

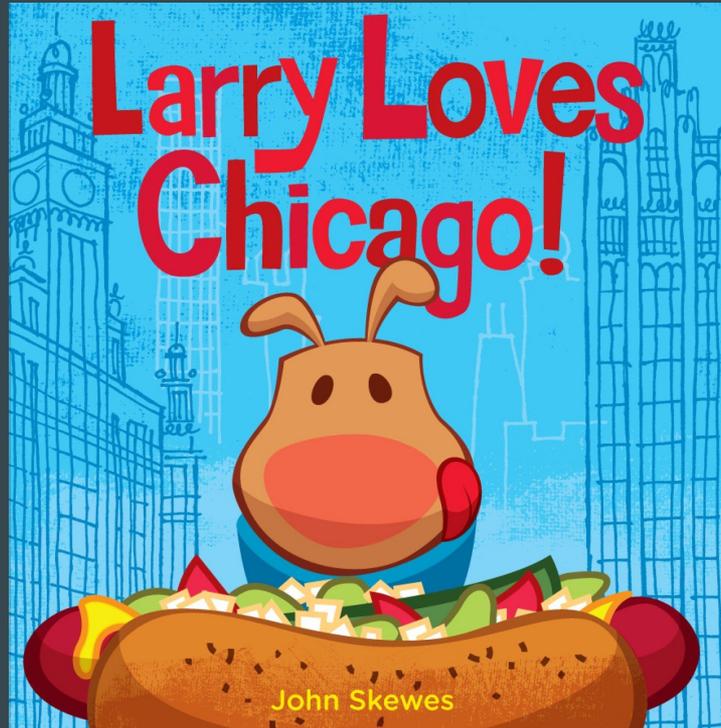
Discovering Chicago



By: Nicole Dombrowski with the help of Sabrina Ostani

Larry Loves Chicago!

With the students, I read them the book Larry Loves Chicago! By John Skewes. In the book, Larry the dog and his best friend Pete travel around Chicago to all of their favorite places.



Traveling Around Chicago

As I read the book, I showed students pictures of all of the places and things Larry loves to see. They saw sights such as a Chicago water taxi, the bridges across Chicago, the Bean, Navy Pier, and many museums such as the Shedd Aquarium, the Field Museum, the Museum of Science and Industry, and the Art Institute of Chicago.



Navy Pier

Navy Pier is a large pier located on Lake Michigan that children and families go to for a full day of fun. There is a ferris wheel, a large swingset, and many restaurants and shops for people of all ages to enjoy.

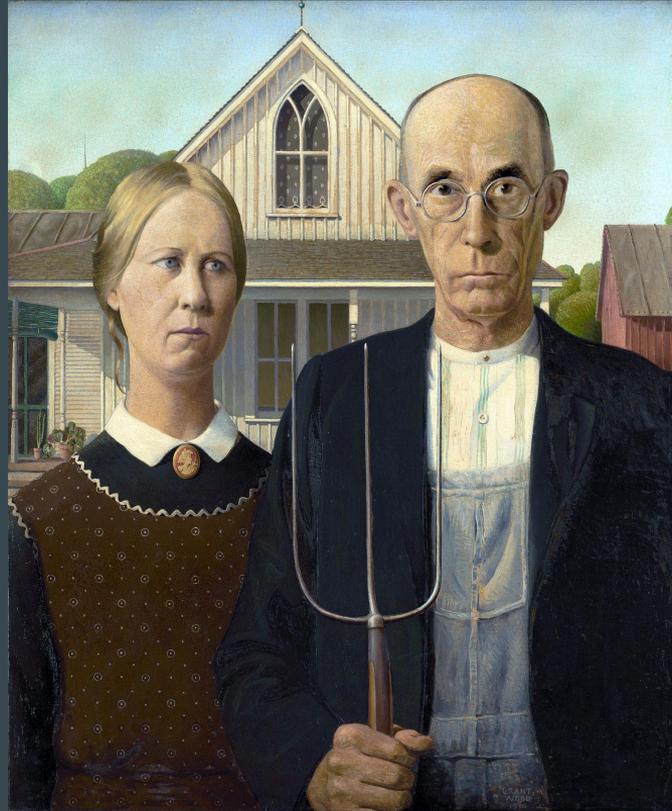


The Art Institute of Chicago

The Art Institute of Chicago is the main art museum located in the heart of the downtown area. In this museum, Grant Wood's American Gothic is held. Students learned about the American Gothic painting and recreated this famous image themselves.



