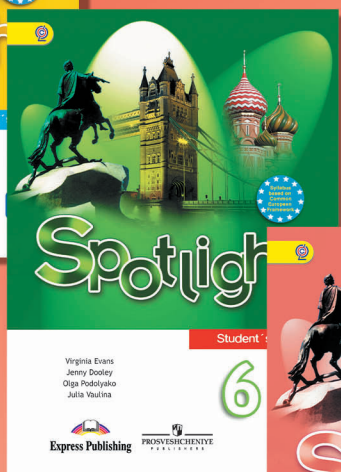
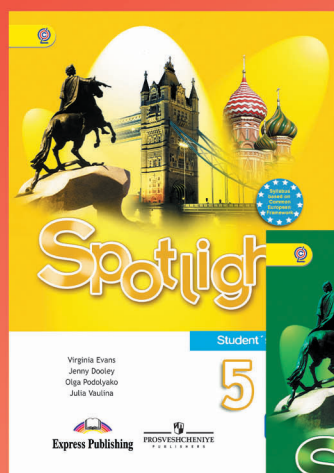


# Spotlight on Syktyvkar

  
**ПРОСВЕЩЕНИЕ**  
ИЗДАТЕЛЬСТВО



vol.10

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*Spotlight on Syktyvkar*

**СЫКТЫВКАР.** Надеюсь, что вам удалось выговорить название нашего города с первого раза.

Сыктывкар – скромный и спокойный, но горделивый и впечатляющий, центр Республики Коми. Необычное трудно выговариваемое название города в переводе с языка коми означает «город у Сысолы». В городе мирно сосуществуют коми, русские, украинцы, латыши, немцы, всего 70 национальностей – возможно, именно поэтому Сыктывкар всегда радостно распахивает свои двери приезжим.

Сыктывкар - очень зелёный город. Зелёных насаждений в городской черте в полтора раза больше, чем должно быть, согласно минимальным нормативам.

Один из старых районов Сыктывкара называется Париж. А всё потому, что после войны 1812 года там некоторое время проживала сотня пленных французов, которые позднее были возвращены на родину.

У Сыктывкара есть 5 городов-побратимов. Это испанская Кульера, венгерский Дебрецен, американский Лос-Альтос, болгарский Ловеч и китайский Тайюань.

Только в нашем городе есть арт-объект, посвященный букве «Ӧ». Буква «Ӧ» — исчезающая буква коми алфавита. Памятник был придуман для того, чтобы популяризировать среди населения республики национальный язык.

Эти и множество других фактов нашли отражение в сборнике “Spotlight on SYKTYVKAR” («СЫКТЫВКАР в фокусе»), который был создан в рамках сотрудничества Центра лингвистического образования АО «Издательство «Просвещение» и МУ ДПО «Центр развития образования».

Участники проекта, учителя английского языка, подобрали интересные факты и материалы о нашем городе и Республике Коми. Красочные фотографии сделали странички яркими и впечатляющими. Мы думаем, что сборник даст возможность познакомиться еще с одним регионом нашей необъятной Родины, узнать о его традициях и достопримечательностях, интересных людях и праздниках и очень надеемся, что он станет незаменимым помощником на уроках английского языка и на занятиях кружков, факультативов при изучении различных тем, связанных с Россией. Материалы сборника будут интересны туристам, которые захотят посетить республику и Сыктывкар.

МУ ДПО «Центр развития образования» и учителя иностранных языков города Сыктывкара выражают благодарность Центру лингвистического образования АО «Издательство «Просвещение» за представленную возможность рассказать о столице Республики Коми и поучаствовать в создании проекта.

Чередова Эльвира Радмировна

# HISTORY



The reader is acquainted with the items of traditional folk arts of the Komi people, the root of which goes back to ancient times.

## Komi Folk Art

The Komi people have inhabited the northern taiga and the picturesque slopes of the Polar Urals for long time. The people were expert hunters and equally expert in manufacture of their hunting equipment. Artistic woodcarving, patterned weaving, knitting, cloth printing, fur treatment and bone carving show the rich spiritual world of the people and their close ties with the surrounding nature.



### Wordlist

**Woodcarving**- резьба по дереву  
**Weaving**- ткачество  
**Craftsmen**- ремесленники  
**Utensil**- посуда  
**Pottery**- керамика

National creative ability of the Komi people is unique and original. It has brought us bright, peculiar elements of ancient "heathen" culture. Since ancient times wood has been most important material in the life of Komi. Komi craftsmen knew the properties of different kinds of wood skilfully applying them in the process of household constructions and different utensils creation. Timber of fir and pine-trees was used for building houses; out of birch they made runners, skis and various carts. Hollowed out and properly shaped aspen trees served as boats, pottery, toys, sledges, benches. All these things that we admire now were made with the simplest tools such as axes, knives and iron rods. Numerous remains of national architecture, carved pottery are evidence of ancient folk traditions, of artistic timber processing.

### ACTIVITY

Find other facts about history and culture of the Komi people rooted deep in ancient times!

### DISCUSS

What do you know about the most ancient finds-pieces on the territory of the Komi Republic?





