2018 EDUCATION CURRICULUM GUIDE

TENNESSEE ACADEMIC STANDARDS

2018 CZECH REPUBLIC
MEMPHIS IN MAY
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

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Celebrates the Czech Republic in 2018

Celebrating the Czech Republic is the year-long focus of the 2018 Memphis in May International Festival. The Czech Republic is the twelfth European country to be honored in the festival’s history, and its selection by Memphis in May International Festival coincides with their celebration of 100 years as an independent nation, beginning as Czechoslovakia in 1918.

The Czech Republic is a nation with 10 million inhabitants, situated in the middle of Europe, with Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Poland as its neighbors. Known for its rich historical and cultural heritage, more than a thousand years of Czech history has produced over 2,000 castles, chateaux, and fortresses. The country resonates with beautiful landscapes, including a chain of mountains on the border, deep forests, refreshing lakes, as well as architectural and urban masterpieces. Its capital city of Prague is known for stunning architecture and welcoming people, and is the fifth most-visited city in Europe as a result.

The late twentieth century saw the Czech Republic rise as one of the youngest and strongest members of today’s European Union and NATO. Interestingly, the Czech Republic is known for peaceful transitions; from the Velvet Revolution in which they left Communism behind in 1989, to the Velvet Divorce in which they parted ways with Slovakia in 1993. Boasting the lowest unemployment rate in the European Union, the Czech Republic’s stable economy is supported by robust exports, chiefly in the automotive and technology sectors, with close economic ties to Germany and their former countrymen in Slovakia.

The Memphis in May International Festival is excited to honor this prosperous and progressive country. Join us as we celebrate the 42nd annual Memphis in May International Festival and learn about the incredible cultures, cuisines, customs and commerce of the Czech Republic.
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This guide is developed each year by the Memphis in May International Festival to provide a comprehensive educational review of its annual honored country. It is provided to elementary, middle and high school teachers as a teaching tool, offering activities and lesson plans to help students explore that country's history, culture, geography, politics and lifestyle. It also addresses teaching standards as directed by the Tennessee Department of Education. Memphis in May thanks those who have helped to make this guide a reality, including Shelby County Schools Administration.

Special Thanks
Very special thanks to the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Washington DC, for their help with this curriculum guide and the plans for the 2018 Memphis in May International Festival.

Curriculum Development
Nicole Kennell..................................Freelance Writer

Memphis in May International Festival
Susan Elliott....................Vice President of Programming
Carley Kirby.................................Program Manager
Natalia Yarger.....................Creative Services Manager

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This Memphis in May International Festival Curriculum Guide, in its entirety, paying tribute to the 2018 honored country of the Czech Republic is available in PDF format for downloading and printing at www.memphisinmay.org.

Our Mission
The mission of Memphis in May International Festival includes a strong commitment to student education. Since its origin in 1977, the festival has developed dozens of comprehensive Curriculum Guides honoring and exploring countries around the globe, and offering practical lesson plans, activities and worksheets addressing many teaching standards. Each year, Memphis in May is proud to distribute thousands of Curriculum Guides to all Shelby County and private schools in Memphis.

memphisinmay.org
56 South Front St, Memphis, TN 38103
Phone: 901.525.4611 • Fax: 901.525.4686

The 2018 Memphis in May International Festival Curriculum Guide honoring the country of the Czech Republic, and the Memphis in May Education Program are made possible by many generous supporters. They are made available free of charge to students and teachers throughout Shelby County and the greater Memphis area.
Memphis in May International Festival, working hand-in-hand with Shelby County Schools, is proud to present this curriculum guide and to make it available to all Shelby County and private schools in Memphis.

**HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE** - This guide is divided into four grade units to offer teachers educational tools for students. Sections offer practical applications of important teaching standards, including Foreign Language, Math, History, Science, Social Studies, Art, and others. They incorporate various activities, worksheets, puzzles and research assignments and resources. Many can be adapted for other grades.

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**Kindergarten - 2nd Grade Unit** - It’s a unit packed full of exciting (and educational) Czech activities. This unit will introduce your students to the geography and symbols of the Czech Republic, a traditional folktale, magical Prague castle, fun Czech games and so much more.

**3rd - 5th Grade Unit** – This unit explores Czech holidays and traditions, the Legend of Golem, and the rich history of the Czech Republic. Students can test their knowledge with that tricky “Two-Part Word Search” puzzle.

**6th - 8th Grade Unit** - In this unit, students will learn about the Czech Republic government, economics, the Czech school system, and the exciting artwork of Alfons Mucha.

**9th - 12th Grade Unit** – Learn about the journey of the “Slav Epic”, architecture, Art Nouveau, and the Czech language. This unit also includes many activities and cultural projects to help your students learn about the Czech Republic.

**Information Pages** - Important information about the 2018 Memphis in May Education Program, including contests and opportunities for students, details of the festival’s salute to the country of the Czech Republic, book and website resources, and answers to this guide’s puzzles and activities.
Dobrý den! This means good day in the Czech language. My name is Eliška, and I am from the Czech Republic. I am very passionate about my country, its history, its politics, and sharing it with others! Let me give you a brief overview of the beautiful Czechia.

Czech Republic's long history began in about the 6th century when the Slavs arrived in the land and founded Great Moravia, which is one of Czech Republic's regions today. Some of its most famous citizens included the religious reformer Jan Hus, the father of genetics Gregor Mendel, and the famous writer Franz Kafka. The Czech Republic is known to the world by its unfortunate succession of leaders. For example, Hitler invaded during World War II, and the country had 40 difficult years of communism, ending with the Velvet Revolution in 1989. Its unusually peaceful split from Slovakia into two separate countries in 1993 remains one of the most amicable separations in history and is admired by governments throughout the world. Today, the Czech Republic is economically and politically stable with a unitary parliamentary constitutional republic in place headed by the President and Prime Minister. Although its official name is the Czech Republic, it has adopted the name Czechia as a shorter name as well. As a proud part of Central Europe, the people enjoy drinking their beer, picking mushrooms, and admiring the beautiful and diverse architecture of the capital city, Prague.

Come with me this month, as we meet a man who saved his people by fashioning a creature from clay, contemplate a series of paintings that is bigger than the Sistine Chapel, and visit the largest ancient castle in the world.

**HISTORY AND OVERVIEW**

- **6TH CENTURY:** The Slavic People arrived in what became the Czech Republic. They settled on the land and founded Great Moravia, which is one of the three regions of Czechia today. Much of the 6th century was spent exploring the land and moving westward to settle in areas of present-day Bohemia and even parts of Austria and Germany.

- **7TH CENTURY:** In the 7th century, Samo's empire arose. Samo, then a merchant, emerged as a leader for the Slavic people when they began fighting with other nearby tribes. He was the ruler of the first Slav State in all of Central Europe.

- **8TH CENTURY:** Great Moravia became the dominant empire, headed by the Moymir dynasty. However, this did not last long. The Duchy of Bohemia soon swallowed it. It was at this time people began settling in the present-day site of Prague.

- **870:** The foundation of Prague Castle was laid.

- **14TH CENTURY:** This was considered the Golden Age. In this time, the Czech king Charles IV, was also
Holy Roman Emperor. He established Charles University in 1348 and completed Prague Castle. Some difficulties during this epoch included the Black Plague.

- **15TH CENTURY:** This was the beginning of the Bohemian Reformation. Jan Hus, though his campaign was short, began spreading his ideas which were considered heretical by the Catholic church. Much of what Hus believed sparked the reformation in Germany, led by Martin Luther. The Hussite Wars took place from 1419-1434. These were the five crusades which the Holy Roman Emperor Sigismund led against the Hussites. However, all five crusades were defeated. Eventually 90%, of Bohemians were self-proclaimed Hussites. Some historians consider this the first European war in which hand held gun powder weapons were a decisive factor.

