



**ERASMUS+ 2018-2020: MUSEUMHOLICS**



**SHORT-TERM EXCHANGES OF GROUPS OF PUPILS  
IN ZESPÓŁ SZKÓŁ IN RUDKI - POLAND**

**11<sup>TH</sup> – 15<sup>TH</sup> OF MARCH 2019**

**VISIT IN THE MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF POLISH JEWS  
„POLIN” IN WARSAW, POLAND**



# ABOUT THE POLIN MUSEUM

- **THE MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF POLISH JEWS „POLIN” IN WARSAW PRESENTS A 1000-YEAR HISTORY OF POLISH JEWS.**
- **IT IS ALSO A PLACE FOR MEETINGS FOR THE PEOPLE WILLING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PAST AND CURRENT JEWISH CULTURE, TO CONFRONT THE STEREOTYPES, AND TO FACE THE PERILS OF TODAY’S WORLD SUCH AS XENOPHOBIA AND NATIONALISTIC PREJUDICES.**
- **BY PROMOTING OPENNESS, TOLERANCE, AND TRUTH, POLIN MUSEUM CONTRIBUTES TO THE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND RESPECT AMONGST POLES AND JEWS.**

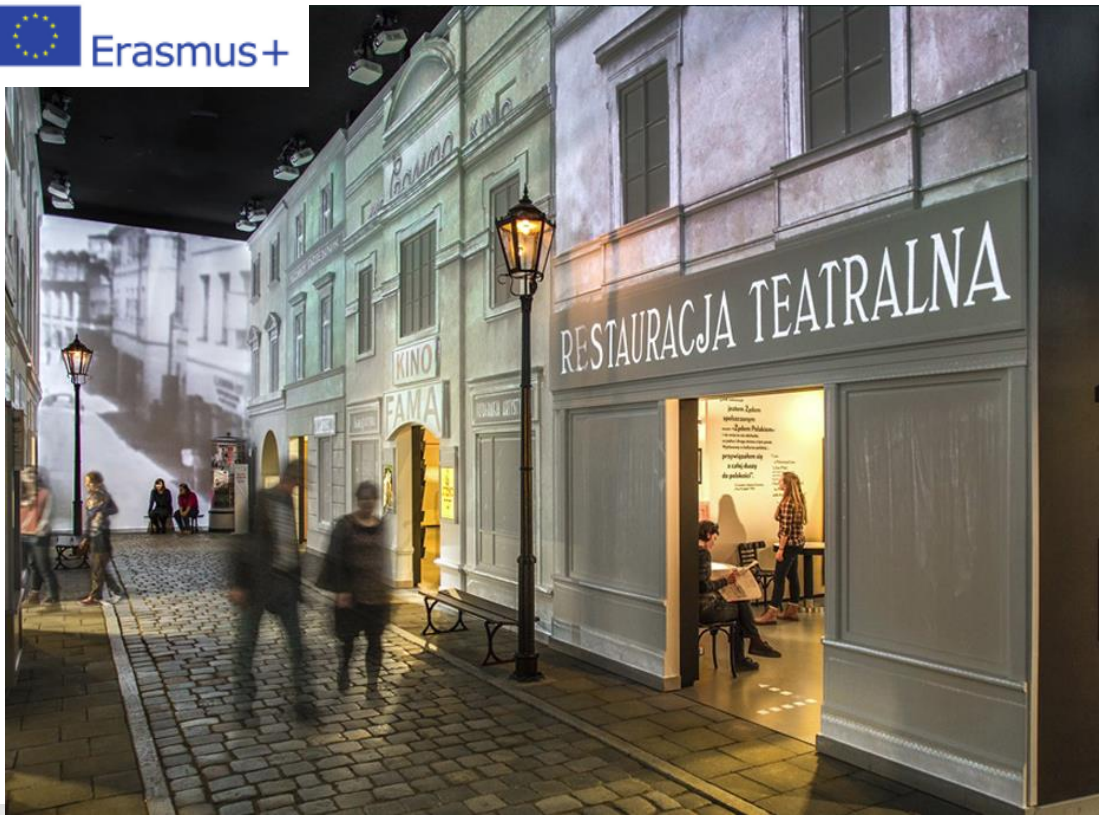
**SOURCE: [HTTPS://WWW.POLIN.PL/EN/ABOUT-MUSEUM](https://www.polin.pl/en/about-museum)**





