

Created by  
the Romanian Comenius Team from  
Şcoala Gimnazială Porumbeşti  
based on materials received from  
**Grundschule im Beerwinkel**

GERMANY- Berlin

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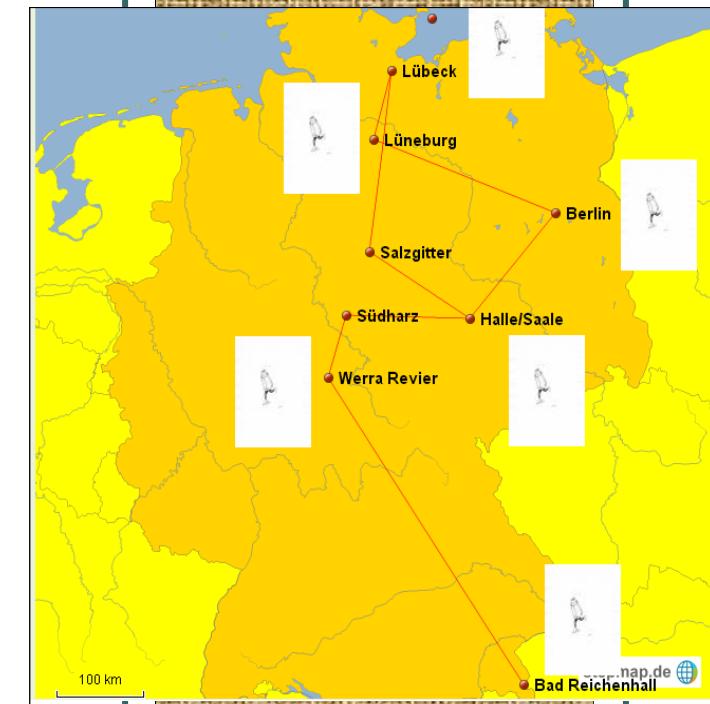
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This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.  
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Comenius Project

,,SALT OF THE EARTH,,

SALT MINES IN GERMANY



Lifelong Learning Programme

## SALT IN GERMANY

It is unnecessary to stress the importance of salt in regional development since time immemorial. The villages situated in the mining area developed rapidly thanks to their salt mines.

This was also the situation of the villages belonging of areas rich in salt in Germany, whose prosperity was significantly due to salt mining. Often their etymology is related to salt („Salz“, in german means salt) Salzgitter being a good example in this respect.

**Lüneburg** was one of the most important Salt-cities in Medieval times. Produced more than 20000 tons of salt per year, For the international trade it was carried to Lübeck.

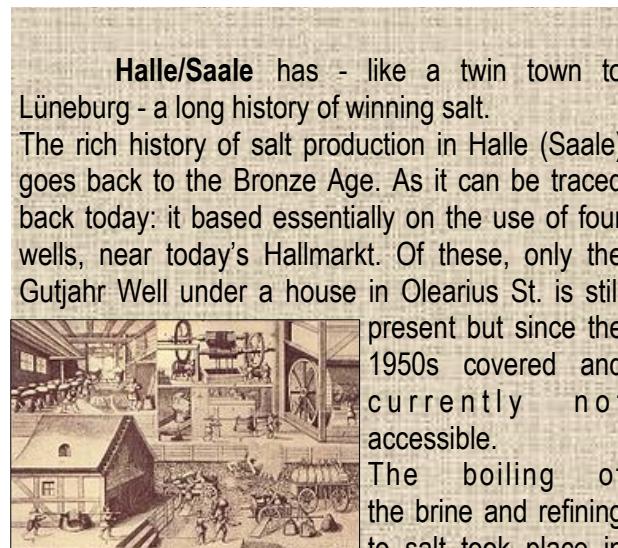
In **Lübeck** salt was loaded into ships and sold to Norway, Sweden, Estonia and Russia by Hanse merchants.

An old saying tells:  
„Lüneburg is the Salthous and Lübeck is the Trade-house..“

Lübeck – the former capital and Queen City of the Hanseatic League — has remained a centre for maritime commerce to this day.



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**Halle/Saale** has - like a twin town to Lüneburg - a long history of winning salt.

The rich history of salt production in Halle (Saale) goes back to the Bronze Age. As it can be traced back today: it based essentially on the use of four wells, near today's Hallmarkt. Of these, only the Gutjahr Well under a house in Olearius St. is still

present but since the 1950s covered and currently not accessible.

The boiling of the brine and refining to salt took place in nearby simple cots. This Saline was called "Lessee Saline in the Halle Plain" because Hallmarkt is situated lower than the Market Square. Salt production in the Lessee Saline came to its end in 1869.

The most important industry in town is shown in the technical Halloren- and salt-mine museum.



**Salzgitter, Südharz and the Werra** area are still producing Kali Salt for fertilisation in agriculture.

**Salzgitter** originated in the beginning of the 14th century around salt springs near the village Verpstedt (later Vöppstedt). The name was derived from the neighbouring village Gitter as "up dem solte to Gytere", which means "salt near Gitter"; the first mention was in 1347. In 1830, a brine bath was established in Salzgitter.

**Bad Reichenhall:** the Old Salt Works below the picturesque castle Gruttenstein is embedded in the historical heart of Bad Reichenhall. It was built in 1834 by King Ludwig I. and was a prominent industrial site in its time, modern and prestigious.



In **Bad Reichenhall** and **Berchtesgaden** can relax in the healthy salty air and visit the famous salt mines there.