- **16TH CENTURY:** The Hapsburgs of the Austro-Hungarian Empire rose to power and ruled over Bohemia and Moravia.

- **17TH CENTURY:** In 1618, the Thirty Years’ War started when the Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand II, a Hapsburg, tried to diminish the religious freedoms enjoyed by the people of Bohemia. The war spread across Central Europe and Protestants everywhere fought for their religious rights. In the end, the Catholic rulers were too strong, and the war ended with many Bohemian Protestants converting to Catholicism or leaving for more agreeable lands. Also, much of their influence and culture had been subordinated to others who lived in Bohemia, primarily Germans. (This war, although one of the most fatal conflicts in European history, was known to have ended religious wars in Europe.)

- **18TH CENTURY:** The fallout of the Thirty Years’ War led to a period sometimes known as the Dark Age in Czech history. With the mass banishment of Protestants, as well as plagues and crop shortage, the population decreased by almost 30%. The only religious denomination permitted in the country was Catholicism. Moravia, Bohemia, and Silesia saw conflicts such as the Silesian Wars, the invasion of the Prussians, serfdom, and several battles in the Napoleonic Wars. However, during this time the famous Baroque architecture of Prague began its prominence.

- **19TH CENTURY:** When the Holy Roman Empire fell in 1806, the lands of Bohemia collapsed into turmoil. They became part of the Austrian Empire, then Austria-Hungary. The resilient spirit of the Czech people was evident as they began the Czech National Revival, which was an attempt to regain the culture and identity of the Czechs. Though unable to spark a flame at that time, the embers of nationalism would ignite years later.

- **20TH CENTURY:** In the calamity of World War I, the power of the Hapsburgs was defeated, and the Austro-Hungarian Empire fell. The Czech lands finally had a chance to unite with Slovakia to form the independent Czechoslovakia in 1918. Between the wars, it was the only democracy in Central Europe and saw a rise in industrial production and exports.

However, in 1939, the Munich Pact was signed by Germany, Britain, France, and Italy. This gave Hitler and the Nazi party the opportunity to invade Czechoslovakia even though France was allied with Czechoslovakia. The allies sacrificed the Sudetenland to Hitler in order to forestall dealing with his tyranny. It didn’t work. Subsequently, Hitler invaded Czechoslovakia’s mountainous border areas, and World War II began. The country was divided into pieces. Some were gained as territories of other European countries, others allied themselves with Germany. Over half of Czechoslovakia’s diverse citizens were people whom Hitler terrorized. Many were deported to labor or death camps. One concentration camp, Terezin, was built near Prague. In
1945, with the combined efforts of the Prague Uprising and the Russian and American armies, Prague was freed from German control as World War II came to an end.

In the first post-war election of 1946, the Communist party in Czechoslovakia became very popular due to its perceived heroism in helping to wrest Prague from the Germans. In 1948, they staged a coup d’état and the Communist party took power over Czechoslovakia. The communists established a command economy, and after a short success early in their rule, the economy began to decline drastically. Communism in Czechoslovakia was dominated by a staunch regime of censorship and imprisonment of the opposition. Hundreds of thousands of citizens were political prisoners, and even more people simply decided to leave the country in hopes of a better life. In 1968 Warsaw Pact troops invaded Czechoslovakia to send a clear message to those who wished to loosen the hold of the Communist Party.

When Mikhail Gorbachev became secretary general of the Communist Party in Russia, he instituted more liberal and open-minded policies including non-intervention in the Warsaw Pact states, of which Czechoslovakia was one.

The Velvet Revolution took place at the end of 1989 when a series of student protests inspired Czech citizens to speak out against the Communist government. At the head of this effort was poet and playwright Vaclav Havel, who embodied the revolution with words in plays and books he published. He founded the Civic Forum, which was a gathering of people who wished to peacefully overthrow the Communist regime. Through a series of demonstrations and strikes, the Communist party stepped down and the president resigned. In 1990 Havel was elected president.

In 1993, the Velvet Divorce took place. The Czechs and Slovaks in Czechoslovakia experienced a large number of disagreements about everything: foreign trade, government, education, and even what their country should be called. The two conjoined nations decided to separate into the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Today, their cultures and languages are very similar, and the two countries are an example to the world of exceptionally harmonious relations.

However, after elections, the country’s economy was not very stable. It was forced to succeed on its own without the partnership of Slovakia, and was also still recovering from communism. Its main goal from the beginning was to privatize the economy. Things improved in 1999 when the Czech Republic became a part of NATO. In 2004, they reached their goal of joining the European Union, strengthening their ties with the rest of Europe.

Although the Czech Republic has a fairly tumultuous history of being occupied, broken up, and overtaken, they are doing a great job of building a steady, happy, and healthy country in the wake of their trials. Today, the Czech Republic is no longer known for their communist years, or the Nazi occupation, but for their striking castles, irresistible beer, and rolling hills of natural beauty.
GEOGRAPHY AND CULTURE

The Czechia is surrounded by a mountainous border. The middle, or basin, of the country is mainly larger cities like Prague, or rolling hills of barley or wheat. The cities are dominated by the world-renowned gothic and baroque architecture which millions of tourists travel to see every year. Although Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia are regions of the same country, their cultures are slightly different.

Moravia’s preferred beverage is wine, due to the extensive vineyards on which Moravians pride themselves. In Bohemia, the favorite drink is beer, and the Czech Republic as a nation consumes more beer than any other country in the world. Beer is not only a drink to the Czechs, but a unifier that brings family and friends together. Many people work in distilleries, or farm wheat and hop for the purpose of making beer. Some towns such as České Budějovice (Budweis) or Plzen are known worldwide for their beer production. Pilsner and Budweiser Budvar both originated in Czechia!

Another thing important to Czechs is art. Arts have played a significant role in Czech history. The construction of breathtaking Baroque and Gothic buildings helped cities attract tourists and rise to the status of a developed country. Theatre and poetry played a key role in the Velvet Revolution, as it was the primary way the revolutionaries like Vaclav Havel communicated their vision of freedom to the people. Another preferred art form is sculpture. In large cities like Prague, sculptures are landmarks around the city. David Cerny is a popular Czech sculptor, and his statues can be seen throughout Prague. Alfons Mucha was a Czech painter who created a series of 20 grandiose works which he called The Slav Epic. Karel Zeman was an animator and filmmaker from the early 20th century whose influence has reached Tim Burton and Wes Anderson.

In daily life, one of the dominant pastimes is sports. It is not only a popular activity today, but is a part of Czech tradition. The Czechs invented fencing, and one of the country’s preferred sports is soccer. It is a favorite to watch and play. The most popular club, or regional team, is AC Sparta Praha. Ice hockey is also a very popular sport, and the Czech Republic’s team is quite successful. The men’s ice hockey team is included in the six most competitive hockey teams in the world. Almost 1% of the Czech population plays on a hockey team!