## THE CORE EXHIBITION

- THE CORE EXHIBITION PRESENTS 1000 YEARS OF THE HISTORY OF POLISH JEWS. IT STARTS IN THE MIDDLE AGES AND CONTINUES UP TO THE PRESENT. OUR STUDENTS VISITED THIS PART OF THE POLIN MUSEUM.



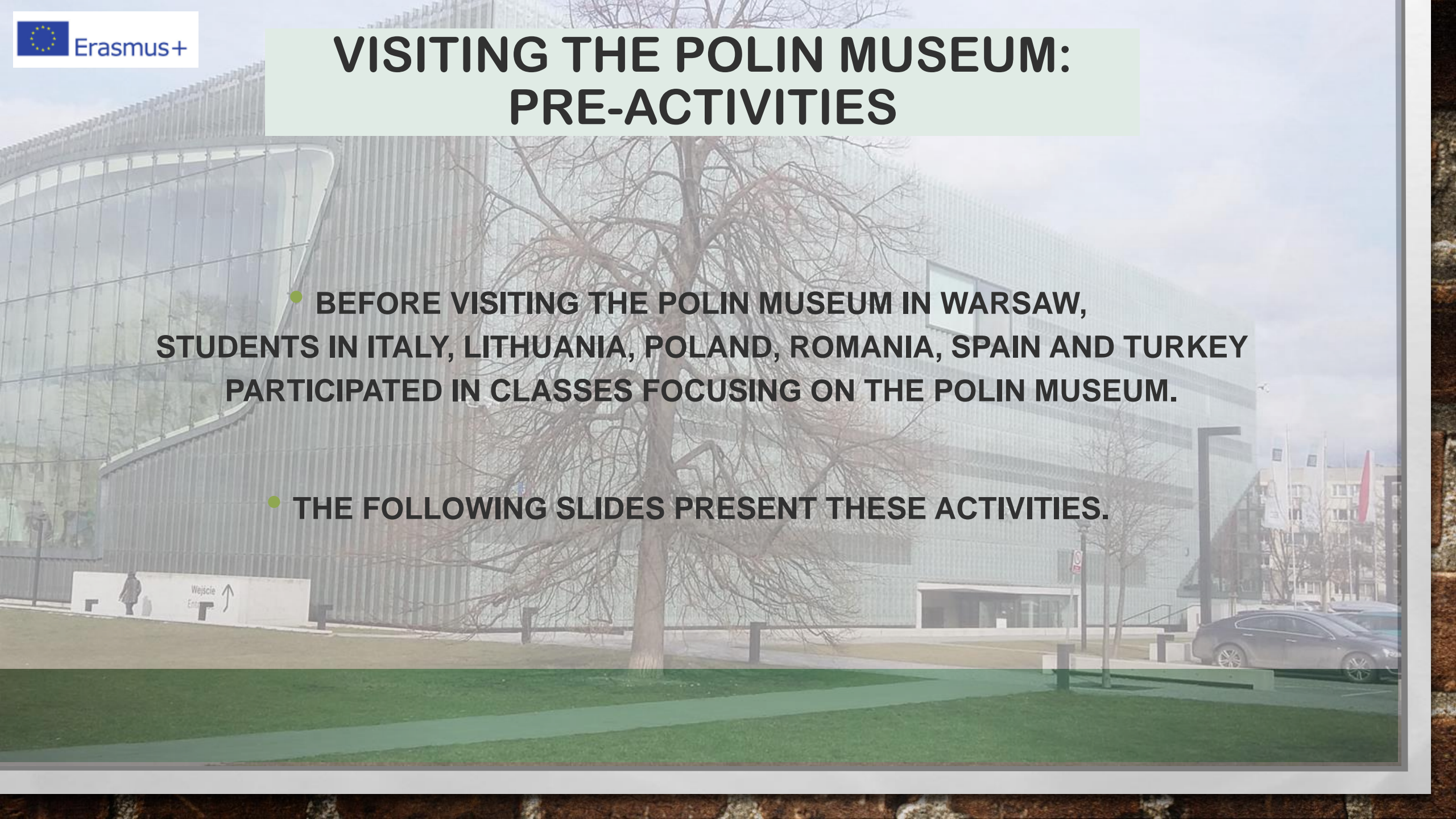
## THE CORE EXHIBITION

- THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CORE EXHIBITION CAN BE VISITED DURING AN ONLINE TOUR AT THE POLIN WEBSITE, TOO:

[HTTPS://WWW.POLIN.PL/EN/NEWS/2016/02/17/TAKE-A-VIRTUAL-TOUR-OF-THE-CORE-EXHIBITION](https://www.polin.pl/en/news/2016/02/17/take-a-virtual-tour-of-the-core-exhibition)

# VISITING THE POLIN MUSEUM: PRE-ACTIVITIES

- **BEFORE VISITING THE POLIN MUSEUM IN WARSAW, STUDENTS IN ITALY, LITHUANIA, POLAND, ROMANIA, SPAIN AND TURKEY PARTICIPATED IN CLASSES FOCUSING ON THE POLIN MUSEUM.**
- **THE FOLLOWING SLIDES PRESENT THESE ACTIVITIES.**



# ITALIAN PRE-ACTIVITIES – PAGE 1

What is the Core Exhibition of Polin Museum?




The Italian team talked about visiting the Core Exhibition which is a journey through 1000 years of the history of Polish Jews - from the Middle Ages until today.

What is the educational mission of Polin Museum?



