



#10164 FAMILIES OF SWEDEN

MASTER COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 1998
Grade Level: 2-5
30 mins.

DESCRIPTION

Learn some of the customs, culture, history, and politics of Sweden as two young children share their typical days. Evelina, five, and Alexander, nine, cover a day's activities from early morning to bedtime. Shows meals, schools, activities, parents' work, clothing, and family dynamics in this Scandinavian country. Mentions industry, and observes a birthday party.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Geography—Human Systems

- Standard: Understands the nature and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics
 - ♦ Benchmark: Knows the similarities and differences in characteristics of culture in different regions (e.g., in terms of environment and resources, technology, food, shelter, social organization, beliefs and customs, schooling, what girls and boys are allowed to do) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 1 and 2.)
 - ♦ Benchmark: Understands cultural change (in terms of, e.g., the role of women in society, the role of children in society, clothing styles, modes of transportation, food preferences, types of housing, attitudes toward the environment and resources) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 1.)

Subject Area: Geography—Environment and Society

- Standard: Understands how human actions modify the physical environment
 - ♦ Benchmark: Knows the ways in which the physical environment is stressed by human activities (e.g., changes in climate, air pollution, water pollution, expanding human settlement) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 3.)

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To present a brief overview of two Swedish children in their daily lives.
2. To compare life in modern Sweden of a young girl with that of a young boy.
3. To depict the Swede's respect for nature and the environment by stressing awareness from a young age.

VOCABULARY

1. Arctic Circle
2. batter
3. cellular phone
4. democracy
5. divorced
6. environment
7. forestry
8. glassblowing
9. Kalmar
10. krona (Swedish currency)
11. Lutheran
12. manufacture
13. polluted
14. shish kabobs
15. technologies

BEFORE SHOWING

1. Locate Sweden on a world map or globe.
 - a. Find the capital city of Stockholm.
 - b. Locate the city Kalmar, where Alexander from the video lives.
 - c. Find the Arctic Circle, and note how much of Sweden is in it.
2. Make personal lists of viewers' main activities and meals in a typical day. Retain for later reference for comparison with those of the Swedish children in the video.

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Infer why Swedes might like to be "outdoors as much as possible."
2. Why are the children in the video making a cake? For what other reasons do Americans make cakes?
3. What does Evelina's father do for a living? Compare this with jobs of the viewers' fathers.
4. Review why some of Sweden's fruit and vegetable markets don't have heat. Discuss the importance of keeping fruits and vegetables cold.
5. What are the advantages of using cloth bags at grocery stores instead of paper or plastic? Why do many Swedes do this?
6. What does Evelina do independently at home and at school? With what does she need help?
7. Make suggestions of how Evelina learning to ride a pony might be useful later in her life.
8. Compare homes in Sweden to those of the viewers. Consider furniture, appliances, rooms, and heating.
9. Discuss the purposes for which people in Sweden use public buses. Is this the same as in America?
10. Discuss possible reasons why Swedes take off their shoes before entering a home or school.
11. What is the father's role of child-rearing in Sweden? Compare this with fathers that the viewers know.
12. How can a country have both a king and queen and elected leaders?
13. Compare and contrast the lifestyles of Evelina and Alexander regarding family structure, school, and daily activities.

14. Review the list of typical activities and meals from BEFORE SHOWING and compare with the activities and meals of Evelina and Alexander.

Applications and Activities

1. Research the seasons of Sweden. Record by month the rainfall, snowfall, and temperature ranges. Compare with data from the viewers' locale.
2. Refer to a currency conversion table to find the equivalency rate of the krona to the dollar. How many kronor would it cost to buy milk, shoes, toys, or other items?
3. Read children's books by Swedish authors such as: *The Wonderful Adventures of Nils* by Selma Lagerlof and *The Adventures of Pippi Longstocking* by Astrid Lindgren.
4. Investigate Sweden's equal rights laws for women.
5. Research the European Community (EC). Find out when Sweden joined the EC and its contribution to the organization.
6. Locate countries in the world that have a king and/or a queen. Find out if they are ruled by the king or queen or if they have appointed or elected leaders.
7. Write a letter to Evelina or Alexander telling them what you liked about the video at Master Communications, Inc., 4480 Lake Forest Dr., Suite 302, Cincinnati, OH 45242, USA.



CMP RELATED RESOURCES

- [Deaf Mosaic #1001 #7920](#)
- [Europe: Northern Region #3241](#)
- [Families of Ghana #10165](#)
- [Families of Russia #10163](#)

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

• FACT MONSTER WORLD & NEWS

<http://www.factmonster.com/ipka/A0108008.html>

Kid-friendly site with plenty of information in clear, concise language about Sweden's land, people, government, and history.

- **SWEDEN PICTURE GALLERY**

Breathtaking photographs of Sweden's landscapes with over 130 images divided into six areas. Great for class research projects.

<http://www.terrageria.com/europe/sweden/sweden.html>



- **GLASSBLOWING**

<http://www.glassblowing.com>

Read about the history of blowing glass, terminology and facts, and famous museums and glassblowers around the world. Browse through the gallery of exquisite finished pieces.