## ВЫДАЮЩИЕ ЛИЧНОСТИ СЫКТЫВКАРА

FROM FAILURE TO MILLIONS (ДАВЫДОВА ДАРЬЯ СЕРГЕЕВНА, МАОУ «СОШ №12», Г.СЫКТЫВКАР)

From failure  
to millions





**Dodo Pizza** is an international fast food restaurant chain originated in Syktyvkar, Russia. The restaurants are situated in 12 countries including China, Estonia, Latvia, Romania, even England and the USA.

Is it possible to build an international business from the provincial town?  
**Spotlight on Syktyvkar** finds out more...



## Vocabulary

- idol** *n* — someone who is admired
- attempt** *n* — the act of trying
- catering** *n* — any job making or serving food
- dough** *n* — flour mixed with water and other food substances for baking
- unique** *adj* — being the only one of its type
- nerd** *n* — a man who lacks social skills and interested in technical things



## Questions

1. Who is Fyodor Ovchinnikov?
2. When and where was Fyodor Ovchinnikov born?
3. Where did he study?
4. What was Ovchinnikov's first attempt of doing business? Was it successful?
5. Why did Fyodor decide to open a fast food restaurant?
6. Why does the owner want to keep the main office in his home town?
7. What is special about his company?

The founder of Dodo Pizza **Fyodor Ovchinnikov** is one of the most successful men in Russia, the real **idol** of young businessmen. He was born on June 10, 1981 in Syktyvkar. There he studied at school №12 and then at the Lyceum at the Syktyvkar State University. Later, at this university, he graduated from the Faculty of History.

The future founder of Dodo Pizza made his first **attempt** to create his own business at 21. It turned out to be quite successful. Ovchinnikov opened a bookstore and tried to import the latest and rare editions. The bookstore soon grew into a chain of 8 «Book-by-Book» stores but in 2008 Fyodor had to sell the business because of the crisis. Fyodor had experience in **catering** and in 2011 he opened his first Dodo Pizza restaurant in Syktyvkar. At first, the businessman was directly involved in the work, he had to make the **dough**, even to do the cleaning.

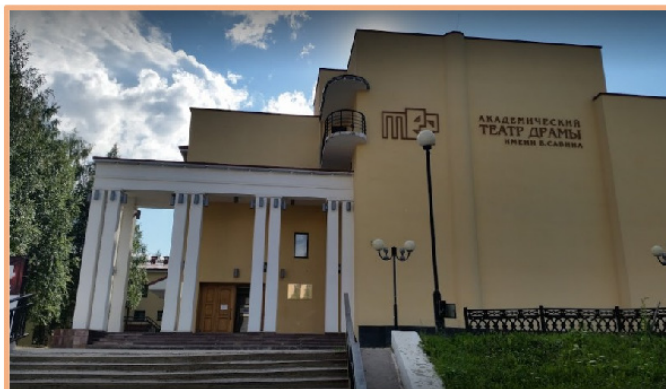
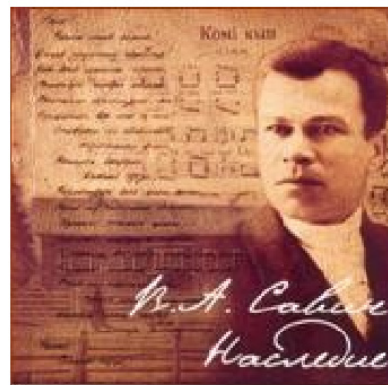
Though Dodo Pizza has impressive achievements Fyodor doesn't want to move the main office from Syktyvkar to the capital. Dodo Pizza has its own **unique** information system Dodo IS which makes it possible to optimize the process of managing. Today it provides work for about 500 pizzerias. Webcams in the kitchen give customers the opportunity to watch the cooking process online. The company even has its own radio, which broadcasts popular music, as well as tracks of new performers.

Fyodor Ovchinnikov is married and has two children. He knows how to combine work and family. He has become a character of Maxim Kotin's book, a St Petersburg journalist. The book's title is «And **nerds** do business. The amazing story of the Dodo pizza's founder: from failure to a million». The book has been recognized as one of the best books on business management. Today, a successful businessman has a number of interesting investment projects and is still full of enthusiasm.

**SAVIN VICTOR ALEXEEVICH (1888-1943)** (КОДАНЕВА КАРИНА АРАРАТОВНА, МАОУ СОШ №16, Г.СЫКТЫВКАР)

### SAVIN VICTOR ALEXEEVICH (1888-1943)

A writer, playwright and public figure. He was born in Nebdino. Beginning in 1904, he worked as a clerk in Ust-Kulom, Savin Bor and Schugora. In 1906, he moved to the Urals mines and then, in 1910, to Ukraine where he worked in mines. In 1914, he was drafted into army service. In 1918, after coming back to his native land, he worked as a clerk, secretary and chairman of the regional Extraordinary Commission, secretary of the regional Communist Party committee, and associate editor of the “Yugyd Tuy” newspaper. At the end of 1918, he organized an amateur troupe of actors and created its repertoire. In 1921, the “Sykomtevchuk” – the Komi Theater Association of Ust-Sysolsk – was created on the basis of this troupe, and Savin became its administrator and director. He took part in creation of a travelling theater that started its work in 1930. In 1937, he was arrested as a participant in a counterrevolutionary organization and sentenced to 5 years in a labor camp. He died in prison. His most famous works are “A Terrible Guilt” (1919), “Flower Faded in Sunrise” (1919), “In Eden” (1922), “Daughter of Parma” (1929); and stories and essays, “Lucha” (1926), “Beyond the Forest Hill” (1926) and others.