The museum through dramatic history of Polish Jews provides respect for people from different ethnic and religious backgrounds, strengthens to fight xenophobia, and prepares young people for life in today's society.

# ITALIAN PRE-ACTIVITIES – PAGE 2



MUSEUMS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**FIELD TRIP OBSERVATION SHEET**

**Step 1: Take a look around you and answer these questions:**  
Does this museum have its own name? If so, what does the name say about the exhibits here?

Is there a sign at the entrance? What are some of the things it says?


**Step 2: Read one of the museum's labels.**  
What did you learn from the label that you wouldn't have known just by looking at the exhibit?

**Step 3: Choose one exhibit that interests you and answer these questions about it:**  
Why did you choose this particular exhibit?

Have you seen anything like it before? Where?

How would you describe it to a friend?

Why do you think it is in a museum?




MUSEUMS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

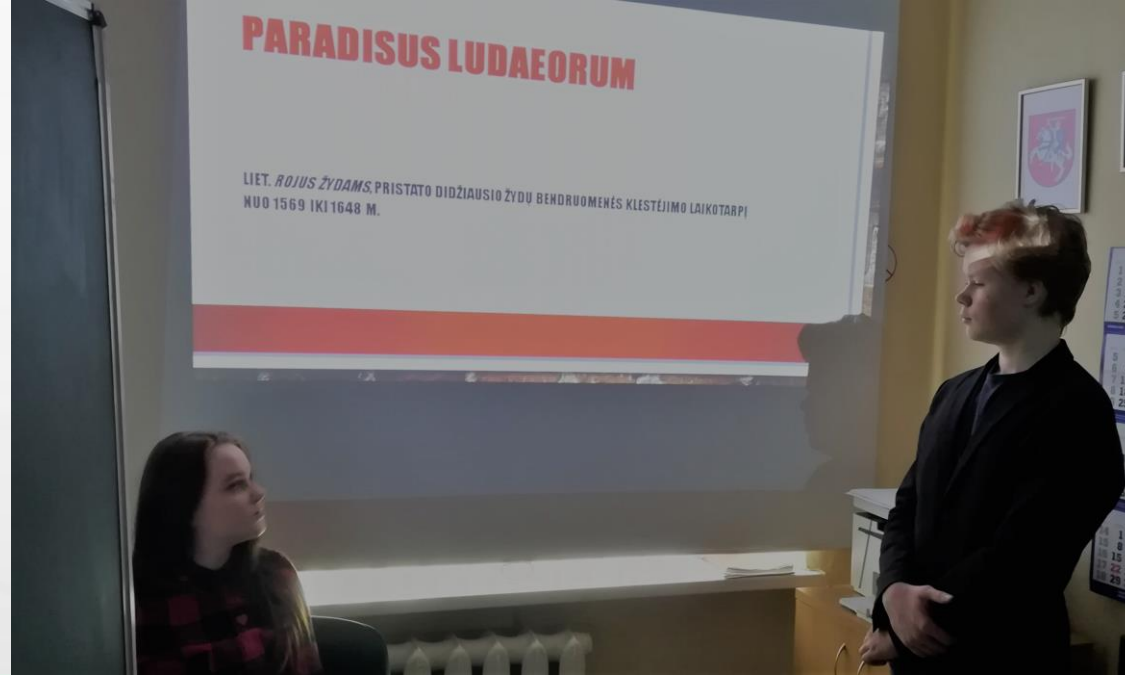
**Step 4: DESCRIPTION**  
Find words for the exhibit's function, as well as its colour(s), shape, size.

