Objectives – Renaissance 1

- Explain importance of Crusades in contributing to birth of Renaissance
- Identify key Italian city-states and role of geography in Renaissance
- Explain political changes in Italy as Renaissance began
- Analyze Machiavellian thought
My son, Renaissance art celebrated the beauty of the human form; they’ll get over it!
What was the Renaissance? What was the Renaissance, and where did it begin?

- Italy
- Italian Cities
  - Urban Societies
  - Major Trading Centers
- Secular
  - Moved away from life in the church
  - Focuses more on material objects and enjoying life
The Renaissance was a time of renewal

*Renaissance* means *rebirth* and Europe was recovering from the Dark ages and the plague.

People had lost their faith in the church and began to put more focus on human beings.
How did the Crusades contribute to the Renaissance?

• Increased demand for Middle Eastern products
• Stimulated production of goods to trade in Middle Eastern markets
• Encouraged the use of credit and banking
• Church rule against usury and the banks' practice of charging interest helped to secularize northern Italy.
• Letters of credit served to expand the supply of money and expedite trade.
• New accounting and bookkeeping practices (use of Arabic numerals) were introduced.
Italy failed to become united during the Ages. Many independent city-states emerged in northern and central Italy that played an important role in Italian politics and art.

**Milan**
One of the richest cities, it controls trade through the Alps.

**Venice**
Sitting on the Adriatic, it attracts trade from all over the world.

**Florence**
Controlled by the De Medici Family, who became great patrons of the arts.

**Genoa**
Had Access to Trade Routes

All of these cities:
Had access to trade routes connecting Europe with Middle Eastern markets

• Served as trading centers for the distribution of goods to northern Europe
• Were initially independent city-states governed as republics
Niccolò Machiavelli

The Prince

Machiavelli believed:

“One can make this generalization about men: they are ungrateful, fickle, liars, and deceivers, they shun danger and are greedy for profit”

Machiavelli observed city-state rulers of his day and produced guidelines for the acquisition and maintenance of power by absolute rule.

He felt that a ruler should be willing to do anything to maintain control without worrying about conscience.
Machiavelli: The Prince

• Better for a ruler to be feared than to be loved
• Ruler should be quick and decisive in decision making
• Ruler keeps power by any means necessary
• The end justifies the means
• Be good when possible, and evil when necessary
Renaissance 2

Objectives:

• Sequence key events of the Renaissance

• Analyze and differentiate Medieval and Renaissance Art

• Explain Humanism

Vitruvian Man, Leonardo DaVinci
The Renaissance produced new ideas that were reflected in the arts, philosophy, and literature. Patrons, wealthy from newly expanded trade, sponsored works which glorified city-states in northern Italy. Education became increasingly secular.

Medieval art and literature focused on the Church and salvation.

Renaissance art and literature focused on individuals and worldly matters, along with Christianity.
Renaissance Artists embraced some of the ideals of Greece and Rome in their art. They wanted their subjects to be realistic and focused on humanity and emotion. New Techniques also emerged.

**Frescos:** Painting done on wet plaster became popular because it gave depth to the paintings. Sculpture emphasized realism and the human form. Architecture reached new heights of design.
Born in 1475 in a small town near Florence, is considered to be one of the most inspired men who ever lived. Michelangelo died in 1564.
La Pieta  1499
Marble Sculpture, created when he was only 24 years old.
Michelangelo created his masterpiece *David* in 1504.
Sistine Chapel 1508-1512

About a year after creating *David*, Pope Julius II summoned Michelangelo to Rome to work on his most famous project, the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.
Creation of Eve

Creation of Adam

Separation of Light and Darkness

The Last Judgment
Moses
1513-1515
Leonardo da Vinci

1452-1519
Painter, Sculptor, Architect, Engineer

Genius!
Mona Lisa
The Last Supper
The Adoration of the Magi

(1481)
Florence, Italy. This important commission was interrupted when Leonardo went to Milan.
Virgin of the Rocks,

National Gallery, London, possibly 1505–1508, demonstrates Leonardo's interest in nature.
Raphael  
Painter  
1483-1520
The School of Athens
Pythagoras

Socrates

Plato and Aristotle
Jan Van Eyck

Portrait of Giovanni Arnolfini and his Wife (1434)

Northern Renaissance
Van Eyck

Portrait of Giovanni Arnolfini and his Wife (detail)
How did classical knowledge of the ancient Greeks and Romans foster humanism in the Italian Renaissance?

**Humanism**

• Celebrated the individual  
• Stimulated the study of Greek and Roman literature and culture  
• Was supported by wealthy patrons
Petrarch

Sonnets, humanist scholarship

Francesco Petrarch
1304-1374

Assembled Greek and Roman writings.

Wrote

Sonnets to Laura,
love poems in the Vernacular
Objectives:

- Locate Northern Renaissance regions
- Compare and contrast Northern and Italian Renaissance Art
- Explain causes and effects of the Protestant Reformation
- Discuss invention of printing press and its impact on Protestant Reformation
- Review for SOLs

Holbein, The Ambassadors, 1532
Northern Renaissance

- Growing wealth in Northern Europe supported Renaissance ideas.
- Northern Renaissance thinkers merged humanist ideas with Christianity.
- The movable type printing press and the production and sale of books (Gutenberg Bible) helped disseminate ideas.

Northern Renaissance writers
- Erasmus—*The Praise of Folly* (1511)
- Sir Thomas More—*Utopia* (1516)

Northern Renaissance artists portrayed religious and secular subjects.
Literature flourished during the Renaissance. This can be greatly attributed to Johannes Gutenberg. In 1455, Gutenberg printed the first book produced by using movable type. The Bible.
Erasmus

Dutch humanist
Desiderius Erasmus

Pushed for a Vernacular form of the Bible

“I disagree very much with those who are unwilling that Holy Scripture, translated into the vernacular, be read by the uneducated . . . As if the strength of the Christian religion consisted in the ignorance of it”

_The Praise of Folly_

Used humor to show the immoral and ignorant behavior of people, including the clergy. He felt people would be open minded and be kind to others.
Sir Thomas More

English Humanist

Wrote: *Utopia*

A book about a perfect society

Believed men and women live in harmony. No private property, no one is lazy, all people are educated and the justice system is used to end crime instead of executing criminals.
Bibliography

Images from:

Corbis.com

Web Gallery of Art
www.wga.hu