Nowadays, we have STATE ACADEMIC DRAMA THEATRE named after V.SAVIN in the center of Syktyvkar. The republics oldest theatre. The first national professional troupe began working here in 1930, under the direction of Savin.

#### Activities

Ask and answer questions about Victor Savin.

Collect information about famous people in your area and write an article about them.

#### Discuss

Have you ever been to the STATE ACADEMIC DRAMA THEATRE in Syktyvkar? What are your impressions?

#### Wordlist

**Mines** – горнодобывающая промышленность

**Chairman**- председатель

**Editor**- редактор

**Participant**- участник



## ВЫДАЮЩИЕ ЛИЧНОСТИ СЫКТЫВКАРА

KALLISTRAT FALALEEVICH ZHAKOV (КРОЩЕНКО НИНА НИКОЛАЕВНА, МАОУ «СОШ №24», Г.СЫКТЫВКАР)

**SPOTLIGHT on SYKTYVKAR** gives you some information about "Zyryansky Lomonosov", a unique famous Komi writer and scientist Kallistrat Falaleevich Zhakov

## Great Minds

## Kallistrat Falaleevich

K.F. Zhakov (Palalei Kalö, Gara-mort) was born in the village of Davpon (now the district of Syktyvkar, the Komi Republic). After graduating from the school and the teacher's seminary, he worked at the factory as a laborer, volost clerk in Kortkeros. Then he studied at a real school in Vologda and the St. Petersburg Forest Institute, and he was a novice in the Zaozersky cloister. In 1896, he became a student of the Faculty of Physics and Mathematics of Kiev University. Three years later he went to the Faculty of History and Philology of Petersburg University, then he worked as a teacher there. During student years, he was seriously engaged in scientific activities.



He began to write at the end of the 19th century. The first works - poems, essays, stories were published in St. Petersburg at the beginning of the 20th century. His fame was in his essay book "To the North in Search of Pam Burmurt", the autobiographical novel "Through the System of Life", and the epic poem "Biarmia". His works have been translated into Latvian, Hungarian and Finnish. Tales of Zhakov were published abroad. The scientist left several handwritten and printed works about Komi and other Finno-Ugric languages.

K. Zhakov often came to the Komi region, helped educate the local population, introducing the teaching of the native language, and considered it necessary to study Komi history and culture.

## DISCUSS

What information about Zhakov was the most interesting for you?

## ACTIVITY

Learn more about famous people of your region and prepare to tell about them to your classmates.

Starting in 1900-1901 as an ethnographer, folklorist, linguist, he began to pay more attention to philosophy. He created his own original philosophical doctrine - "Limitism". He was also engaged in literary criticism, mathematics, astronomy, was fond of psychology, pharmacology, geology, archeology. Contemporaries called him "Zyryansky Lomonosov." In 1911 he became a professor. From 1917 to 1926 he lived in Pskov, Yuriev and Riga.

He died on January 20, 1926 in the city of Riga, on December 19, 1990 his ashes were reburied at the Syktyvkar cemetery. One of streets in Syktyvkar bears the name of K. Zhakov. Besides, school 24 is named after Zhakov. In October 2001 a museum was opened there. This museum is dedicated to the life and work of Zhakov.



**RAISA SMETANINA** (СТОЛЯРОВА ЕЛЕНА МИХАЙЛОВНА, МАОУ СОШ № 38, Г.СЫКТЫВКАР)

**Famous people.** Raisa Smetanina.

Russia is famous for its winter kinds of sport: skiing, figure skating, hockey. Syktyvkar is a center of skiing and very proud of its outstanding sportsmen. One of them is Raisa Smetanina.



**Raisa Petrovna Smetanina** was born on February 29<sup>th</sup>, 1952 in the Izhemsky District of the Komi Republic. She is an ethnic Komi. Her parents were reindeer herders.

Smetanina is a former Soviet/Russian skiing champion. She is the first woman in history, who won ten Winter Olympic medals. Raisa Petrovna took part in five Olympics. In particular, this brilliant skier won two gold and one silver medals at the 1976 Winter Olympics, becoming the most successful athlete there.

In the 1992 Winter Olympics, at the age of thirty-nine, Raisa Petrovna won one more gold medal. She became the oldest woman who won a Winter Olympic gold.

Smetanina generally has 26 awards of world Championships and Olympiads. She also has a prize Order of Friendship of Peoples (1984).

The center of skiing in Syktyvkar is named after her: Raisa Smetanina Republican Skiing complex. Now she is a trainer of the Russian women's ski team.

**Wordlist:**

reindeer herder - оленевод

**Discuss:**

What kind of sport do you like?

Who is your favorite sportsman?

Do you know a famous sportsman from your city/town?

**Activity:**

Collect information about a famous sportsman from your city/town using Internet and make a presentation about his/her biography.