American Gothic by Grant Wood



The Field Museum

Within the field museum, people can visit exhibits involving Antarctic dinosaurs, Ancient Egypt, and the Mysteries of China. The students made the connection between this museum in Chicago and the Natural History Museum they visited in Milan!



Traveling by Water

While most people travel around Chicago by foot or by car, some choose to take a water taxi. Water taxis travel through the Chicago river to get people to where they need to go. The students and I talked about the difference between taxis they see in Milan, and water taxis found in Chicago. In order for some boats to pass through the river, the bridges must raise!



The “L”

In Chicago, the subway system is called the “L” because it takes people to a specific, very busy part of the city called the Loop. The students and I talked about how this subway system is different than that of Milan because the “L” travels above ground, over the cars.



The Famous Chicago Style Hot Dog

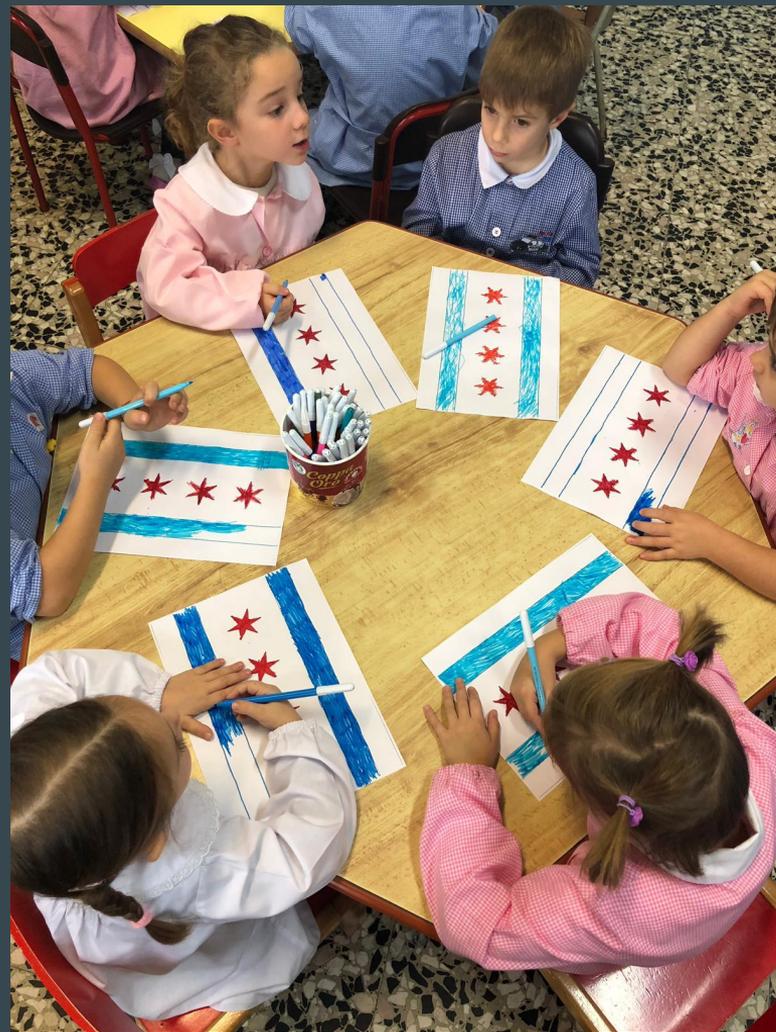
In Chicago, one of the most famous foods is the Chicago Style Hot Dog. Topped with mustard, tomatoes, onions, relish, sport peppers, pickles, and celery salt, Chicago Style Hot Dogs are second to none!



The Work of the Students

- Once the students had seen various parts of Chicago with the help of myself and Larry the dog, the 4 year old students colored in a Chicago flag.
- The flag is red, white, and light blue, similar to that of the United States.
- The students had to color the four stars in the center red, and the two stripes light blue.







The Chicago Skyline

- With the 5 year old students, after they explored Chicago with Larry and myself they were to color in the beautiful Chicago skyline.
- The students used many colors to highlight the different buildings that stand tall within the skyline.





“When Can We Go to Chicago?”

- Showing the students my city was very exciting and made me feel like I was right at home.
- They were very interested in seeing the different pictures and knowing the differences between Chicago and Milan.
- I knew that the students had enjoyed the lesson when they would ask me, “When can we go to Chicago?” I would love nothing more than to show them all around the real city!