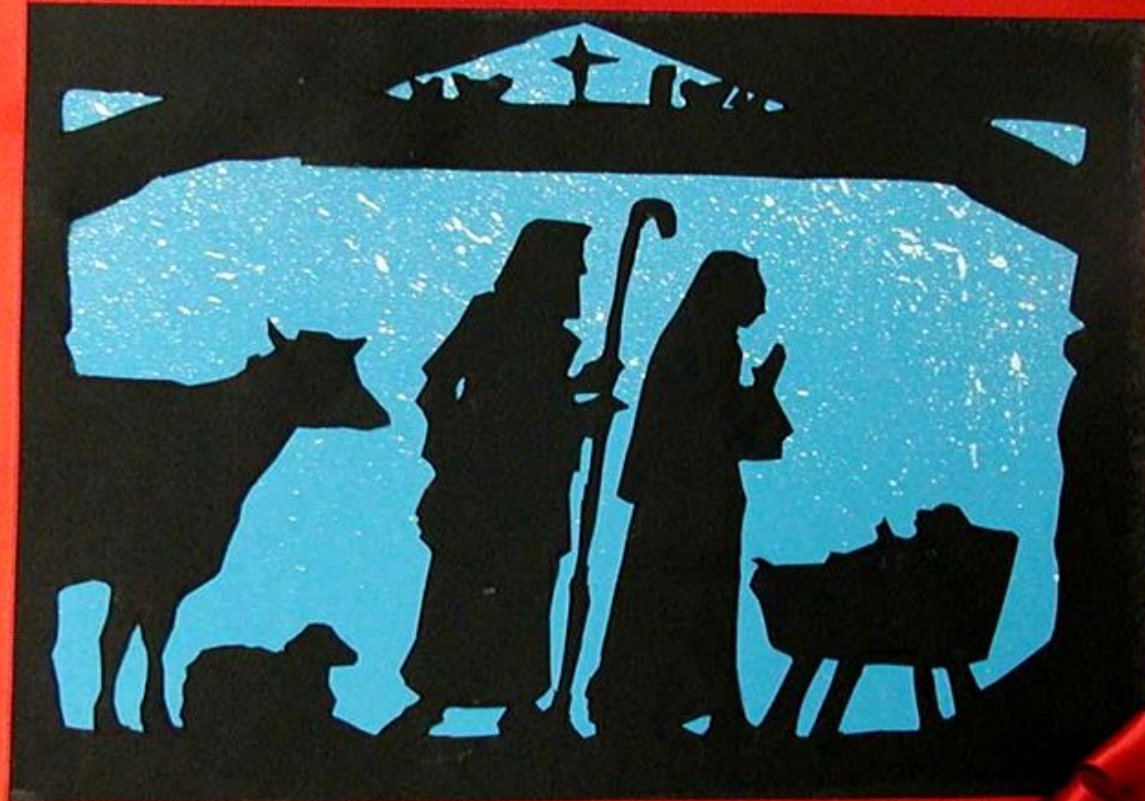


COMPREHENSIVE INSTITUTE "G. MARITI" MIDDLE SCHOOL
FAUGLIA (Pisa) - Italy

Pupils of

CLASS 3 D



presents

**A Christmas Italian tradition:
THE PRESEPE**



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THE PRESEPE ART : A TYPICAL ITALIAN TRADITION

The presepe is the model of the nativity and adoration of the magi with statues made of wood or terracotta against a painted background and goes back to the 13th-14th century in Tuscany. However, the development of extravagant nativities created in churches, full of scenes of every day life reproduced in amazing details in terms of the setting and the people ,the clothes and the work tools, took place primarily in Naples in the 1700s and 1800s, between the baroque and Rococo periods.

The 19th century saw the spread of the custom of families making a nativity scene for the Christmas period , with terracotta, chalk,or papier machè figures.





Each statue represents a character of the nativity and the scene is reconstructed in every detail : the statues of the Christ Child, the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph are placed in the open crib.



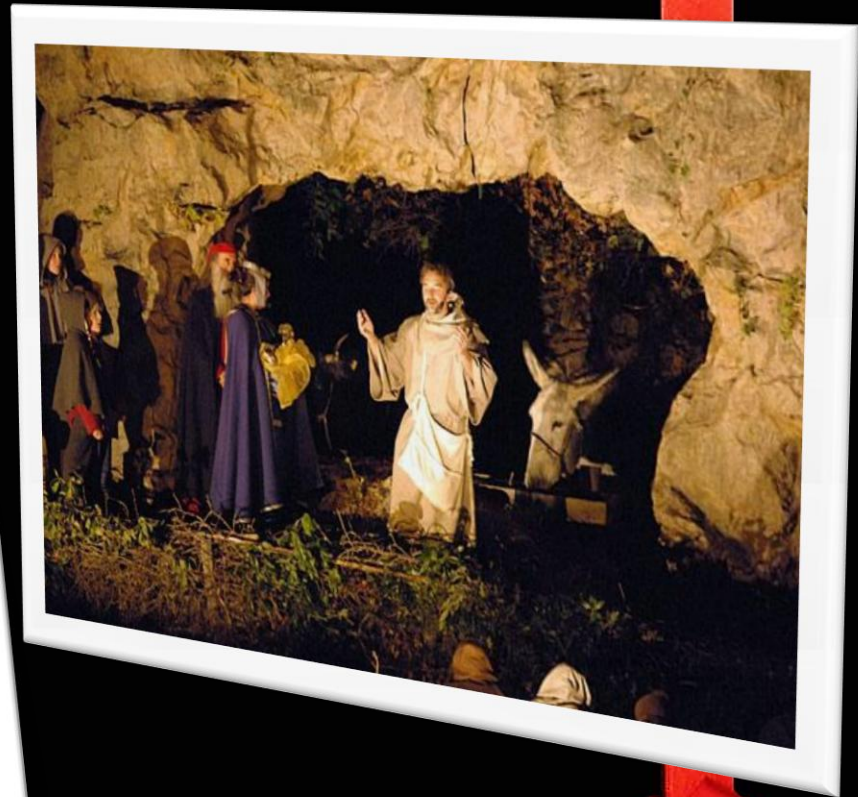
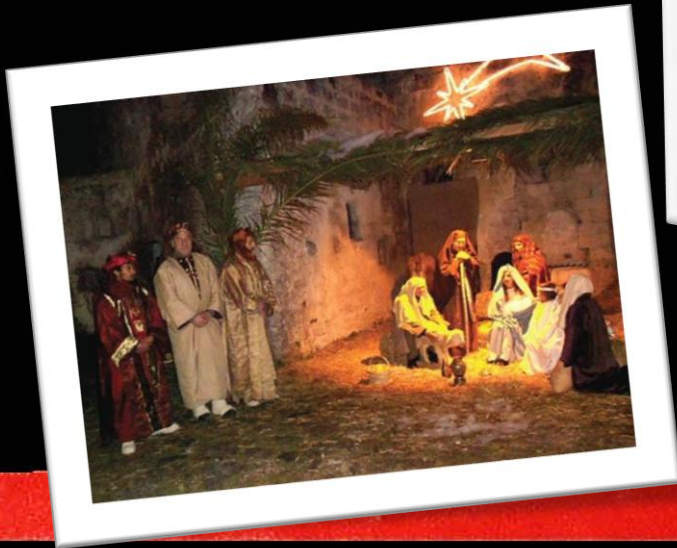
Outside the crib are placed a lot of other statues:
shepards, sheep, and common people.