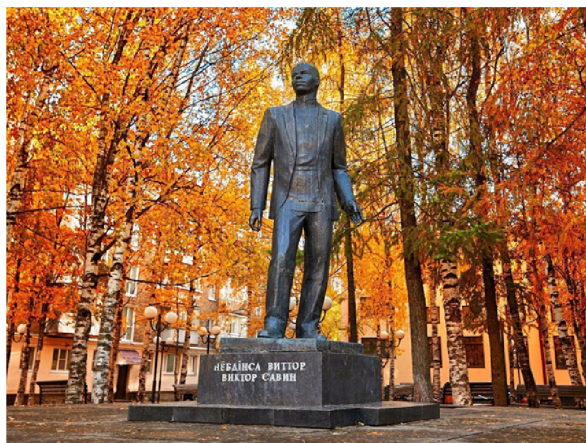
## ПАМЯТНИКИ И ДОСТОПРИМЕЧАТЕЛЬНОСТИ СЫКТЫВКАРА

**MONUMENTS OF THE CAPITAL OF THE KOMI REPUBLIC** (ДОЛБЕШКИНА ЕЛЕНА ГЕРМАНОВНА, МАОУ «ТЕХНОЛОГИЧЕСКИЙ ЛИЦЕЙ», Г.СЫКТЫВКАР)

# Culture

The attitude towards monuments is different. Some people think they are erected to honor great people and events in history. Others disagree...

*SPOTLIGHT on Syktyvkar presents the monuments of the capital of the Komi Republic.*



## The monument to V. A. Savin

Victor Alekseevich Savin is a famous poet, playwright and actor. During his life he wrote many poems, lyrical songs and fables. In addition, the poet is the creator of the national music and drama theater in the Komi Republic.

The monument was erected in 1994 in Syktyvkar, near the front entrance of the drama theater. The monument to Victor Alekseevich depicts the writer in full growth on the stage. The money for this monument were collected by Komi people. A group of masters worked on the monument, among them V. A. Shakhov, A. P. Tolmacheva, M. A. Shakhov and others.

## The monument to the letter «Ö»

Sculptor Alexander Vyborov created the monument to the letter «Ö» and it appeared in Syktyvkar in 2011. The author of the idea of the monument is Alexey Rassyhaev – employee of the Institute of language, literature and history of the Komi scientific center Uro RAS.

By the decision of citizens the monument was put near the center of Komi culture. The opening ceremony took place on the day of Syktyvkar on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June in 2011. The monument is a two-meter stone weighing two tons with the letter «Ö» engraved on it. It took a month for the sculptor to create the monument. The letter is unique and it symbolizes the language and culture of Komi people.



## ACTIVITY

What or who would you create a monument to?

Draw a monument and tell about it.

## DISCUSS

Should people erect monuments? Why?

Should we preserve old monuments?

ZAVAILINKA FESTIVAL (БЕЛЯЕВА ОЛЬГА АЛЕКСАНДРОВНА, МАОУ «СОШ №38», Г. СЫКТЫВКАР)

## FESTIVALS

Have you ever participated in any festivals? Welcome !

Spotlight on Syktyvkar presents  
“Zavalinka” festival.

There are a lot of different festivals taking place every month in Russia. A national festival is a great opportunity to learn more about traditions and customs of different nationalities.

Annual folk festival “Zavalinka” takes place in the village of Vylgort of Syktyvkar district in August. It was first held in 2004. Now it is very popular folk festival, which brings together participants from the Republik Mordovia, Chuvashie, as well as from Kirov, Archangelsk regions. There are a lot of different activities to choose from. You can taste traditional Komi dishes, try on and take photos in national costumes, play folk instruments. You can also buy a lot of interesting handmade things.

Traditionally, the festival also hosts a fair-exhibition "City of Masters", a festival of street folk fun. Children can enjoy horse riding, pillow fighting. Besides, there is a special place where children can roll in the hay. Bright costumes, songs and dances create an unforgettable atmosphere of the festival.

DISCUSS

- 1 Are national festivals important nowadays?
- 2 What festivals are held in the place where you live?
- 3 Have you ever visited any festivals?

ACTIVITY

Find out information about festival in your region and tell your classmates.

## ТРАДИЦИИ И ПРАЗДНИКИ СЫКТЫВКАРА

GORKA IN UST-TSILMA (БОБРЕЦОВ ВАДИМ ФЕДОРОВИЧ, МАОУ «СОШ №24», Г.СЫКТЫВКАР)

Visiting national festivals is a great opportunity to learn more about culture and costumes of your multinational country.

**Discuss:**

1. Look at the pictures and describe them.
2. What would you do if you visited Gorka?
3. Do you know any festivals in your region? Name them.
4. Is it important to preserve culture and customs? Why?

**Activity:**

Imagine you've got a letter from your English pen friend and he/she wants to know about festivals in your region. Choose one of them and describe it with details.

**Wordlist:**

**Old Believer** – a member of a Russian Orthodox group which refused to accept the liturgical reforms of the patriarch Nikon (1605–1681).

**Preserve** - to keep something in its original state in good condition.

**Renewal** – a situation in which something begins again after a pause or an interruption.

**Harvest** - the time of year when the crops are gathered in on a farm.

**Ancestor** - a person in your family who lived a long time ago.

**Brocade** - a type of thick heavy cloth with a raised pattern made especially from gold or silver silk thread.

**Gorka in Ust-Tsilma**

Ust-Tsilma is known in the Komi Republic and abroad as an original land.

