



POD CASTLE

**Castles for Children's Multicultural
and Digital Experiences**

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International Conference

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CASTLING IN HISTORICAL LUNIGIANA

Simone Del Greco

SENZA TEMPO ASSOCIATION - PRESIDENT



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- ▶ The phenomenon of castling in Lunigiana refers to the medieval process through which settlements gradually developed around fortified structures and castles between the 10th and 13th centuries
 - ▶ But we have to understand also the evolution of European fortifications during the late medieval period.

Tall, soaring towers in
the heart of the
Middle Ages



Thick, low
fortresses with
sloping walls
during the
Renaissance



Why Study Castles Today? Bringing History to Life

Castles are much more than ancient buildings. They are important symbols of European history, culture, and identity.

Through the re-enactment of medieval life, children can:

- Better understand the history they learn in books;
- Connect with the cultural heritage of their region;
- Develop curiosity about the past;
- Discover how people lived, worked, and had fun during the Middle Ages.

"History comes alive when we can see it, hear it, and experience it."



Learning Through Experience From Knowledge to Action

Visiting a castle and taking part in medieval activities allows students to learn actively and creatively.

Through:

- Medieval games;
 - Historical music and dances;
 - Stories and legends;
 - Drama and creative workshops;
- children develop:
- Observation skills;
 - Creativity and imagination;
 - Communication abilities;
 - Teamwork and collaboration.

Hands-on experiences make learning more meaningful and memorable.



Understanding Everyday Medieval Life

How Did People Live in a Castle?

Historical re-enactments help children discover:

- Daily life inside a castle;
- Medieval food and traditions;
- Crafts and occupations of the time;
- Clothing, armour, and equipment;
- The roles of knights, artisans, merchants, and farmers.

Students learn that history is not only about kings and battles, but also about the lives of ordinary people.



Building Identity and Citizenship

Understanding the Past to Shape the Future

Learning about cultural heritage helps children:

- Develop a sense of belonging to their community;
- Appreciate and respect historical monuments;
- Understand the importance of preserving cultural heritage;
- Compare past and present ways of life.

Castles become valuable places for learning about citizenship, responsibility, and cultural preservation.



Thanks!



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