

Origins of the Renaissance

After the Black Death

- Survivors got more money
- Used buildings, machines, ships, gold
- raised more food, made new products
- more stuff=lower prices=more trade

Silk Road (trade routes to China)

- After Han Dynasty, less protection of Silk Road=Less trade
- 1200's Mongols take over=Roads safer
- More trade

Marco Polo (from Venice, Italy)

- to China, India. Stayed in China 20 years
- After he returned wrote book.
- People wanted stuff from China.
- More trade

1300's--New trade centers in Italy

Venice and Genoa=Ports, ships

Milan=weapons and silk

Florence=Wove wool into cloth

Italy=many small independent states

Signoria-Rich families controlled government

--Signore=head of family ruled city

Florence

Good trade and wealth

Bankers lent money charged interest (Fee)

Medici Family=Richest

Cosimo de' Medici ruled the city

- hired artists
- hired architects to remake old buildings
- built libraries, collected books
- Center of art, literature, culture

Renaissance=rebirth

- Greek, Roman writings, arts
- Emphasis on people as individuals.

The Italian Renaissance

Middle Ages-religion studied

Renaissance-studied other subjects too.

New way of thinking--Humanism

- People are important too!
- humanities-art, literature, history, public speaking

Greek and Roman works studied.

--a renewal of culture

Italian Writers

Dante Allighieri--Divine Comedy

- Used common language
- about journey to afterlife
- described problems in society

Niccolo Machiavelli--The Prince

- How people should rule
- Do what is necessary to reach the goal
(end justifies the means)
- new interest in human behavior and society

Italian Art

--based on Greek and Roman art (classical)

--New ideas--(Perspective)

--Artists--Raphael, Botticelli, Titian

Greatest Artists--

Michelangelo--Statues, buildings, poetry, painted the Sistine Chapel (Vatican in Rome)
--tried to make his art perfect.

Leonardo da Vinci--sculpture, engineer, inventor, architect, town planner, map maker, painter (Last Supper, Mona Lisa)
--Art life-like, show human emotions

Science and Education

New ideas and advances in

- Math
- Engineering
- Architecture
- Astronomy (Earth moves around the sun)
- Cartography (map-making)
- Education
- People learned not just religion
- Humanities important too (like History)

Beyond Italy

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New ideas

- Paper making factories
- Printing Press--movable type
- Johann Gutenberg
- Bible first printed book
- More people learned to read

Universities

- most teachers humanists
- Students took ideas back to their lands
- Renaissance ideas spread
- No women students, but home-educated women spread ideas.

Northern Renaissance

Northern Europe

- Christian Humanism (Christian history)
- Many scholars felt Church corrupt and needed reforming.
- Desiderius Erasmus said reforms needed

Northern Art--realism

- More realistic, with natural flaws.
- Albrecht Durer--painter (prints)

Writers

- Miguel de Cervantes (Spain)
 - wrote Don Quixote
 - poked fun at Middle Ages
- William Shakespeare (England)
 - Wrote more than 30 comedies, tragedies, and histories.
 - Greatest writer in English language
 - beautiful language
 - understanding of humanity
 - still read today