For about five centuries the Old Believers living in the Ust-Tsilma preserve their unique culture. In their clothes, way of life, crafts, songs, dances, prayers they preserved the features of the middle ages.

Bright and colorful festival Gorka is a spring-summer ritual holiday and a pearl of the Russian North. There was a time when Gorka was celebrated in all Russian towns and villages, but today Ust-Tsilma is the only place where the tradition has been preserved.

Gorka is one of the oldest Russian rituals of the spring and summer cycle. This ritual activity requires the performance of seven dance figures or moves. Particular songs that are called “gorka songs,” correspond to each of the figures. In the past, the symbolism of the circle dance was linked to the renewal of life. The transition of adolescents to adulthood was arranged in ritual form; dramatized songs helped young people to find potential marriage partners and approve couples that had been formed earlier. Besides their circle dance ensured successful harvests. Today Gorka is held two times a year on the 7th and the 12th of July. The modern festival is held as a tribute to the ancestors.

All participants wear colorful traditional clothes. Their traditional costume is a priceless cultural treasure. Some costumes were sewn more than 2 centuries ago. Their dresses were made of brocade and silk. Some of the attributes were sewn with a silver string. The Old Believers from Ust-Tsilma pass their costumes down from generation to generation.



*Spotlight of Russia introduces you a  
folklore character from the Komi legends  
and fairy tales*

**Ghost  
Stories**

*The legends about Yirkap*



Near Lake Sindor there lives a hunter, Yirkap by name. He is on friendly terms with the wood-sprite Vorsa. In return, Vorsa gives him a magic tree which contains the hunter's soul. The speedy skis made out of tree-trunk do not help Yirkap to become the best between hunters – bird nor beast can now compete with him. But Yirkap will lose his magic power if he drinks the water in which his footcloths have been rinsed. Yirkap's unfaithful wife coaxes him into revealing his secret, and at her lover's bidding gives her husband such water. Devoid of his strength, Yirkap drowns in Lake Sindor together with his skis.

But there is another variant of the legend about Yirkap. Instead of Vorsa the Wood-sprite, a witch

appears who advises the owner of the magic skis to pursue the Blue Deer. In the morning the mother bakes a barley pie for her son and he hides it in his bosom and runs after the animal. He overtakes it by the Siberian Stone (the Urals), kills it and brings its heart to the witch. Everything happens so quickly that the pie in his bosom is still warm. The witch and Yirkap's mother thought he would not return. And it is not the wife but the mother who betrays Yirkap: at the bidding of Yirkap's stepfather, who is envious of her son's luck, she gives Yirkap some brew\_in which she has rinsed his footcloths. The brew makes him so heavy that he falls through the ice of Lake Sindor together with his skis. He begins to shorten them underwater and, all of a sudden, they say to him in a human voice: "Oh, Yirkap, what have you done! You have ruined yourself and us too. Had you not shortened us, we might have been able to carry you ashore". The dying Yirkap throws his wonderful skis to the shore with such a force that they break a mighty pine-tree. The huge treestump that stands on the shore of Lake Sindor to this day bears Yirkap's name.

**ACNIVITIES**

*MATCH the ENGLISH and RUSSIAN EQUIVALENTS*

Incantation, lament, wood-sprite, rinse, coax, reveal, bidding, devoid, barley, pie betray, brew, treestump  
Квас; требование, приказание; лишенный; пень; упрашивать, уговаривать; заклинание, колдовство;  
элегия; леший; открывать, выдать секрет; полоскать, промывать; ячневый пирог; предать



# Traditions

*There are a lot of traditions in the world. The Komi Republic is not an exception...*

**Spotlight on Syktyvkar** is ready to tell you about one unusual calendar....



On December 25, 2013, a bronze fishing calendar was installed in Syktyvkar. A two-meter circle with commercial animals depicted on it took place next to the parking lot near the city central department store. The figure was made at the plant in Nizhny Tagil. A copy of the calendar is 17 times larger than the original and weighs more than 300 kilograms.

The Komi's fishing calendar is a flat bronze ring with images of 9 animals (fox, otter, elk, wolverine, ermine, reindeer, bear, marten). Days are counted on the calendar against clockwise movement, and the report is conducted in a circle on the outside.

According to it, the Komi hunters checked on which animal to hunt in this month was forbidden. So, if the hunter went fishing in early April, he was strictly forbidden to beat the "master of the month" - ermine, because it is at this time in the northern area female ermine give birth and begin to feed their cubs.

This reflected Komi's careful attitude to nature.



## TRANSLATE

fox  
otter  
elk  
wolverine  
ermine  
reindeer  
bear  
marten



## ACTIVITIES

Have you seen unusual calendars?  
Did you like them?

How did they look like?

Draw your own calendar.



**CULTURAL EXCHANGE. FINNO-UGRIC ETHNO-CULTURAL PARK** (ДОЛБЕШКИНА ЕЛЕНА ГЕРМАНОВНА, МАОУ «ТЕХНОЛОГИЧЕСКИЙ ЛИЦЕЙ», Г.СЫКТЫВКАР)

# Cultural Exchange

People enjoy spending time in the countryside. Yb is considered to be one of the most popular tourist attractions in the suburbs of Syktyvkar.

