four members and we live in a small house in the suburbs of Paris. I have an elder sister, who is 13 years old. My aunt and my cousin have come to visit us this week to wish us goodbye.

Next month we are moving to Belgium because my father has found a better job there. He is going to work as a manager in the coal mines. Although I'm small, only 4 years old, I feel sad because I will miss my beautiful house and my grandparents. My sister tells me not to be sad because we'll be together and everything we'll be all right.

Written by: Aphrodite Milonaki, age 12





Vincent Van Gogh *First Family*The Netherlands

My name is Anne Liam and I'm 5 years old. I come from The Netherlands but I have to live in England. We moved here when my father told us that he had found a better job.

So, now we live in England and I'm so happy because we have left all the misery behind us. Yet, unfortunately I miss my grandparents and my friends everyday. Only in the summer, we go back and see them...

Today has been a good day, though. My baby sister has made her first steps. Mum was holding her and dad was calling her to him saying, 'Come on, you can make it.'

So, I'll try to think about the baby and forget about everything else.

chain story written collaboratively by:

Eva Desipri, age 12 / Dora Skoti, age 12 / Anna-Maria Papakonstantinou, age 12 / Dorothy Amasli, age 12





Fredinand Georg Muller

Children on their way home from school

Austria

Today my family and I are moving to another country. We're going to Spain because my mother has found a job there. I'm sad and my brother is trying to cheer me up as we're coming back home from school. You see, I don't want to leave my home in England, my friends and my school.

I grew up in England; this is the only world I know. Yet, I'd like to see Spain, too. Perhaps, it has magnificent towns, like those in my country. However, If I don't like Spain, I'll wait for five years to be old enough so that I can return to England on my own. Dad promised me that every Summer we'll be back to see our friends, our school and our house... For three months now I've been doing Spanish because I want to be able to speak to the people I'll meet and understand what they're saying to me. But, honestly I can't wait for those summers back in England.

Written by: Theodora Alexiou, age 112





Michelangelo *The Saint Family* Italy

Today, has been the happiest day of my life. A new member has been born in our family. The baby is a girl and we named her Joanna. That is such good news but I'm sad because we must move to another country. If it is the UK I'll probably make it with some English. I wish we didn't have to move, but my family we'll have better chances there.

I'm trying not to think about it and concentrate on the baby.

Written by: Markella Stratigou, age 11





Abrecht Durer *Madonna and child* Germany

Once upon a time...

There was a mother who had a little girl. She was dreaming of her daughter becoming a classic ballet dancer when she grew up. For this dream to come true, they had to travel all over Europe. But when the girl was 16 years old, her mother got terribly ill and, unfortunately, died. So, the girl ended up in an orphanage, in Germany all alone. One day she came across an old pair of ballerina's shoes in a drawer. She put them on and began dancing. She became one of the greatest ballerinas in the world and her mother's dream came true in every sense.

Written by: Vaso Ximiali, age 12 / Lydia Iliopoulou, age 12



Paint my Europe



These landmarks are from different European countries. Guess the country and click on its flag to find out more about the landmarks. Get one point for each right answer.





Alhambra in Andalusia, Spain was built as a fortress in 889AD. In 1333AD, it became a palace by Yusuf I, Sultan of Granada.





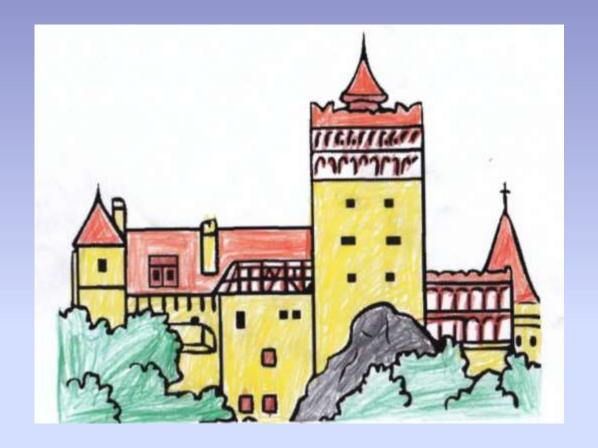
The Coloseum in Rome, Italy, was the largest amphitheatre in the Roman Empire. It was completed in 80AD and it was used for shows such as animals hunts and gladiators' contests.





Stonehenge, U.K. is a prehistoric monument. It dates back between 3000 and 2000 BC. It is a ring of boulders standing as a burial ground, a place of religion and pilgrimage.





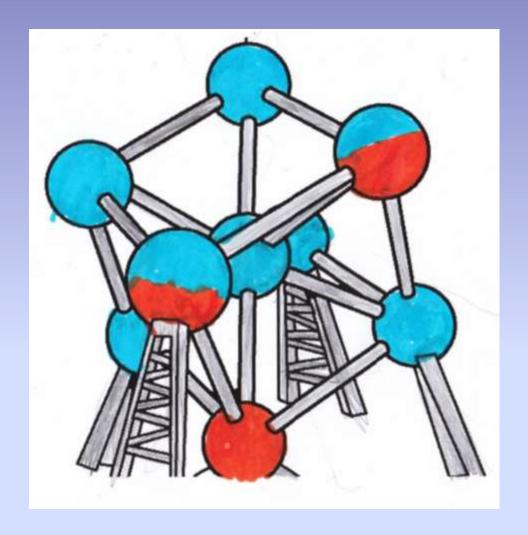
The Bran Castle, Romania also known as the Dracula's castle. It was used as a fortress and it was built by the Teutons in 1211AD. "Bran" means gate.





Windmills, The Netherlands. They started an industrial revolution in the 17th century and allowed the Dutch to live below sea level. Still Holland's most powerful icon, the first windmill dates back to the 8th century.





Atomium, Belgium. It is located in Brussels and was made to model an iron cell crystal, only 165 billion times bigger. It was built for Expo 1958, the world fair and is still used for exhibitions.