Food in the Czech Republic is high in starch and carbohydrates. Most full meals start with soup, and are followed by a main course of meat and sauce with a side dish of potatoes. Soups are made with many of the same ingredients found in the main course. Czechs eat a generous amount of potatoes, so potato soup is a common first course. Soups may also include pork, beef, sauerkraut, or something that most would not expect to find in a Central European dish, dumplings! When Czechs want to splurge on a meal, they may eat fish such as trout or salmon. Since Czechia is a landlocked country, seafood is not as plentiful as other meats. However, it is tradition to cook carp for Christmas dinner. During the holidays, small villages line their streets with carp vendors and the family will cook and decorate the Christmas tree on Christmas Eve. Dessert is usually a strudel or dumpling filled with fruit or honey. The Czechs do not prefer to eat a lot of sugar, but settle for a more creamy or buttery flavor. They even drink their coffee without sugar, however some opt to put it in their tea.
ARCHITECTURE

With its early foundation, it's no wonder one can find such diversity in architecture within the city limits of Prague, and throughout all of Czech Republic. UNESCO recognizes Prague's contribution to the architectural history of the world due to the diverse architectural styles that have withstood the tests of time and ravages of war. Some of the earliest buildings are Romanesque rotundas that are scattered across the country, such as the Rotunda of St. Martin in Prague, and the St. Peter and Paul Rotunda in Budeč, built at the beginning of the 10th century. Rotundas originally served religious purposes and housed an altar. You can also see the Romanesque style when you visit the monastery churches in Tepla and Milevsko. The Middle Ages brought forth Gothic architecture which can be found in Prague Castle, St. Charles Bridge, and Old-New Synagogue, rumored home to the Golem of Prague. Traveling beyond Prague's city limits, there are too many Gothic castles from which to choose! Karlštejn Castle, Pernštejn Castle, and Velhartice Castle are merely the beginning of the list. For those seeking the “new life” that the Renaissance period offered, the towns of Český Krumlov, Znojmo and Telč are the places to go. Additionally, the town of Znojmo boasts 18 miles of underground tunnels that started out as wine cellars, however the citizens eventually dug connections to create an underground defense system in times of war. If Baroque architecture is to your taste, then the town of Olomouc is where you should head, featuring the Holy Trinity Column. Along with its numerous buildings and ornate fountains, this town hosts the Olomouc Baroque Festival. In Prague, don't miss the Church of St. Nicholas which has won many accolades both in Czech Republic and across Europe. One can see the influence of Classical style when they visit Kačina Chateau. Perfect order seems to reign in its symmetry. Czechia is naturally connected with Art Nouveau style. It is seen through the country, and is a source of great pride. In Prague, you might recognize it as the style that graces the Main Railway Station as well as the Municipal House. Národní dům in Prostějov, and buildings on the left bank of the Elbe River in Hradec Králové provide other opportunities to enjoy this style that balances detail with simplicity. Finally we come to Villa Tugendhat in Brno, Müller Villa in Prague, and the town of Zlín featuring the skyscraper known as “21.” These are examples of Functionalism, modern architecture in which the style of the building is meant to serve the function above all else. At present there are 12 Czech historical sites enlisted in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

GOVERNMENT & ECONOMICS

Czechia has seen many types of governments; kings, popes, communism, and the present parliamentary republic. The government is now organized into three branches. There is the Legislative Branch, which contains the House of Parliament and the Senate. They have a bicameral parliament, where the Chamber of Deputies and Senate are elected to 4-6 year terms. There is the Executive Branch, containing the Czech Government and President. The president is elected by popular vote to a five -year term, and the Prime Minister is appointed by a President, following the Parliamentary Elections, usually from the party that gained the most votes. There is also the Judicial Branch, which contains the Courts of Law. Their elections are all direct elections, with some parties similar to the United States. They have a Green Party like America, but also have some parties that are not popular in the States; such as the Communist Party.
Most businesses in Czechia are privatized, partly resulting from the oppression under the Communist rule. However, this seems to have worked out well for Czechs. The privatization of healthcare in the country lets more people get the affordable care they need. More practices in more locations help people have better access to medical care, and keeps the people’s money circulating in a local community. One thing that is not largely privatized is education. The state runs most ‘kindergartens’ and schools until students reach age sixteen. Secondary school is not mandated, but many Czechs decide to attend school until age eighteen. This prepares them well for the university or trade school they may enroll in. In the Czech Republic, however, many students choose not to attend higher education. They have one of the lower rates of university students in Europe. They also have two of the oldest universities in Europe. They are Charles University, founded in 1348, and Czech Technical University in Prague, founded in 1707.

The Czech Republic has a very healthy economy. It has a positive trade balance, meaning it exports more than it imports. Its main export is cars. Czech-made cars are in high demand across Europe. Their top production company for cars is Škoda Auto, which started out as a bicycle company in the 1800’s. Today, it exports cars all over the eastern hemisphere and dominates the auto world of Europe. This also makes Czechia a dominant exporter and importer of car parts and also computers and computer parts. Their main trade partners are other leading economies in the EU, such as Germany, Austria, France, Great Britain, and of course Czechia’s best friend, Slovakia. They are the 29th largest exporter of the world and the 30th largest importer. Part of what makes the Czech Republic such a stable economy is its gross domestic product (GDP) relative to its size. For such a small territory and population, it produces many products in high demand. However, cars and computers are not the Czech Republic’s only big export. It also ships many electrical parts, seats, packaged medications, and rubber. Surprisingly enough, it exports very little beer. Perhaps they like to keep it all to themselves!

The glass and crystal industries are some of the oldest in Czech Republic with roots dating back to Celtic settlements in the mountains of Bohemia in 3rd century B.C. However, the first true glass factory was not founded until 1414. In the 17th century glassmakers began adding potash and chalk to glass, creating a more stable product than its European competitors and earning an enduring name for “Bohemian Glass” among glass and crystal makers worldwide. This industry produced the beautiful chandelier that adorns Memphis’ own Orpheum Theatre.

As glass and crystal industries grew, they weathered many storms such as economic downturns, wars, and tempestuous political regimes. However, the standards for the industry remain high. Lead crystal must have at least 24% lead, which gives it an increased clarity and ability to refract light. A few leading companies are Moser Glass Company which was founded in 1857 in the town of Karlsbad (then Karlovy Vary.) Preciosa has a tradition of 470 years of glassmaking, starting in Crystal Valley, Bohemia. In 1948 twenty-five
glassmaking companies joined together to become one of Czech Republic’s leading crystal and glass makers today. One of the Czech Republic’s outstanding contributions to the scientific community is the work of Gregor Mendel. Mendel lived from 1822 to 1884, and is considered the “Father of Genetics.” As a monk of the Augustinian order in the city of Brno, he conducted experiments on hereditary traits in plant hybrids using peas. He chose peas because of their many varieties, their easily observable traits, and the fact that they reproduced quickly and easily.

Mendel’s work did not receive the recognition it deserved during his lifetime. It was not until 1900, when researchers Hugo de Vries, Carl Correns and Erich von Tschermak-Seysenegg each conducted similar experiments with similar results, that they were made aware of their predecessor. From that, the popularity of genetic theory gained momentum at various intervals. Today Mendel’s work is accepted as having laid the foundation for the modern genetic field. Because of his work we can use family history and genetic testing to detect predispositions to diseases, and then take precautions. His work has also been used to produce new varieties of plants and other applications.

• The Czech Republic adopted the shorter name Czechia as a short and less official title for their country.
• Prague Castle is one of the largest ancient castles and biggest tourist attractions in the world.
• Their currency is the koruna.
• Czechia is made of three regions: Bohemia, Moravia, and the tiny Silesia.
• It has more castles than any other country in Europe.
• Independence as the Czech Republic began in 1993, making the country only 24 years old.
• It is a little smaller than South Carolina.
• 70% of Czechs participate in the Czech pastime of mushrooming! They forage for mushrooms which they will then take home for meals.
• Parts of the Chronicles of Narnia movies and other Hollywood blockbusters were filmed in Czech Republic.
• The sugar cube was invented in Czech Republic.
FAMOUS PEOPLE FROM CZECH REPUBLIC

**GREGOR MENDEL** - Botanist, 1822-1884; Gregor Mendel was born Johann Mendel to small farmers inhabiting the village of Heinzendorf bei Odrau. Mendel remained in his village until he was accepted into the University of Olomouc in 1840. At the university, Mendel became interested in science. However, due to his financial difficulties, Mendel eventually ran out of money to continue his studies. In 1843, Mendel joined the Abbey of St. Thomas in Brno in order to pursue his studies, and took the name 'Gregor'. After time in and out of the monastery and after taking several science courses at the University of Vienna, Mendel returned to Brno. From 1856 through 1866 Mendel published many books about biology and meteorology. This was the time when he conducted his famous experiments with genetics. However, Mendel became the abbot of his monastery in 1867, and began to devote his time to the monastery rather than his experiments. Gregor died in 1884, never knowing that he had founded a new field of science. Now Mendel is famous for his works in heredity, and is known as the father of modern genetics.

**ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK** - Composer, 1841-1904; Dvořák was born in the village of Nelahozeves. From his early childhood, his musical talent was apparent, and at age six he began studying music at the village's school. Dvořák continued his education in Prague, learning to play the viola and violin. In 1866, he moved on to play in the Bohemian Provisional Theater Orchestra. In 1871, he began his own compositions, eventually drawing attention from Johannes Brahms. In 1878, Dvořák published his Slavonic Dances with immense success. After this, Dvořák became internationally celebrated for his compositions. In 1892-1895 Dvořák headed the National Conservatory of Music of America in New York. During that period, he created his famous Symphony No. 9 in E minor known as From the New World (a recording of Symphony No. 9 accompanied Apollo 11 crew during the first Moon landing mission in 1969). After years of traveling, Dvořák returned to his home. In 1901, he became the director of the Conservatory in Prague.

**SIGMUND FREUD** - Neurologist and Psychoanalyst, 1856-1939; Freud was born in Freiberg, in 1856. However, his family moved to Vienna when he was a child. At the age of seventeen, Freud went on to study at the University of Vienna, and continued to gain an M.D. and a Ph.D. in neurology. In 1886, he married Martha Bernays. Freud worked at the Vienna General Hospital for a time, then went to study hypnosis in Paris. After this, he founded his own medical practice, specializing in neurology. This practice led him to study psychology. In his studies, Freud developed theories about personality and consciousness. He founded a psychological method called psychoanalysis. Today, though much of Freud's research has been discounted, his theories have served as the basis for numerous fields of psychology, and has influenced the culture and study of psychology irrefutably. In 1939, Freud passed away.

**FRANZ KAFKA** - Author, 1883- 1924; Franz Kafka was born in Prague. He grew up with six brothers and sisters, to Jewish parents. After secondary school, he continued his studies at Charles Ferdinand University. He graduated with a degree in law in 1906. After several jobs, Kafka was employed at the Worker's Accident Insurance Institute. He retired due to health problems in 1922, after a fairly successful career. In 1923, he moved to Berlin for a time, where he resurrected his interest in Judaism. He eventually returned to Prague, where he died from tuberculosis in 1924. His world renown works include *The Trial, The Metamorphosis, The Castle,* and *Amerika.*
FAMOUS PEOPLE FROM CZECH REPUBLIC (cont’d)

**OTTO WICHTERLE** - Chemist, 1913-1998; Wichterle was the inventor of gel contact lenses and of the first Czechoslovak synthetic fiber, and founder of the Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry in Prague. Wichterle joined the research institute at Baťa Company in Zlín in 1940, and developed the polyamide fiber (manufactured under the trade name “silon” since the 1950’s). Wichterle invented hydrogel contact lenses in 1961.

**KAREL ZEMAN** - Film Maker, 1910-1989; Karel Zeman was born in Ostromer in 1910. As a child, he loved puppets and was even a member of a puppet troupe. As he grew, he went to business school in Kolín, and later to study advertisement and design in France. He began his career in film-making with puppeteering. After winning a local competition, Zeman began his career in Zlín Studios. His films became wildly successful. He grew famous for pioneering cinematography techniques and his film based on Jules Verne’s *Journey to the Center of the Earth*. Zeman died in 1989.

**KAREL ČAPEK** - Writer, 1890-1938; Karel Čapek was born in 1890. Karel is often considered to be one of the Czech Republic’s most esteemed authors. He is famous for having coined the term, ‘robot’ for his play R.U.R., although according to Karel himself, it was invented by his brother Josef. The term “robot” originates from the Czech word “robota”, which means obligatory, unpaid work carried out by serfs for the benefit of feudal lords. Along with his donation of the term to language, Čapek is praised for his collection of literature. He is known for his work in speculative fiction, and is often compared to authors such as George Orwell and Aldous Huxley. His works grew in popularity due to the quick wit and controversial themes which appeared in his writing. However, in winning fame among the people, he found animosity among the Gestapo. He was declared public enemy number two. Despite being pursued, Čapek refused to leave his home country. He died of pneumonia in the winter of 1938.

**JOSEF LADA** - Author and Illustrator, 1887-1957; Born in the village of Hrusice, Josef Lada may be considered the Dr. Seuss of the Czech Republic. After finishing a three-grade school at the age of fourteen, Lada studied to be a scene-painter in Prague. After that, he went on to study bookbinding. He began to draw in his own style, which he had taught himself. In 1904 the magazine Máj, printed four of his illustrations. In 1906, he illustrated his first children’s book while drawing for multiple magazines under different pen names. Over the years his work became famous. In 1942, he was cut off from the Union of Journalists after a squabble. During the Nazi occupation, Lada was often forced to trade his work for food. After World War II, he continued his career in art until his death in Prague. He is most famous for his children’s books, particularly *The Adventures of Mikeš*, the story of a black cat.

**EVA JIŘIČNÁ** - Architect, born 1939; Eva Jiřičná is a renowned Czech architect, famous particularly for her interior designs using metal and glass structures. Eva Jiřičná runs her own architectural practice in London with an associated office in Prague. Since 1996 she has been a professor and head of the Department of Architecture at the University of Applied Arts in Prague. Her best-known projects in the Czech Republic are the Orangery in the Prague Castle’s Royal Garden and the renovation of Saint Anna Church in Prague; foreign projects include, for example, the entrance and reception area of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. Eva Jiřičná has been elected a Royal Academician by the Royal Academy of Arts and made honorary fellow of the American Institute of Architects. She has received many awards and honors including the honor od Commander of the British Empire.
FAMOUS PEOPLE FROM CZECH REPUBLIC (cont’d)

**BEDŘICH SMETANA** - Composer, 1824-1884; Smetana was a Neo-Renaissance composer. He was born in Litomyšl to a family of brewers. Since childhood, Smetana was musically talented. In 1843, he moved to Prague. There he studied composition and began a career as a concert pianist and music instructor. In 1856 Smetana moved to Sweden. There he became a conductor and teacher. He returned to Prague in 1861. Over the course of his life, he wrote eight operas. The most famous of these is The Bartered Bride as well as numerous compositions. At the age of fifty, the composer became entirely deaf. However, this did not hinder his work. He passed away at age sixty, and is buried in Prague.

**ALFONS MUCHA** - Artist, 1860-1939; One of Czechia's most influential artists is Alfons Mucha. Mucha is known for famous works such as the Slav Epic, as well as his fathering of the Art Nouveau movement and Czech Freemasonry. His work was famous throughout Europe, and often depicted idealist scenes and nature themes. His dream was to make art a part of people's natural life, and one way he achieved this was by making his work affordable to all classes. The actress Sarah Bernhardt took notice of his work, and he became famous by creating posters for her numerous shows in Paris.

**PAULINA PORÍZKOVÁ-OCASEK** - Model, born 1965; Born in Prostějov, Porízková-Ocasek is famous for international modeling career as one of the first top models, including appearances in Sports Illustrated, Vogue, Elle, Harper's Bazaar, Self, Cosmopolitan, and Glamour. Paulina's extraordinary career resulted from her childhood. After the Warsaw Pact Invasion in 1968, Paulina's parents immigrated to Sweden. However, Paulina was left behind with her grandmother. Sadly, they were unable to reunite in Sweden because of complications with the authorities. Thanks to Sweden's Prime Minister Olof Palme as well as her mother's efforts, Paulina was eventually able to rejoin her family. After her parents’ divorce, the family fell on hard times. In 1980, Paulina’s friend aided them by sending pictures of her to the Elite Modeling Agency. Shortly after, Paulina was working with the modeling company in Paris. She quickly rose to fame in the 1980s after appearing in various magazines. She has also done film work, and has written two books. She now lives with her husband and two children in New York.