*SPOTLIGHT on RUSSIA* goes to the Finno-Ugric ethno-cultural Park



The Finno-Ugric ethno-cultural Park is a multifunctional tourist complex. It provides

people with different activities. Any event of the ethno park **reflects** the traditional culture of the Finno-Ugric and Samoyed peoples. The ethno park was created in 2010. Visitors are offered more than 20 educational, entertainment, sports, training programs every day.

**Holy** springs, underground city and dinosaur remains - not a complete list of local attractions. You can go on excursion around the village Yb and learn its history and the legends. More than that, you can visit the Komi house "izba", lie in the **hayloft**, discover the secrets of baking Komi shanezhki and the use of medical herbs, learn to play national musical instruments.

Craftsmen and craftswomen of the Finno-Ugric ethnical Park will teach you make **rag-dolls** and items made from **bark**. These crafts,

created with their own hands, will be a great souvenir as a gift.

For those who prefer

outdoor activities there is a unique and the first in the Republic of Komi rope Park " Vörsa TUI " with children, family and extreme routes, Playground " Lords of Parma", Sami football, outdoor game of " Fish", a master class in Nordic walking, skiing and skating. In short, you will not be bored.

In the ethno park there is a place for companies of different size. If you are going on a weekend out with friends, you can spend time in the heated **arbor**. For a longer stay away from the bustling city you can book a room in the hotel "Finnougoria".

Time flies in the ethno park. After a few hours of workshops or excursions you will want to have a snack. In this case, go to our **cozy** cafe "Finnougoria". It offers a varied menu of Finno-Ugric, European and Russian cuisine.



## ACTIVITY

*What's your favourite place in the area where you live? Which place would you advise tourists to visit? Make a leaflet of this place. We'll pick up the best!*

## DISCUSS

When was it created? What to see? What to participate? Where to eat? What to learn? Where to stay?

# Great works of Art

People of the Komi Republic are proud of their fine art.

*SPOTLIGHT on RUSSIA* takes a closer look at the National Gallery of Fine Art.



The section of **fine arts of the Komi Republic** is the most significant and accounts for about

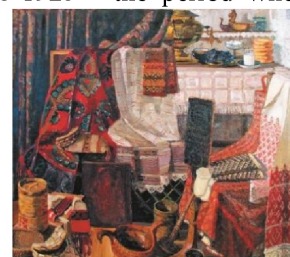
a third of the gallery's collection. This section forms the main peculiarity of the gallery's collection. The chronological framework of the section-1910s-2010s reflects all stages of formation and development of professional fine arts in the Komi Republic.



Chronologically, the section of fine arts of Komi begins with the works of A. V. Kholopov and A. N.

Porosyatnikov. A.V. Kholopov (1880-1942) was the first native of the Komi region to receive professional art and architecture education. His monographic collection has 138 units of storage and includes sketches of architectural projects and interiors, drawings made in watercolor and pencil,

photographs. Some of the exhibits belong to the period before 1917. The main part of the collection consists of sheets of 1918-1925 - the period when A.V. Kholopov lived and worked in Ust-Sysolsk, among them unique projects of sports and cultural buildings, not implemented in life, as well as sketches of the architectural appearance of the city of the late 1910s-early 1920s.



The work of A. N. Porosyatnikov, the first teacher of graphic arts in Ust-Sysolsk, is represented by five paintings. These are still lifes and landscapes made, presumably, in the 1920s and 1930s, before the departure of the artist.

The gallery has a collection of works of graphic artist, theater artist and cartoonist V. G. Ignatov, one of the first to address in his work to the theme of legends and legends of the Komi land. Of great interest is the unique collection of engraved boards of the talented etcher E. p. Borisevich, donated to the gallery by the widow of the artist L. N. Borisevich.

## ACTIVITY

Find out about art museums and galleries of your region. Do some research, select your favourite one and tell us about them.

## DISCUSS

Who is your favourite artist?

What is your favourite style of art? Why?



**THE STATE OPERA AND BALLET THEATRE OF THE KOMI REPUBLIC** (КОВАЛЬЧУК СВЕТЛАНА ВАЛЕРЬЕВНА, МАОУ «ЛИЦЕЙ №1», Г.СЫКТЫВКАР)



## The State Opera and Ballet Theatre of the Komi Republic.

*Theatre has always played a significant role in cultural life of people. Nowadays theatre gains its former popularity. More and more people come to the theatre to*

*experience enthusiastic feelings from contact with art.*

*The State Opera and Ballet Theatre of the Komi Republic is worth visiting, too.*

The Opera and Ballet Theatre is situated on a beautiful square with fountains in the centre of Syktyvkar. It was opened on August 26, 1958. On this date spectators enjoyed the first night of P. I. Tchaikovsky's opera " Eugene Onegin ".



The theatre was founded by Boris Deineka, a famous Russian opera bass singer who became the first artistic director of the theatre. The creative troupe consisted of only 104 persons. Most of them were repressed artists from the Vorkuta prison camp theatre. B. Deineka, S. Markov, I. Bobrakova, V. Privaltseva, K. Vasiljev, G. Belov were among the first soloists of the theatre. A lot of operas and operettas of famous foreign and Russian composers have been staged at the theatre since its foundation.