**Step 5: SKETCH**  
Turn away from the exhibit and draw it from memory. Then turn back and fill in the details you might have forgotten.



*Exhibits* are the things on display in a museum, including artworks.  
*A label* is the writing that goes along with an exhibit.

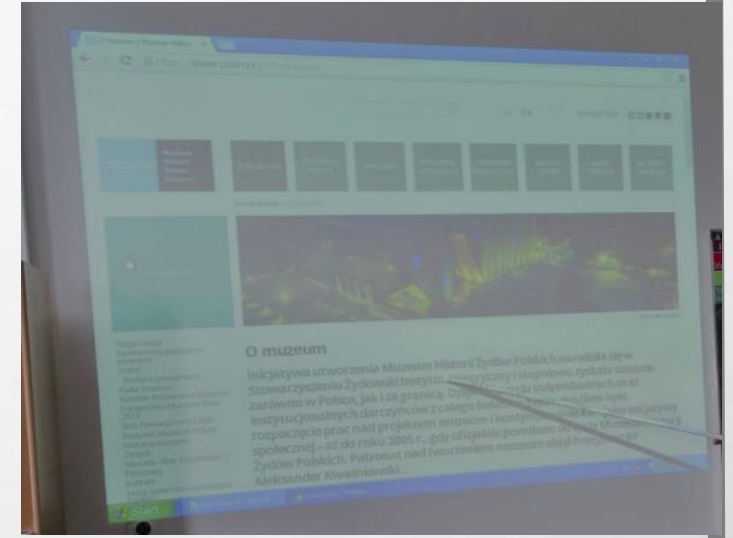
# LITHUANIAN PRE-ACTIVITIES



- Elderly pupils (who later attended a meeting in Poland) had an opportunity to get to know the Polin museum in Warsaw with the help of the Internet.
- They prepared a presentation and showed it to the younger pupils.
- The students were very interested in the information and they wanted to visit this museum as soon as possible.



# POLISH PRE-ACTIVITIES



In the lessons about the Museum of the History of Polish Jews students found out about the Museum of the History of Polish Jews:

- its creation from 1995 to 2005 when a lot of institutions and individual people from Poland and abroad united to support the process,
- its role to inform about the history of Jews living in Poland for 1000 years, for example their lives in diaspora as well as the tragedy of Holocaust and about the relations between Polish and Jewish people, both positive (for example the Act of Toleration announced in Poland in 1573 when other European countries struggled with religious conflicts) and negative (for example infamous acts of anti-Semitism).

# ROMANIAN PRE-ACTIVITIES



In February 2019 students took part in the lesson about POLIN Museum. They talked about the fact that there are a lot of different kinds of museums they visit and this one is a history museum. Students were shown a presentation about the Polin Museum's - its full name, the big picture of the building with the entrance in sight. Students were particularly interested in the security gates when entering, the old coin and possibility of designing their own coin and the meaning of different animals painted on the synagogue's vault. It was an interesting lesson and the 4 students going to Poland were eager to visit it and then come back and answer more of their classmates' questions about it.