**MILAN KUNDERA** - Author, born 1929; Kundera is celebrated as the most successful Czech author. Milan has lived in France since 1975, and does not often visit his homeland. Some of his French novels have not yet been translated into Czech, as he says that only he would be able to translate them perfectly. His best works written abroad are the novels *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, published in 1982, exploring the problems of responsibility and inner and outer freedom. This was not published in the Czech Republic until 2006. He began his writing with poetry and stories published in the book, *Laughable Loves*. Other famous works of his include, *The Joke*, which is required in many Czech schools, *The Farewell Waltz*, and *The Book of Laughter and Forgetting*.
KAREL GOTT - Singer, born 1939; Karel Gott is often referred to as “The Golden Voice of Prague”. Gott began his forty-year singing career in 1960, when he began at the Prague Conservatory to study opera singing. Konstantin Karenin, his teacher, taught him classical Italian in company with contemporary music. After his education, he acquired a position at Prague Semafor Theater. There he learned dancing and audience communication skills that make his music so effective today. It was that time that Gott released his first two songs, and his career exploded from there. He has now been named the Golden Nightingale, an award for the best Czech male singer, for thirty-five years.

KAROLINA KURKOVÁ - Model, born 1984; Born in Dečín, Karolina Kurková has an impressive record. She is the daughter of a basketball player. At the age of fifteen, she found a job in Prague, at an agency which organized runway shows and advertising. After this, she went to Milan, where she became employed by the famous fashion house Prada. In 2001, she became one of the youngest models to grace the cover of Vogue magazine at the early age of seventeen. In 2002, she became model of the year and has not stopped receiving recognition for her modeling work as well as her humanitarian efforts since.

MILOŠ FORMAN - Film director, born 1932; Miloš Forman is a Czech-American film director. Forman grew up in Czechoslovakia with relatives after his parents perished in concentration camps during World War II. Forman studied screenwriting, going on to direct comedies. However, in 1968 he was fired for having travelled out of Czechoslovakia illegally. Thus, he moved to New York. There he succeeded in becoming the professor of film at Columbia University. Miloš became an American citizen in 1977. Some of his most famous films include One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest, and Amadeus, which collectively won thirteen Academy Awards. He received a nomination for The People Vs Larry Flynt as well.

MARTINA NAVRÁTILOVÁ - Tennis Player, born 1956; Navrátilová was born in Prague. When she was just eight years of age, she played her first tennis tournament. This was the first of many. She was the number one tennis champion in Czechoslovakia for three years, from 1972 to 1975. In 1975 her team won the Federation Cup. That same year she displaced herself to the United States, eventually becoming a citizen in 1981. In the U.S., Martina became the number one tennis player in 1978. Beginning in 1983, she won six Grand Slam woman's singles titles in a row. In 1986, Navratilova became the second tennis player to win 1000 matches. She retired from playing singles in 1994, after winning 167 titles. In 2000, she returned to professional tennis, and was accepted into the Tennis Hall of Fame. In 2006, she retired from competitive play. Navrátilová published an autobiography with George Vecsey as well as a series of mystery books with Liz Nickles.

MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT - Secretary of State, born 1937; Madeleine Albright was born in Prague as Marie Jana Korbelová. Her father, Josef, was part of the Czechoslovak foreign service and the Ambassador to Yugoslavia. In 1948 her family immigrated to the United States after the communist coup. There, Marie changed her name to Madeleine Albright. She became a U.S. citizen in 1957. In 1959, she gained a B.A. in political science from Wellesley College. In 1976, she got a Ph.D. in Public Law and Government at Columbia University. After serving as a legislative assistant and a White House staff member, then a research professor of International Affairs at Georgetown University, she became the Ambassador to the United Nations in 1993. In 1996, Albright became Secretary of State. As Secretary of State, she promoted peaceful international relations between the former Soviet Republics and Vietnam as well as methods to prevent global warming.
THE ULTIMATE CZECH QUIZ

1. What weapon did Vaclav Havel use in the Velvet Revolution? ________________
2. Why is the term “velvet” used for both the Velvet Revolution and the Velvet Divorce? ________________
3. What pastime keeps Czechs tromping through the forest staring at the ground? ________________
4. What paintings are controversially touring the world at the moment? ________________
5. What is the area of Czechoslovakia that Germany demanded just prior to invading at the start of World War II? ________________
6. What did the Rabbi Judah Loew ben Bezalel allegedly build in order to protect the Jews from persecution? ________________
7. Who are some well-known American filmmakers who are influenced by the work of early 20th century film maker Karel Zeman? ________________
8. What might you find in someone's bathtub the night before Christmas? ________________
9. What is the most popular football club (soccer team) in Czech Republic? ________________
10. Is Czech Republic an Eastern European country or Western European country? ________________
11. What are the three regions of Czech Republic? ________________
12. Why did Czechoslovakia embrace Russia after World War II? ________________
13. Who was the first post-communist president of Czechoslovakia? ________________
14. How long ago did Czechoslovakia first receive its independence? ________________
15. What item in the Orpheum Theatre of Memphis came from Czech Republic? ________________
16. Famous Czech, Gregor Mendel is known as the “Father of ________________ “.
17. Gregor Mendel did his pioneering work with what plant? ________________
18. Czech author Karel Čapek invented the term ________________.
19. The Thirty Years War was fought in Bohemia to try to establish ________________ freedom during the rule of the Hapsburgs.
20. Which popular types of beers originated in Czech Republic? ________________
21. Which city boasts 18 miles of underground tunnels that tourists can explore? ________________
22. Which room in the Prague Castle is inlaid with over a thousand jewels? ________________
23. Czech Republic currently boasts the lowest ________________ rate in the E.U.

(ANSWERS FOUND ON PAGE 31)
THE LEGEND OF THE GOLEM OF PRAGUE

In the 16th century, there was a great Rabbi, Juddah Loew ben Bezalel, who was the chief rabbi of Prague. His people, the Jews, were being beaten and killed because of lies that others had spread about them. The Rabbi loved his people and wanted to help them with the hard work they must endure each day as well as protect them from those who were treating them unfairly. “I will create a golem!” he cried, and rushed to the banks of the Vltava River where he fashioned a body from the clay of the earth. The Rabbi then wrote “emet,” the Hebrew word for truth, on the golem’s forehead, thus bringing him to life. As long as the golem lived with truth emblazoned on his head, he protected the people against the persecution of the lies against them.

Some time passed and the golem was of great help to the Jewish people of Prague. Due to his great strength, he was able to relieve the Rabbi’s heavy workload, and protect the Jews from those who would bring them harm. However, the golem’s strength grew and it became harder for the good Rabbi to control him. The golem began destroying homes, gardens, and livestock, and the Jews came to fear him.

Seeing that his creation no longer served the purpose for which it was intended, Rabbi Juddah Loew ben Bezalel removed the first letter from the golem’s head leaving only “met” which means “dead,” thus rendering him lifeless. He sadly marched the golem up the stairs to the attic of Prague’s Old New Synagogue to find eternal rest and then destroyed the stairs leading upward to ensure that no one else would find the golem and use it for their own purposes.

Today, if you visit Prague you can buy a souvenir of Golem and gaze up at the attic where it is rumored that he remains. Do you think you would find him there if you could sneak up to the attic today?

1. Compare the two pictures of the golem. What does the first picture show us about the golem? What does the second picture show about the golem? Why did the author choose to include both pictures?

2. Paragraph 1 states that the story took place in the 16th century. During what years were the 16th century? About how long ago was that?
3. How did the author show that the theme of truth was linked to the theme of life for both the Jews and the golem?