In 1961 the first national ballet «Jag-Mort» («Forest Man») by J. Perepelitsa was put on. This bright and fascinating fairy tale has been successfully performed in the theatre for about 60 years because it is full of Komi musical folklore, national rituals and dances.

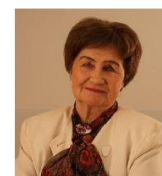
Nowadays various classical ballets are in the repertoire of the theatre, such as «Giselle» by A. Adam, «Swan Lake», «The Nutcracker» and «The Sleeping Beauty» by P. I. Tchaikovsky, «Don Quixote» by L.



Minkus and many others. Concerts of modern choreography are also organized in the theatre and always arouse interest of auditorium.



The International festival of Opera and Ballet «Syktyvkarsa Tulys» («Syktyvkar spring») is believed to be a significant event in the Republic of Komi. It is an annual festival that



has been held in Syktyvkar every spring since 1991. It was started by I. Bobrakova who was the artistic and theatre director of the State Opera and Ballet Theatre from 1990 till 2011. The festival traditionally opens with a premiere performance. Famous and talented opera singers, musicians and conductors of the leading theatres of Russia and foreign countries take part in the festival. All performances are always played to full houses.





## ИНТЕРЕСНЫЕ ОБЪЕКТЫ КУЛЬТУРЫ, СПОРТА, ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ И ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ

**THE STATE OPERA AND BALLET THEATRE OF THE KOMI REPUBLIC** (КОВАЛЬЧУК СВЕТЛАНА ВАЛЕРЬЕВНА, МАОУ «ЛИЦЕЙ №1», Г.СЫКТЫВКАР)

The International festival of ballet art “Zarni Jijas” (“Gold swallows”) is organized in the Opera and Ballet Theatre once in every two years. Outstanding ballet stars and young talented ballet dancers present ballet art of the Finno-Ugric states and regions of Russia. The festival has become a success among ballet lovers.



The Opera and Ballet Theatre carefully preserves the best traditions of Russian musical theatre. The theater repertoire includes more than 60 operas, ballets, operettas and performances of other musical genres currently.

The theater troupe has toured in Russia and abroad with great success. It was applauded by audience in the UK, Finland, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Austria and Turkey. The State Opera and Ballet Theatre of the Komi Republic is recognized as one of the main cultural attractions of the Komi Republic.

**DISCUSS**

- Do you think people need theaters? Why/ why not?
- Have you ever been to a theatre? What impressions did you have from your visit?
- Would you like to go to the State Opera and Ballet Theatre of the Komi Republic? What performance would you like to attend?
- Which festival would you like to buy tickets for: “Syktyvkar spring” or “Gold swallows”? Why?

**ACTIVITY**

1. Imagine you visited the State Opera and Ballet Theatre of the Komi Republic last weekend. You were greatly impressed! Tell your friend about your visit and impressions!
2. Collect information about another theatre and write an article about it.
3. Imagine you are the artistic director of a musical theatre. Work out a programme of a festival of opera and ballet!

**WORDLIST**

- the first night- премьера
- arouse interest- вызывать интерес
- annual- ежегодный
- a full house- аншлаг
- preserve- сохранять

PLACE OF INTEREST. THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOMI. SYKTYVKAR  
(ТВАРДОВСКАЯ ИРИНА ВЛАДИМИРОВНА, МАОУ «СОШ №38», Г.СЫКТЫВКАР)

## PLACE OF INTEREST. THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOMI. SYKTYVKAR

Place of interest:

The National Gallery of  
the Republic of Komi



**Are you interested in art? Welcome to the National Gallery of the Republic of Komi! It is the only art museum in the Republic, whose fund contains about 10 000 artworks from the 17th - early 21st century.**

The National Gallery occupies a two-story building of the former Theological School, built according to the project of architect V. Fedorov. The building itself is an architectural monument of the XIX century. The gallery was founded in 1943. The original stock of the museum was not large and included only about 30 works, which mainly were drawing and engravings by Komi artists. Now the total fund of the Gallery contains about 10 000 items of Russian, Soviet and Western European oil-paintings, engravings, sculptures and things of modern applies arts. T he most spacious department is the collection of Komi art (about 2 000 exhibits).



The sculpture garden

The museum has not only a strong collection of art, but it also had a temporary exhibition of work by graduates from the Institute of Culture and Art at Syktyvkar State University. There were some superb textiles, ceramics, kinetic sculpture and traditional toys and icons. The National Gallery also has an

education space which displayed material and information about projects and workshops led by visiting contemporary artists.