# SPANISH PRE-ACTIVITIES



Students taking part in the project were shown a presentation about the POLIN museum. The teacher told the listening students why and how the museum was built. She also stressed the fact that the museum is closely related to the Contemporary History. Visiting the museum undoubtedly allowed the students to move to the past and understand the present properly.

# TURISH PRE-ACTIVITIES – PAGE 1



Students watched the virtual tour of POLIN Museum.  
We gained a lot of information about Jewish religion,  
the history of Jews, their lives, culture and the Holocaust.

# TURKISH PRE-ACTIVITIES – PAGE 2



The images, videos and information influenced us dramatically.  
We were looking forward to seeing the POLIN Museum.

# VISITING THE POLIN MUSEUM: DURING THE VISIT ACTIVITY

- DURING THE SHORT-TERM EXCHANGE IN POLAND IN MARCH 2019, STUDENTS AND TEACHERS FROM ITALY, LITHUANIA, ROMANIA, SPAIN AND TURKEY VISITED THE MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF POLISH JEWS „POLIN” IN WARSAW.



## „DURING THE VISIT IN POLIN” ACTIVITY:

Students watched the Core Exhibition learning the basic highlights from the Polish and Jewish history as well as Jewish life – religion, culture and many more.



## Wschód

Synagoga, jej dekoracja i liturgia synagogałna, są ściśle inspirowane biblijnymi opisami Miszkanu – Przybytku Mojżesza, wzniesionego na pustyni, oraz Świątyni Jerozolimskiej. Szafa na roduły symbolizuje Arkę, w której przechowywano Tablice Przymierza. Dziesięć Przykazań, które Bóg dał Mojżeszowi na Górze Synaj, stanowi podstawę Przymierza między Bogiem a narodem Izraela.

## Zachód

„Oglądajcie wszyscy dzieło rąk moich, ku chwale tego miejsca i wszystkich ludzi wymalował pięknie Izaak syn rabi Jehuda Lejb Hakohen ze świętej gminy Jaryczow, Oto dzieło mych rąk ku chwale według malej rachuby [chronogram złożony z liter dalet, he, taw, pe, dających po przeliczeniu ich wartości liczbowej rok (5)489, czyli 1729 r.] Taki podpis umieścił w medalionie po prawej stronie nad wielbłądem malarz Izaak, syn rabiego Jehuda Lejba Hakohena ze świętej gminy Jaryczów. Drugi artysta podpisał się w medalionie z lewej strony, powyżej strusia.



## East

The synagogue, its liturgy and decorations, are inspired in part by biblical descriptions of the Israelite Mishkan, or Tabernacle, in the desert and the ancient Temple in Jerusalem. The ark holding the Torah scrolls is a reminder of the ark that once held the Tablets of the Law. The Ten Commandments given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai are the foundation of God's covenant with Israel.

## West

„See, all this was made by my hand, for the glory of the place and the glory of the community, the artist Isaac son of Rabbi Judah Leib haCohen from the Holy Community of Jaryczów in the year 1729. “This is my handiwork, in which I glory [made in 1728/1729]”. The painter’s signature appears in the right medallion above the camel. A second painter recorded his name in the left medallion above the ostrich.

## „DURING THE VISIT IN POLIN” ACTIVITY:

- An exhibit that was highly acclaimed by our students is the reconstructed wooden ceiling of a middle XVIIth century synagogue from Gwoździec.





## „DURING THE VISIT IN POLIN” ACTIVITY:

- Another interesting exhibit was the scale model of Kraków and its district of Kazimierz.