4. How did the Rabbi use truth to solve the problem of the golem becoming out of control?

5. Rabbi Juddah Loew ben Bezalel was a real man. Is he similar to anyone else you have studied this year? Complete the 3-column chart to compare and contrast Rabbi Juddah Loew ben Bezalel to the person you think is similar to him.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RABBI JUDDAH LOEW</th>
<th>BOTH</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

6. The story of The Golem of Prague is a legend. A legend is a widespread historical tale that has never been proven to have actually taken place, and that has facts mixed with elements of myth. Use a highlighter or yellow crayon and underline the parts that seem mythical. Annotate why each highlighted part would be mythical.

7. Have you ever experienced a time when a lie caused great trouble or when truth solved many problems? Write about a time when a lie caused great trouble. Explain the lie and the trouble it caused. Give details. Tell about whether the truth ever came to light, and if the truth then solved the problems caused by the lie.

Student Debrief: How does this story make you feel? Why do you feel that way? Do you think the Rabbi made wise decisions? Why or why not? How could the story have turned out differently?
Czech Republic- Czech It Out!

Earliest ancestors of the Czechs settled in the kingdoms of Bohemia and Moravia. Prague was founded in the 7th century, and construction of Prague Castle began at the end of the 9th century.

The 1300s and 1400s were characterized by religious turmoil as the Czechs rebelled against the Roman Catholic Church and against Germany, who was at the time loyal to the Pope. Many Czechs consider this to be a precursor to the Protestant Reformation.

In the 14th and 15th centuries, the sole heir to the Přemyslid dynasty was Princess Elizabeth, whose marriage to John of Luxembourg in 1310 brought the House of Luxembourg to the Bohemian throne. Their son, King Charles IV, became Holy Roman Emperor in 1355. His reign is remembered as an era of great prosperity. Charles IV expanded the Kingdom of Bohemia and made Prague the imperial capital. His many lasting contributions to the country’s economic development include major building projects such as Prague’s New Town quarter and the Charles Bridge. A great patron of culture and arts, Charles IV founded a university in Prague in 1348. His son, Wenceslaus IV, was unable to defend his position against ambitious Bohemian nobles. Wenceslaus IV was deposed as King of the Romans (1400) and the country fell into crisis.

1526 saw the beginning of the Hapsburg rule in Czech lands. It went softly with Moravia, who accepted Hapsburg rule as inevitable, but Bohemian leaders (known as the Czech estates) were not so convinced. The Czech estates continued their campaign of religious grievances, and sought to retain their cultural identity. They made a decisive statement in 1618 when they threw two Catholic imperial councillors from a window of Prague Castle. Two years later, the Czech estates were defeated at the Battle of the White Mountains.

This ushered in the 30 Years War, which resulted in the complete defeat of the Bohemian kingdom.

Afterwards the culture, language, and religion were overshadowed by Germany as they were now ruled by the Holy Roman Empire. However, one other unintended result of these cultural changes was the rise of manufacturing of textile, coal, and glass in the late 1700s. Urbanization began to occur for Czech peasants, and urban areas became increasingly Czech.
Czech Republic- Czech It Out! *cont’d*

in character. Czechs were able to send their children to school for the first time, and a new Czech intellectual elite emerged. This primed Czechs for a new nationalism, and a show of pride in their own country.

From 1867-1918 the Hapsburgs of Austria joined with Hungary to create the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The two empires had one ruler, but in most aspects, Austria and Hungary were independent states. The Czechs were ruled by the parliament in Austria and were given voting rights. However, Slovaks were treated as peasants under Hungarian rule.

When World War I broke out, Czechs of Bohemia and Moravia and Slovaks were not keen to join the fight as they did not share fervor for the cause. They began work to gain recognition as an independent nation, an effort that would not pay off until 1918. It was then that the two peoples were united as a nation to create the Czechoslovak Republic or Czechoslovakia.

By this time, Czechoslovakia had developed an impressive concentration of industries, including the china industry, glass industry, sugar refineries, distilleries, breweries, locomotive industry, automotive industry, armaments, and chemical industry. However, German banks still maintained control of many of these.

In 1938, Adolf Hitler manipulated world powers to abandon the side of Czechoslovakia so that the Sudetenland was given to Germany, and Czechoslovakia was left weakened, and vulnerable to invasion from Germany.

The German occupation lasted from 1939-1945. It resulted in the closing of universities, and all industries that were not useful to the war. Estimates for deaths at this time from political persecution and concentration camps range from 36,000 to 55,000. The Jewish population, numbered at 11,800 in 1930, was virtually decimated.

After World War II, the influence of the Communist party reached Czechoslovakia in 1948 and had its rule. In the 1960s, Communism began to relax, but Russian forces were quick to react, and invaded Prague in 1968. Communism finally lost hold after the Velvet Revolution in 1989, so named because it happened very peacefully. It transitioned to a parliamentary republic.

Czechoslovakia then peacefully separated into the two countries, Czech Republic and Slovakia in 1992, and remain on good terms. This is known as the Velvet Divorce.

In 2004 Czech Republic joined the European Union. In 2016, it adopted Czechia as an official alternative name for the country.

(Activity on next page)
CZECH IT OUT!

Printable Activity

1. Fill in this timeline. Include the following events on your timeline with brief explanations:
   - Founding of Prague
   - Hapsburg Rule
   - 30 Years War
   - Rule of Austro-Hungarian Empire
   - World War I
   - Joining the E.U.
   - Establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic as a nation
   - German occupation of Czechoslovakia
   - Liberation from Germany and rise of Communism
   - Velvet Revolution
   - Velvet Divorce

2. According to the C.I.A. World Factbook, Czech Republic’s lead industries are motor vehicles, metallurgy, machinery and equipment, glass, and armaments. What correlations do you see between their history and their current economy? What does that tell you about Czech Republic?

3. Look at these three maps of Czech Republic. Write 2-3 sentences explaining what each map shows.

4. - Draw the Sudetic Mountains along the Czechia-Poland border.
   - Draw the Ore Mountains along the northern border between Germany and Czechia.
   - Draw the Sumava Mountains along the western border between Germany and Czechia, and reaching in a triangle almost to Prague.
   - Draw the Carpathian Mountains along the border between Slovakia and Czechia.

5. Write an essay that explains how the maps show a progression of the history of Czech Republic. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
CZECH HOLIDAYS & TRADITIONS

Match the holiday or tradition to how it is practiced.
• *St Nicholas Day (in December)*
• *Gentlemen First*
• *Mushroom Hunting*
• *Easter*
• *Barefoot with Flowers*
• *Christmas*
• *Your Birthday*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptions</th>
<th>Holiday or Tradition</th>
<th>How is it Practiced?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 St. Nicholas wanders the city streets with two companions, the Angel and the Devil. The trio approaches children and asks them if they have been good or bad. If the children have been good they sing a song or recite a poem and receive candy or treats. If the children have been bad they receive coal or potatoes.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Boys chase girls with willow branches and lightly whip them on the legs (an ancient symbol to wish one long life and prosperity) and in return girls present boys with elaborately decorated eggs.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 This special day has a beautifully decorated tree, special carols, and for dinner there will be a feast of carp, potato salad, bread, and dessert. Some families might even keep their carp in the bathtub as a pet for a few days before the special feast! That would be a strange bath fellow!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 On your special day, instead of someone making a cake for you and bringing you a gift, you are to make the cake to serve to your friends and give gifts to all of them!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 70% of Czechs participate in this tradition. Once these little guys sprout in forests in July, Czechs bring their baskets. But beware! Make sure you know the poisonous types from the edible types.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 When entering a place, it is polite for a man to go first. This is so that a man can clear the way and secure a table for the lady.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 When visiting a Czech home, always remove your shoes at the door, and take a gift of flowers for your hosts.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SYMBOLS OF CZECH REPUBLIC

Standards: SS.4.41

1. NATIONAL TREE
   *Lime Tree*
   (also called the Linden Tree)

   Directions: Draw Your own Lime Tree

2. NATIONAL FLOWER
   *Rose*

3. OTHER
   *Sugar Cube*
   The first sugar cube was invented in the Czech Republic.

4. CZECH REPUBLIC FLAG
   Directions for flag: (Colors of the flag - tricolor; red, white, and blue)
   Color the triangle to the left blue.
   Color the section to the bottom red. Leave the top section white.
SYMBOLS OF CZECH REPUBLIC

The Czech Republic Government

The Government is a parliamentary democracy. It has three parts; the Legislative Branch containing House of Parliament and Senate; the Executive Branch containing Czech Government and President (who is Miloš Zeman) and Prime Minister (who is Bohuslav Sobotka) and the Judicial Branch containing the courts of Law.