The first Presepe was made by St Francis of Assisi in 1223 at Christmas night. It was a living presepe where real people interpreted the characters of nativity. Over the years, real people were replaced by statues.

THE LIVING PRESEPE IS STILL INTERPRETED IN SOME ITALIAN TOWNS SUCH AS:

The nativity of Greccio, a small village near Rieti: It is one of the most ancient living presepe in the world and dates back to 1200s : the inhabitants organize the living presepe inside the village on December 24, 26, 27 and January 3rd.



“I Sassi in the city of **Matera** “ in Basilicata (in the south of Italy), are the perfect scenario to bring back the magic of Bethlehem. In the historic centre you can meet artisans, sheperds, players. The event is unique for the magic atmosphere everywhere.



The most famous and beautiful are those in Naples here there is an area where the presepe tradition can be admired throughout the year. Very good artists create beautiful and original statues that look like famous people of the world of entertainment .

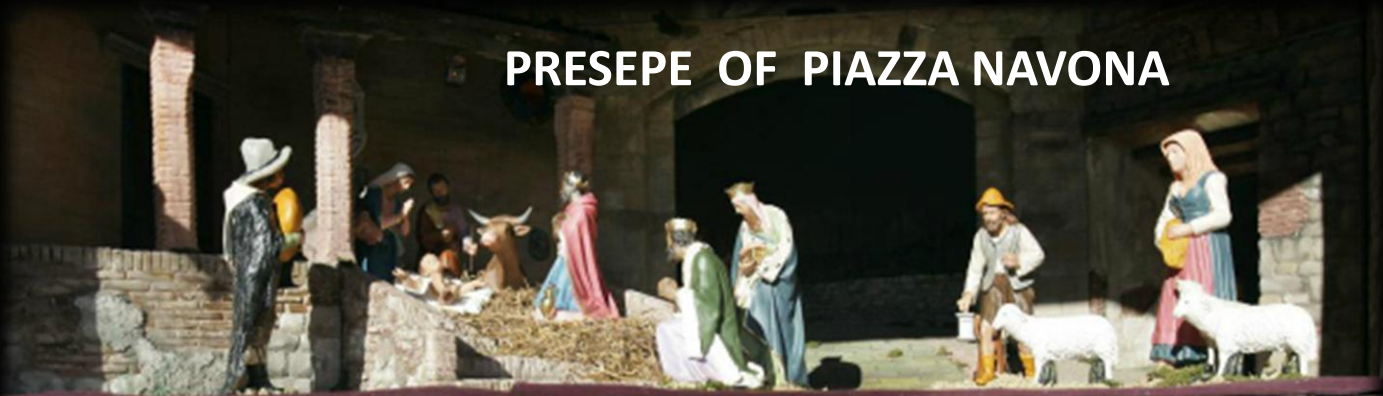
HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES





In Rome, the market of Navona square is very beautiful and you can find all you need to make an amazing presepe.

PRESEPE OF PIAZZA NAVONA



 **ROMA CAPITALE**
ASSESSORATO  alle POLITICHE
CULTURALI e CENTRO STORICO



PRESEPI IN TUSCANY





The presepe of **Cigoli**, near **San Miniato**, is one of the most known in our region.



In **Petroio**, a small village near Vinci (Florence) there is a fantastic , artistic open air presepio.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQCHevshGRE>

In the province of Pisa, precisely in San Romano, there is a big, artistic presepe set inside the cloister of a Franciscan monastery’.

**SOME EXAMPLES OF PRESEPI WE
HAVE MADE IN OUR SCHOOL
DURING THE ART CLASSES**







Reworking of "Nativity Allendale", or «The sheperds adoration», it is a an oil painting by Giorgione,1505.







**THESE ARE SOME CRIBS CREATED BY OUR
STUDENTS WITH THEIR FAMILIES**











OTHER ALTERNATIVE PRESEPI





Made of corn leaves



Made of buttons



Made of pencils colours





Wood



Glass





Biscuits



Pasta



WE HOPE YOU'LL ENJOY