„DURING THE VISIT IN POLIN” ACTIVITY

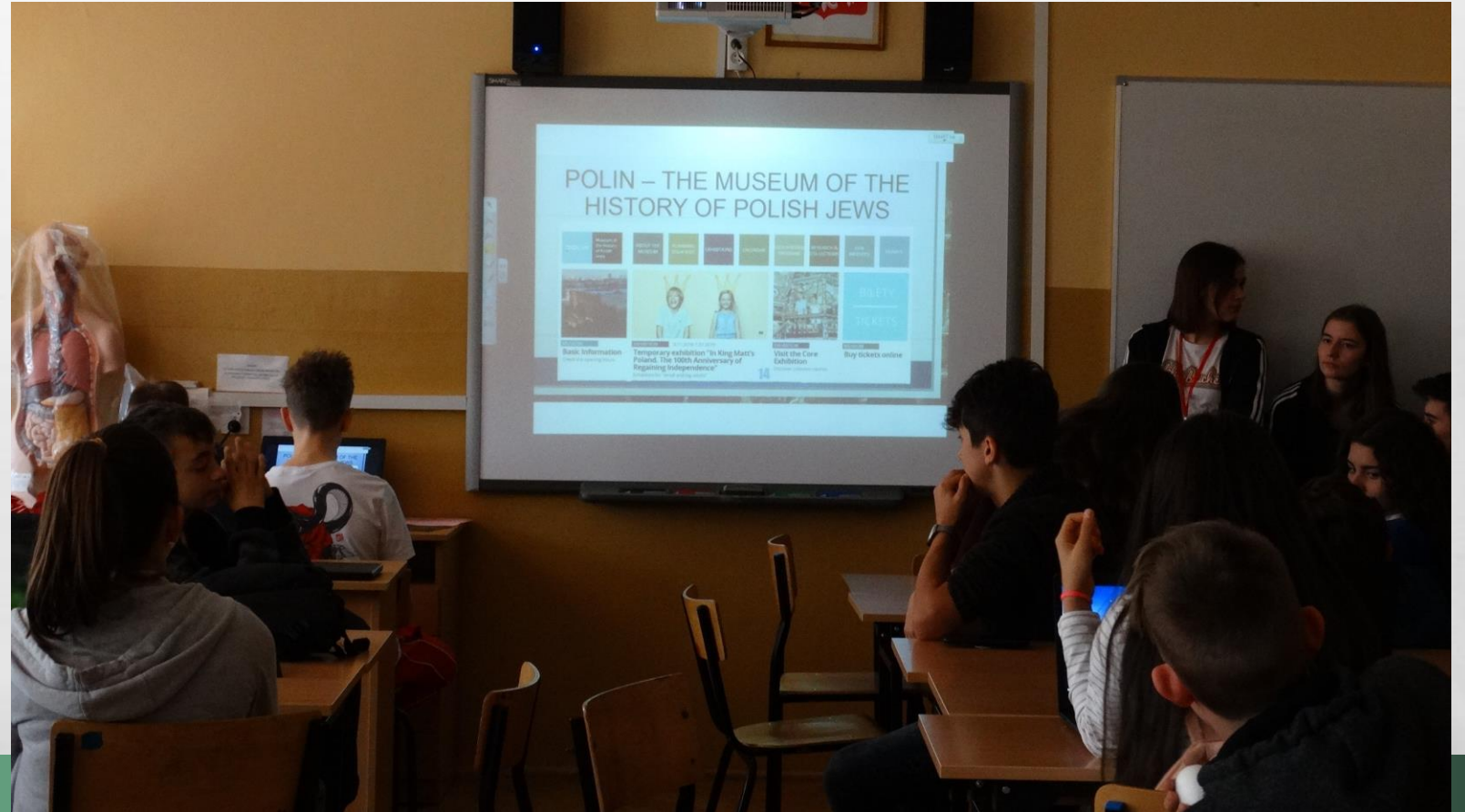


**„DURING THE VISIT IN POLIN” ACTIVITY**

# VISITING THE POLIN MUSEUM: AFTER THE VISIT ACTIVITY



**During the international meeting in Poland, students worked on an interactive board to create a padlet about what they experienced visiting the POLIN museum.**



# „AFTER THE VISIT ACTIVITY” – A STUDENTS’ PADLET ABOUT POLIN – PART 1

## POLIN MUSEUM

We saw a part of a synagogue and how the Jews lived. We also saw old coins. We liked the unicorn on the ceiling of the synagogue. The unicorn was very beautiful, it was white. The whole ceiling was very colourful and amazing. We learnt about the Jewish life: how their men and boys worked, the importance of work. Women took care of homes and children.