Fill in the other 2 boxes with the correct government branch.

This motto comes from the first president of Czechoslovakia, Vaclav Havel, who said, “Truth and love prevail over lies and hatred.” Tell about a time truth and love prevailed over lies and hatred. Draw a picture of that time.
1. What were the two earliest kingdoms of the Czech Republic that remain two of its three regions today? Find Both (7, 7)
2. Rebellions against the Roman Catholic Church in the Czech Republic are seen as precursors to the _____ Reformation. (10)
3. The Czech's neighbor to the West, which occupied the country during WWII. (8)
4. What is another word for weapons that is one of the Czech Republic's leading industries? (9)
5. What mountain range runs along the border between Czechia and Slovakia? (10)
6. What is the motto of the Czech Republic? (13- 2 words)
7. What does the term “velvet” refer to in both the Velvet Revolution and the Velvet Divorce? (8)
8. What pastime keeps Czechs tromping through the forest staring at the ground? (11)
9. What did the Rabbi Judah Loew ben Bezalel allegedly build in order to protect the Jews from persecution? (5)
10. What might you find in someone's bathtub a few days before Christmas dinner? (4)
11. What body of the Legislative Branch do the US and the Czech Republic have in common? (6)
12. In 2004, the Czech Republic joined this political and economic union made up of most countries in Europe. (13- 2 words)
13. The length and name of the war over religious freedom that resulted in the defeat of the Bohemian Kingdom. (11- 2 words)
14. The mountain range along the Czech- Poland border. (6)
15. Children who have been bad in the Czech Republic might receive this food from St. Nicholas on St. Nicholas Day. (8)
16. The national flower of the Czech Republic, which is also the national flower of the US. (4)
17. The president and the prime minister preside over this branch of government in the Czech Republic. (9)
18. The Czech Republic and Slovakia used to be ruled by these two countries, then known as the Austro-_____ Empire. (9)
19. In the Czech Republic, you celebrate your _____ by baking a cake for your friends and giving them presents (8)
After answering the questions on the previous page, locate those words in the word search below. Circle each answer as it runs forward or backward, either across, up and down, or diagonal.
RESOURCES & ANSWERS TO QUIZZES/ACTIVITIES

Golem by David Wisnieski, Hardcover, 32 pages 1996 by Clarion Books
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xv1LeQjO7fM

ANSWER KEY

The Legend of the Golem of Prague: 1. Answers will vary. 2. 1501-1600. It was 418 years ago.
3. Truth was linked to life for the Jews because some Jews were being killed due to a lie that was
being spread about them. If a lie was the reason of their death, we would link the revelation of
truth with their life. Truth meant life for the golem because the Rabbi brought the golem to life by
writing the Hebrew word for truth on his head. 4. The Rabbi used truth to solve the problem for
them because Jews were protected from the lies as long as the golem lived with the word truth on
his forehead. He used truth to solve the problem of the aggressive golem because he was able
to remove the first letter of truth to change the word to mean death, thus rendering the golem
lifeless and incapable of harm. 5. Answers vary. 6. Mythical portions of the story: bringing a clay
creature to life, a clay creature offering people protection, rendering the golem lifeless by removing
one letter from his head, the golem still remains in the synagogue to this day  7. Answers vary.


Czech Republic- Czech It Out!: 2. We first see glass as an industry in the 1700’s, and by 1918 we
see automotive, armaments, and other industries that are associated with machinery. This tells me
that many of their industries have a long history and rich tradition in Czech Republic. 3. One shows
the Czech Lands in the 8-9 centuries as it was divided into the kingdoms of Bohemia and Moravia.
The next shows it as it was united with Slovakia as Czechoslovakia from 1918-1992. The last
shows it as it is today with neighboring Slovakia. Together the three maps show how the political
boundaries have changed over the last 1100 years. 5. Answers Vary.

SOURCES
http://judaism.wikia.com/wiki/Golem
http://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/golem/
http://www.prague.net/golem
http://www.myczechrepublic.com/czech_culture/czech_holidays/easter/index.html
http://www.prague-guide.co.uk/christmas/
http://www.localhistories.org/czech.html
http://countrystudies.us/czech-republic/4.htm
RESOURCES & ANSWERS TO QUIZZES/ACTIVITIES

Two Part Word Search Puzzle:

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

ABOUT MEMPHIS IN MAY EDUCATION PROGRAMS
Your study and exploration of the Czech Republic continues past the pages of this curriculum guide. Each year, Memphis in May produces many educational and cultural events and contests to showcase its honored country. Throughout the year, Memphis in May offers contests, exhibits, performances and other educational opportunities for teachers and students to learn all about the Czech Republic. Additional information about each, as well as deadlines, is available at www.memphisinmay.org/honored-country/for-educators/. All programs are subject to change or modification.

Introducing the Official Microsoft Memphis in May International Classroom Program
Make Your Classroom the Official Microsoft Memphis in May International Classroom

Why should you become a Memphis in May International Classroom? International awareness is at the core of Memphis in May International Festival’s commitment to the education of the Mid-South community. Memphis in May’s goal: by the time a student graduates from high school, they will have had the opportunity to experience the customs and cultures of 12 different countries from around the world. Help us achieve that goal by starting in your classroom!

Participation is simple! Just incorporate a combination of Memphis in May resources into your classroom. It is very easy to get started. Register online now! Visit www.memphisinmay.org/honored-country/for-educators/ for details.

BlueCross BlueShield World Cargo Crates
“The Heart of Europe” is sending a bit of its own culture straight to your classroom! Each year, Memphis in May receives an international shipment from its honored country. The festival loads the goods into five different “World Cargo Crates” designed to be transported to Memphis area schools. “World Cargo Crates” are loaded with educational items, cultural items, historical items, games, musical instruments, costumes, handicrafts, and more, as well as a description of each item and its significance to Czech culture. Your school can reserve a crate free of charge for a one-week period so that classrooms throughout your school will have the chance to explore the crate. The Memphis in May “World Cargo Crates” are available for reservation for dates between January and May, 2018. To reserve a crate for your school, or for more information, please email education@memphisinmay.org. One week per school, please. The crate will be delivered to your school before 12 noon Monday morning, and picked up the following Monday by 10:00 a.m., courtesy of Blue Sky Couriers.

International Teachers’ Conference
Mark Saturday, February 24, 2018 on your calendar! “Memphis in May International Teachers’ Conference—Bringing International Culture to Every Classroom” provides teachers with information on how to utilize international studies to enhance their curriculum. Teachers will gain hands-on knowledge needed to educate students about the culture and history of the honored country of the Czech Republic.

Applications, additional details, deadline information, program changes and frequent education opportunity updates are available online at www.memphisinmay.org/honored-country/for-educators/
EDUCATION PROGRAMS

EDUCATION CONTESTS

This year we are making it easier to sign up for our programs and integrate Memphis in May Curriculum into your classroom activities. Memphis in May provides easy to use resources to enable teachers to integrate education about the honored country into your classroom. Memphis in May will recognize teachers that utilize these resources during the year as an Official Memphis in May International Classroom. A minimum level of participation is required. Visit www.memphisinmay.org/honored-country/for-educators/ for details.

