

A NETFLIX ORIGINAL SERIES
CARMEN SANDIEGO
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HMH

THE DUKE OF VERMEER CAPER

EPISODE RESOURCES

Use this guide to teach your students valuable lessons in geography, history, and culture. The activities below are inspired by the *Carmen Sandiego*™ Netflix® episode, "**The Duke of Vermeer Caper**." Students discover more about the places and cultures featured in the show. You can use these activities on their own too!

About the Episode

In this episode, Carmen and her crew plot to steal rare paintings from another thief in a mission that takes them from Amsterdam to a Swiss chateau.

This Episode Resource Guide Includes:

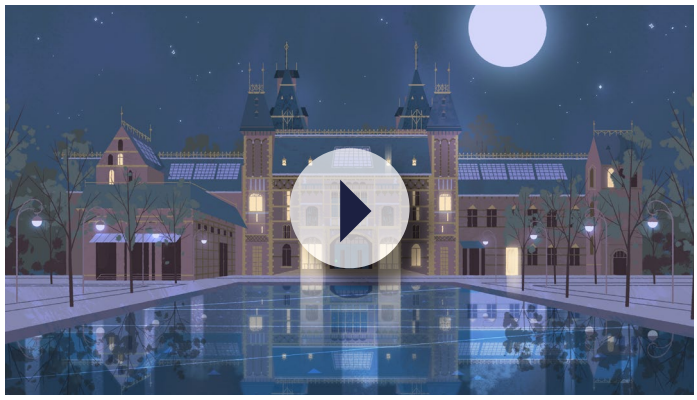
Learn It, Teach It: Dutch Artists
Students will choose a Dutch artist to research and present their findings on the artist to the class.

Take a Virtual Field Trip to the Rijksmuseum
Students will analyze the art in the Rijksmuseum. They will learn to differentiate the work of different artists.

Create a Forgery
Students choose a work of art to copy as a forgery. They will explain what was interesting or hard about this assignment.

Fun Facts: Amsterdam

Official language: Dutch
Well-known place: The Royal Palace
Popular food: Stroopwafel (caramel syrup filled waffle)
Popular sports: Soccer, speed skating
Popular music: Classical music, electronic dance music



Watch "**The Duke of Vermeer Caper**" on Netflix to introduce your students to Amsterdam and Switzerland!



Learn It, Teach It: Dutch Artists

Students learn about different Dutch artists. Then they present a short multimedia presentation to the class.

Estimated Time: Two 45-minute class periods

Materials Needed: Research materials or Internet access

1. Explain that Carmen and her crew need to learn about the Dutch master Johannes Vermeer in order to complete their mission. Assign each student a Dutch artist such as Johannes Vermeer, Judith Leyster, Rembrandt van Rijn, Rachel Ruysch, Hieronymus Bosch, Jan Steen, Frans Hals, Vincent van Gogh, Piet Mondrian, Willem de Kooning, or M.C. Escher.
2. Ask each student to do research and create a short presentation with visuals about the artist. Presentations should include when the artist lived, the type and style of art, and several of the artist's most famous works.
3. Have students give their presentations to teach the rest of the class about each artist.

Take a Virtual Field Trip to the Rijksmuseum

As a class, look at some of the beautiful art in the Rijksmuseum.

Estimated Time: 20–30 minutes

Materials Needed: Computer with projector

1. Take your students on a virtual field trip of the national museum of the Netherlands that VILE operatives target in this episode. This museum in Amsterdam showcases Dutch art and history. Project the Rijksmuseum website (https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/en) for the class to see. Look at pieces from the collection by selecting to explore the Rijkstudio. Works can be viewed by artist, subject, style, or medium.
2. Be sure to look at Vermeer's paintings, including *Woman Reading a Letter*. Point out the way Vermeer captures light. Discuss what subjects different artists chose to portray in their works. For example, Vermeer's paintings at the Rijksmuseum all focus on women in the midst of daily life. Abraham Mignon, on the other hand, painted still lifes of food and flowers.



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Create a Forgery

Students attempt to create forgeries of famous works of art.

Estimated Time: 45+ minutes

Materials Needed: Art supplies including paints and colored pencils; books of art or photos of pieces of art

1. Tell students that like the VILE operatives, they will attempt to create forgeries of works of art. Each student should select a painting or drawing to try to replicate.
2. Allow students to try to copy the work of art, reminding them to pay attention not only to the subject of the painting but to the style of the artist as well.
3. Discuss what was interesting, what was hard, and what was not as hard about the assignment.



To learn more about Carmen Sandiego, visit hmhco.com/carmen.

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