



The Sagrada Familia at the Top! (February 26, 2026)

TEACHING GUIDE

i What? The Sagrada Familia basilica, which reached its highest point with the completion of its central tower, officially becoming structurally complete after more than 140 years of construction.

u Who? The architects and workers responsible for the construction of the Sagrada Familia, the famous basilica designed by Antoni Gaudí in Barcelona.

g Where? In Barcelona, the second largest city in Spain.

📅 When? In February 2026, after construction began in 1882.

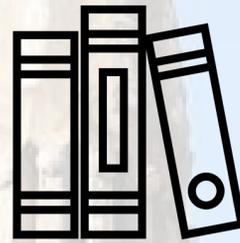
? Why is it important? Because the Sagrada Familia is one of the most famous monuments in the world. Its completion marks the end of an exceptional architectural project that began in the 19th century and was interrupted several times.

🎯 For this activity, your goal will be to learn more about the Sagrada Familia basilica.



OBJECTIVES

- Understand why the Sagrada Familia is in the news.
- Discover the history of the basilica's construction.
- Locate Barcelona and the Sagrada Familia in Europe.
- Organize historical events on a timeline.
- Write a short informative text based on the information gathered.



SUBJECTS

- **SUBJECTS**
- **Social Studies / Geography**
 - Location of Barcelona
 - European Cultural Heritage
 - Historical Landmarks
- **Arts / Architecture**
 - Antoni Gaudí
 - Architecture Inspired by Nature
 - Iconic Monument
- **English**
 - Reading a Short Informative Text
 - Information Comprehension
 - Writing a Short Article



COMPETENCIES

- Search for and select relevant information.
- Understand and interpret an informational text.
- Place events in chronological order.
- Organize information on a timeline.
- Produce a short, structured informational text.



DURATION

- Approximately 60 minutes



GETTING STARTED

- Show a picture of the Sagrada Familia.
- Ask:
 - "Have you ever seen this basilica?"
 - "In which country is Barcelona located?"
 - "Why do you think it can take more than 100 years to build a building?"
- Locate Barcelona on a map of Europe.



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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STEP 1 — Finally Finished? Watching of a short report on the installation of the cross atop the central tower and answers to four comprehension questions.

Q1 — 55 feet high.

Q2 — The tower of Jesus-Christ

Q3 — 144 years

Q4 — Glass and ceramic

STEP 2 — To Make a Long Story Short... Creation of a timeline of the Sagrada Familia's history. Information taken from the Sagrada Familia website.

Q1 — The basilica construction project is launched.

Q2 — Antoni Gaudí takes over the project.

Q3 — Antoni Gaudí dies after being struck by a tram.

Q4 — The cross is installed at the top of the Passion façade.

Q5 — The cross is installed on the central tower of Jesus Christ.

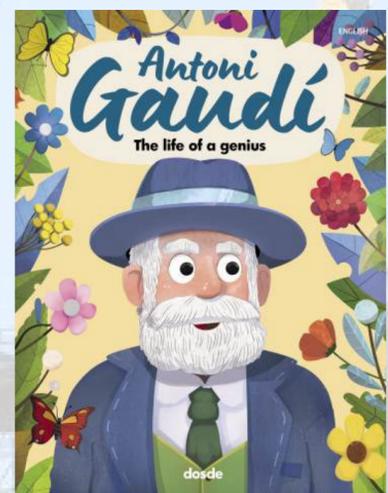
STEP 3 — A Historical Event to Cover! Write a short, informative article about the information gathered during the activity.

Personal text.



WRAPPING UP

- Review:
 - the history of the construction of the Sagrada Familia;
 - the role of the architect Antoni Gaudí;
 - the various important stages of the construction.
- Final question: “Why has the Sagrada Familia become an important symbol of Barcelona and of world architecture?”



FURTHER EXPLORATION

 *Antoni Gaudí — The Life of a Genius*. Dosde

What is the difference in height between the Sagrada Familia and Rouen Cathedral?
 Sagrada Familia: 172.5 m. Rouen Cathedral: 151.0 m. Calculation: $172.5 - 151.0 = 21.5$ meters

What is the average height of these five churches? $800.2 \div 5 = 160.04$ m

What natural forms inspired Gaudí?

- Trees/branches → branching columns
- Mountains/peaks → pointed towers
- Fruit → colorful decorations on the tops of the towers
- Seashell/spiral → spiral staircases



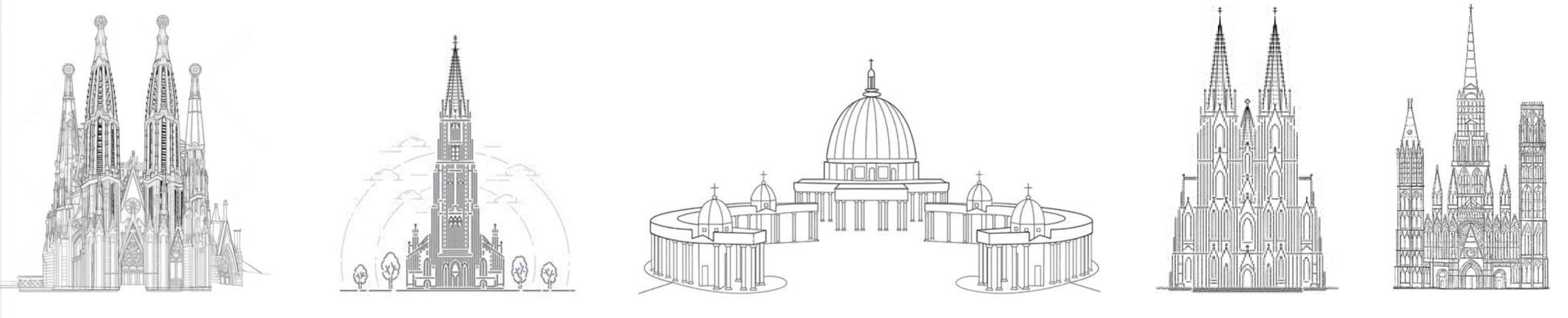


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With the addition of the cross on the tower of Jesus Christ, the Sagrada Familia became **the tallest church on Earth**, with a height of **172.5 meters!**

The tallest churches on the globe



Sagrada
Familia
172,5 m

Ulm Minster
161,5 m

Notre-Dame de la Paix
Basilica
158,0 m

Cologne
Cathedral
157,2 m

Rouen
Cathedral
151,0 m

- What is the difference in height between the Sagrada Familia and Rouen Cathedral?
- What is the average height of these five churches?

The architect Antoni Gaudi drew a lot of inspiration from nature when designing the Sagrada Familia. **In your opinion, what forms of nature inspired Gaudi?**