Become the Official Microsoft Memphis in May International Classroom Program

*Classroom Competition/ Grades K-12*

Teachers, you can win $1,000 just by incorporating the honored country of the Czech Republic into your classroom. Involve the students in your classroom or grade level in classroom decorations and activities with a theme based on this exciting country. Fill your classroom (and your students’ minds) with images of Czech culture. Visit www.memphisinmay.org/honored-country/for-educators/ for details. Entries must be received by Friday, May 11, 2018 at 5:00pm.

Sedgwick CMS International Teacher Competition

*Teacher Competition / Grades K - 12*

Now teachers have the chance to win alongside their students! Whether you always celebrate the honored country with Memphis in May, or whether you are considering incorporating Memphis in May into your classroom for the first time, this competition is for you. Memphis in May will recognize the teachers with the most outstanding “global classrooms,” teachers who utilize international programming to supplement their curriculum and introduce a foreign culture to their students. Sign up for and participate in one or more of Memphis in May’s education programs and events, complying with all the guidelines for that program. Participate in as many of the programs and events as possible to increase the international appeal of your classroom. Entries will not be judged solely on the quantity of Memphis in May activities, but rather the main criteria will be the educational impact, creative use of curriculum, and quality of the learning and educational activities in the classroom. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at www.memphisinmay.org. Entries must be received by Friday, May 11, 2018 at 5:00pm.

Creative Writing Contest

*Grades 4 - 12*

The Memphis in May Creative Writing Contest promotes literary creativity and allows students to incorporate what they have learned about the Memphis in May honored country through the written word.
Creative Writing Contest entries can include any type of literary work, fiction or non-fiction, including but not limited to poems, essays, short stories, plays, narratives, scripts and biographies. First, second and third place winners will be chosen in three grade categories (Upper Elementary - 4th & 5th grades, Middle - 6th - 8th grades, High - 9th 12th grades). The competition is open to students attending any public, private or home school within the Shelby County area. Each entry must be submitted with a completed Creative Writing Contest entry form (typed or printed only). Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at www.memphisinmay.org (subject to change, check website for any updates). Entries must be received by Friday, March 23, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Entries must be submitted to the Memphis in May International Festival offices at 56 S. Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103.

International Paper Children’s Poster Competition

Grades K - 6

The 2018 International Paper Children’s Poster Competition promotes the creative artistry of students in grades K-6. Patterned after the Memphis in May Fine Arts Poster Program, the student’s work must depict some aspect of the honored country of the Czech Republic through the medium of drawing and coloring. One student will become the Grand Prize winner and their work depicting the Czech Republic, its beauty and its culture, will then be printed and sold by Memphis in May as the 2018 International Paper Children’s Poster. Since there will be a limited number of signed and numbered prints created, this lucky young artist’s poster has the potential of becoming a unique collector's item. The Grand Prize winner will sign and number 100 of the prints. First, second and third prize winners will also be recognized in various grade divisions. All artwork must be designed and executed by the student. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at www.memphisinmay.org. Entries must be received by Friday, March 23, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Entries must be submitted to the Memphis in May International Festival offices at 56 S. Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103.

PowerPoint Competition

Grades 9 – 12

This competition promotes design creativity and allows students to incorporate what they have learned about the Czech Republic through overall presentation, graphic design, and written word. Students have a chance to create unique presentations illustrating the honored country's history, geography, people, language, food, art, music and dance. This competition is a wonderful tool to get students acquainted with PowerPoint, an important program in the business world. As an additional activity, teachers may also opt to have students present in front of the class, giving them valuable practice in communication skills, all while exposing them to international history and culture. This competition is open to all high school students attending public, private, or home school within the Shelby County area. First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at www.memphisinmay.org. Entries must be received by Friday, March 23, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. All entries must be submitted to the Memphis in May offices at 56 S. Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103.
Blue Cross Blue Shield World Cargo Crate Photo Contest

The World Cargo Crate Photo Contest encourages teachers to use their cameras to capture special moments in their classrooms. The photographic entries portray special “learning moments” between the students, their teachers, and the unique items from the honored country. As most of these items are foreign to the students, their reactions of interest, surprise, and curiosity are clearly visible in the photos. The winning teacher receives a Memphis in May prize package for their classroom and the privilege of being the first to reserve the World Cargo Crate for the upcoming school year. The winning teachers and students also get to see their pictures displayed on the Memphis in May website as “the face” of the World Cargo Crate for the next year. Up to 5 photos may be submitted per entry, along with the teacher’s name and title, school name, school address, school phone number, and teacher’s email address. Entries must be received by Friday, May 18, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Entries must be digital and may be submitted by email or on a CD to 56 S. Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103. For more information, see Memphis in May’s website at www.memphisinmay.org or contact education@memphisinmay.org with any questions.

Exhibitions & Field Trip Opportunities

Each year Memphis in May International Festival plans cultural exhibitions and performances involving art, artifacts, speakers and performers from the honored country. In 2018, teachers and students can expect many opportunities to explore the beauty, culture and history of the Czech Republic. Many exhibits and performances offer great opportunities for classroom field trips. As the festival approaches, regularly visit the Memphis in May International Festival’s website at www.memphisinmay.org for updates on exhibitions, field trip opportunities and additional educational materials. You may also call 525-4611, ext. 108, and request that you be placed on an education email list to be notified of any opportunities throughout the year.

Need a Curriculum Guide of Your Own?

We teach students to share, but for your own copy of this Curriculum Guide, visit the Memphis in May website at www.memphisinmay.org. This entire Curriculum Guide about the Czech Republic is available on-line in a downloadable PDF format, so you can print your own Curriculum Guide copy for free!

Finding a Cool Crew of Czechs Right Here in Memphis

Memphis is known for its cultural diversity, and that includes a great number of Czech citizens right here in our community. The Memphis in May International Festival works closely with citizens from our honored countries in order to offer the greatest resources to our students and teachers. Many times, these citizens are available to speak to your class, make presentations to local community groups, or just answer a few questions on the phone. They also often have access to unique items from the honored country to share with you and your students. If you are a current or former Czech Republic citizen, or if you are seeking contacts with any local Czechs who might be willing to assist in your teaching of this year’s honored country, simply send us an email at education@memphisinmay.org.
Websites, Reading & Resources

With fifteen centuries of history, and thousands of castles, it’s hard to fit a country as culturally rich as the Czech Republic into just 84 pages. Below are many useful books and websites which can help your students locate additional information for many of the educational assignments throughout this curriculum guide. These resources will also help them explore many more fascinating aspects of the Czech Republic. Teachers may also want to utilize the Internet to reach out to other schools in the Czech Republic to establish communication between their classroom and a similar classroom in that country. Your students could even reach out to like-aged students in the Czech Republic via Twitter or Facebook, and establish a web-pal program!

Books

• *Countries of the World: Czech Republic* by Lindy Roux
• *Cultures of the World: Czech Republic* by Efstathia Sioras
• *Czech Republic in Pictures* by Stacy Taus-Bolstad
• *Golem* by David Wiseniewski
• *The Wall* by Peter Sis

Websites


Lonely Planet Travel Site: Czech Republic - [https://www.lonelyplanet.com/czech-republic](https://www.lonelyplanet.com/czech-republic)

Nations Online - [http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/czech_republic.htm](http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/czech_republic.htm)


Questions?

Every year, Memphis in May receives important questions from teachers about the honored country. This year, teachers might need a little help with their Czech for their study of this bilingual nation, or learning to tell the difference between Bohemia and Moravia. Each year, Memphis in May strives to identify local citizens who are native to the festival’s honored country. These citizens are often available to answer teachers’ questions, and sometimes are available for classroom visits. Memphis in May also organizes a speaker’s bureau which offers presentations to schools and civic organizations. Requests can be made by calling 525-4611 or by emailing education@memphisinmay.org.

JOIN THE MEMPHIS IN MAY EDUCATION EMAIL LIST!

*Receive Information and applications as soon as they become available.*

*To join the list, simply email education@memphisinmay.org!*