By Sofia and Mario from Italy



In the POLIN museum we saw: 1. Cemetery 2. Jewish diet 3. Synagogue 4. Wedding. The most impressive was the synagogue. It was very beautiful and colourful. The museum was interesting and very informative. We would really recommend it to others to visit. By Justina and Kotryna from Lithuania



The Core Exhibition shows 1000 years of the history of Polish Jews – from the Middle Ages until today. We learnt how Jews came to Poland, how Poland became the center of the Jewish Diaspora and the home of the largest Jewish community in the world for some time, and how is Jewish life being revived. The exhibition is quite big and has eight galleries. The galleries present different times of history, legends of Jews, the beginnings of Jewish settlement in Poland and the development of Jewish culture. The museum shows the social, religious and political life of Polish Jews. It also shows dramatic events from the past including the Holocaust. Yes, we will recommend POLIN to our families and our friends to come here because the museum is very interesting and realistic.

By:  
Alexandra and Andreea from Romania



In the POLIN museum we saw: 1. Cemetery 2. Jewish diet 3. Synagogue 4. Wedding. The most impressive was the synagogue. It was very beautiful and colourful. The museum was interesting and very informative. We would really recommend it to others to visit. By Justina and Kotryna from Lithuania



# „AFTER THE VISIT ACTIVITY” – A STUDENTS’ PADLET ABOUT POLIN – PART 2

## The Polin Museum

At the POLIN Museum we saw the Synagogue, the Wedding routine and the Jewish diet. We learned about how Jewish people used to live. The most impressive object in the museum was the Synagogue that was very colourful and had a lot of animals painted on it. The museum was interesting because we learned a lot of stuff about the Jewish people.

We would recommend our friends and our family to visit the museum.

By: Anda & Anca from Romania



## What we saw in the POLIN museum:

1. Cinema hall
2. Jewish home
3. Synagogue from Gwoździec

In the cinema hall there were chairs and a screen for the projection.

In the Jewish home there was a display case containing two candlesticks and a book that the women could read.

At the center of the synagogue there was a pulpit where sacred writings were read to the east of the room. There was the container for the Torah.

By: Giovanni and Caterina from Italy

1. We saw some things about the history of Poland. We saw pictures, portraits, ancient Jewish streets, maps, synagogue and models of a Jewish city.
2. We loved the synagogue best, because we liked the colors that it has and we liked the drawings of the zodiac symbols too. In the centre of this place there was the Torah - the Jewish Bible.
3. Yes, because we learned a lot of interesting things. Yes, we would recommend it to other people.

By Claudia and Isidro from Spain



## „AFTER THE VISIT ACTIVITY” – A STUDENTS’ PADLET ABOUT POLIN – PART 3

### Polin Museum

Polin museum is very very beautiful, amazing, realistic and very remarkable. We saw the beautiful pictures and a lot of historical things. The museum is a modern cultural institution. It's a narrative museum which presents a 1000-year history of Polish Jews. We liked Jewish home very much. The best that we saw were pictures. By Recep and Kaan from Turkey



In the POLIN museum we saw a map, pictures and Jewish synagogue. We liked the synagogue most, because we love history - it's like a cathedra for the Jewish people. Yes, we would recommend it, because it presents information about the past and people. By Cristin and Lorena from Spain



The POLIN museum is very big and so beautiful. It's amazing because it's a historical object. The Jewish street is full of old newspapers. Due to the enormous wealth of Jewish life it witnessed, this period is also sometimes referred to as the second "Golden Age" in the history of Polish Jews. Yaren and Ada from Turkey





- **THANK YOU FOR WATCHING OUR PRESENTATION.**
- **IF YOU LIKE, YOU CAN VISIT OUR TWinspace:**  
**[HTTPS://TWinspace.ETWINNING.NET/78007/HOME](https://twinspace.etwinning.net/78007/home)**