**Discuss:** Do you like to visit art galleries? Why ?

**Activity:** Tell your classmates about your last visit to the gallery.

## ИНТЕРЕСНЫЕ ОБЪЕКТЫ КУЛЬТУРЫ, СПОРТА, ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ И ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ

**PLACE OF INTEREST. FINNO-UGRIC ETHNOCULTURAL PARK** (ТВАРДОВСКАЯ ИРИНА ВЛАДИМИРОВНА, МАОУ «СОШ №38», Г.СЫКТЫВКАР)

**Place of interest:**
**Finno-Ugric  
Ethnocultural Park**

*Finno-Ugric Ethnocultural Park is a multifunctional tourist complex: it contains the cultural heritage of 24 kindred Finno-Ugric and Samoyed peoples, more than 20 educational and recreational, sports, and educational programs are held every day on weekends and holidays.*

***Let's take a look at Ethnopark near Syktyvkar!***

The park has a Komi-backyard, where a stylized hut, a bathhouse and a woodshed are erected, a congress hall and a hotel work, and venues for events are equipped. The cafe serves dishes of Finno-Ugric cuisine - milk mushrooms, venison, radish salad, Komi salmon. At the site "The Lords of Parma" you can shoot a bow, crossbow or slingshot, throw a spear or an ax. During master classes in this Ethnopark, you can learn the traditional crafts of the Finno-Ugric and Samoyedic



***Finno-Ugric Ethnocultural Park***



***Komi backyard***

peoples: learn to make bast shoes (lapti), make a Veps doll or your own ancestral sign, paint gingerbread - only about twenty workshops: you can even learn how to make a musical instrument from a hollow pipe of a Hogweed. In this park there are extreme rope routes, a rental of skis, skates, bicycles, tubing for an equipped track, badminton, table tennis. Equipped with facilities for playing ball and laser tag, there is a center for Scandinavian walking. In addition, you can learn to play Sami football in the Ethnopark.

**WORDLIST:**

Finno-Ugric – Финно-угорский; Samoyed peoples – группа северных народов; Venison – оленина; Slingshot – рогатка; Crossbow – арбалет; Spear – копье; Veps doll – кукла-оберер; Hogweed – борщевик

**DISCUSS:**

Imagine you are a visitor of Ethnopark. What activity would you like to try? Why?



## Sport in Syktyvkar.



Syktyvkar is the capital of the Republic of Komi. It is the center of cultural and sports life of the Republic. Town dwellers of Syktyvkar like sport very much and go in for sports.

The biggest sports complexes of Syktyvkar are Universal sports complex for football players, North Olimpia Indoor Ice Skating Rink for fans of figure skating, Central Republican stadium for runners, football players and hockey players, Cultural and sports center «Renova» for those who love volleyball, basketball and powerlifting, Raisa Smetanina's ski complex, Dinamo ski complex. There are several swimming pools and fitness centres.

The year 2013 was dedicated to sport in the Republic of Komi. The symbol of the year of sport became the elk Iorapi, which was designed by the dwellers of Syktyvkar.

Different sports events take place in Syktyvkar. Annually a large number of people participate in «the Ski Track of Russia». MMA events are sometimes held in Syktyvkar. In 2015 cross country skiing World Masters Cup was held on Raisa Smetanina's ski complex. In January 2017 the Bandy Y-19 World Championship was organised. Syktyvkar will host the 2021 Bandy World Championship.

There is a museum of sports fame on the ground floor of Central Republican stadium. There everyone can see awards of different sportsmen. The main exhibit of the museum is the Olympic torch. Raisa Smetanina Olympic Champion's Museum is located in Syktyvkar. Visitors can learn about the history of skiing in the Republic. The museum displays medals, awards, sports equipment. Children and adults, who come to the museum, want to be healthy and achieve victories in sport and life.

### Answer the questions:

1. What sports are popular in Syktyvkar?
2. Where can town dwellers ski?
3. What international event was held in Syktyvkar in 2015?
4. Where is the museum of sports fame situated?
5. What can visitors see in Raisa Smetanina Olympic Champion's Museum?





## NATURAL WORLD



# Stone Garden



Have you ever asked yourself if the Komi Republic and New Zealand can have anything in common?

Surprisingly, they have one!

I bet you didn't know!

The most striking and perhaps only one similarity is extraordinary stones scattered across the beach. The most startling aspect of the boulders is their unusually large size and spherical shape

The ones in New Zealand are called Moeraki Boulders and are situated along a stretch of Koekohe Beach on the wave-cut Otago coast of New Zealand while in the Komi Republic these rocks are located near the village Maloye Galovo on the bank of the river Izhma and are known as the Stone Garden. The rocks of the garden range in size from about 1 metre to 4 metres in diameter and are estimated to be about 2 million years old. The locals have known them for ages and call them Galfedsa Izyas. Although the boulders are considered to be one of the wonders of the district, the dwellers don't pay much attention to them. Some decades ago they even used the rocks for practical needs. In the summer the habitants sat on the warm surface or lay sunbathing and even dried the laundry. However, tourists are fascinated by the picturesque views of the river and tremendous rocks. Some of the holiday-makers are convinced that you feel a very spiritual energy coming through while touching Galfedsa Izyas. I'm a bit sceptical and really doubt whether it's true, but there is one thing I'm sure of: the Stone Garden is worth visiting!

## WORDLIST:

1. scattered across - разбросаны
2. startling - поразительный
3. a dweller = a habitant
4. a boulder - валун
5. picturesque - живописный
6. tremendous - громадный

## DISCUSS:

1. If you had a chance, would you visit the Stone Garden? Why?
2. Can people damage natural wonders? How?

Is it important to preserve them? Why?

3. What other nature attractions of the Komi Republic/the Russian Federation do you know?

## ACTIVITIES:

Search for the information on the Internet and make an advertising brochure of one of the nature attractions of the Komi Republic/the Russian Federation.