

The Works of Leonardo da Vinci

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Introduction

Leonardo da Vinci was a famous Italian painter. However, he was more than just a painter.

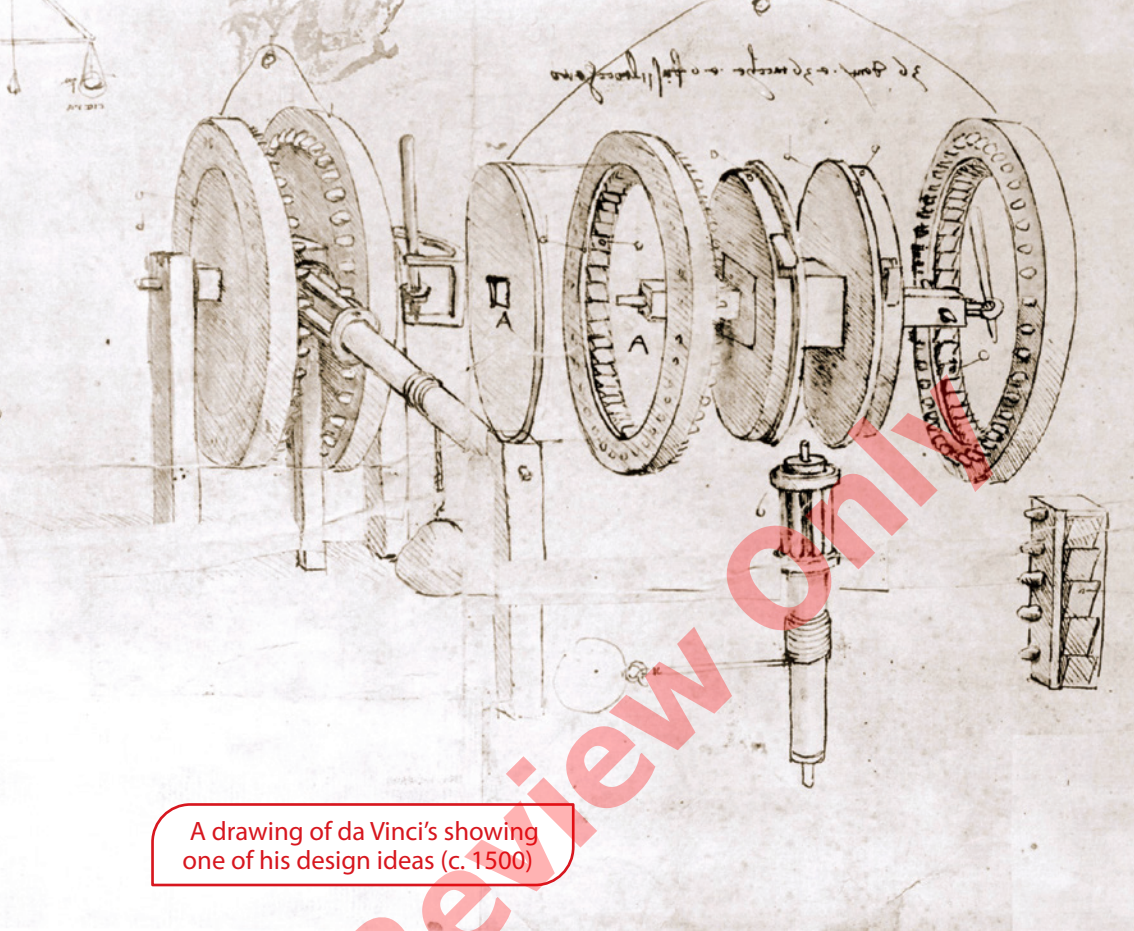
He was a
great painter!



A wax statue of
da Vinci



People from
Italy are Italian.



A drawing of da Vinci's showing one of his design ideas (c. 1500)

Da Vinci could paint, draw, and sculpt. He could also write poems and design things. There are more things he could do, too! Some say he could write with one hand and draw with the other.



↑ We can sculpt wood, stone, clay, or other things.

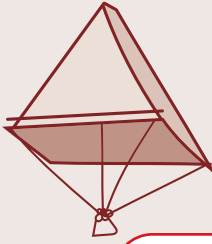


The Italian Renaissance, beginning in the 14th century, was an important time in history for art and science.

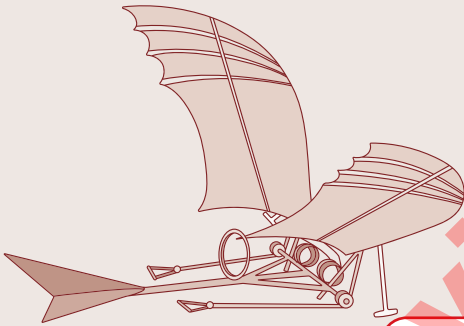
Da Vinci was a Renaissance man. His most famous Renaissance paintings are the *Mona Lisa* and *The Last Supper*.

Now, when we call someone a Renaissance man, it means that they are a person who can do many things well. ➡





Look at an example of a da Vinci drawing next to the real thing. What do you think it is?



What a great idea!



Da Vinci is also famous for his ideas. He drew pictures of many things we have now.



Audio

Early Life

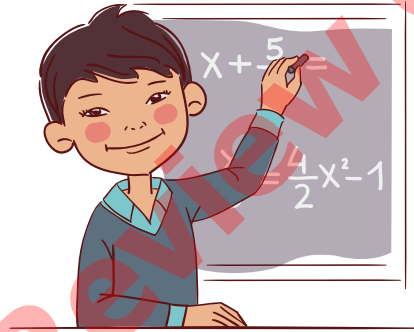
Da Vinci was born on April 15, 1452. He was born near Vinci, Italy.

His last name means "from Vinci."



Vinci, Italy





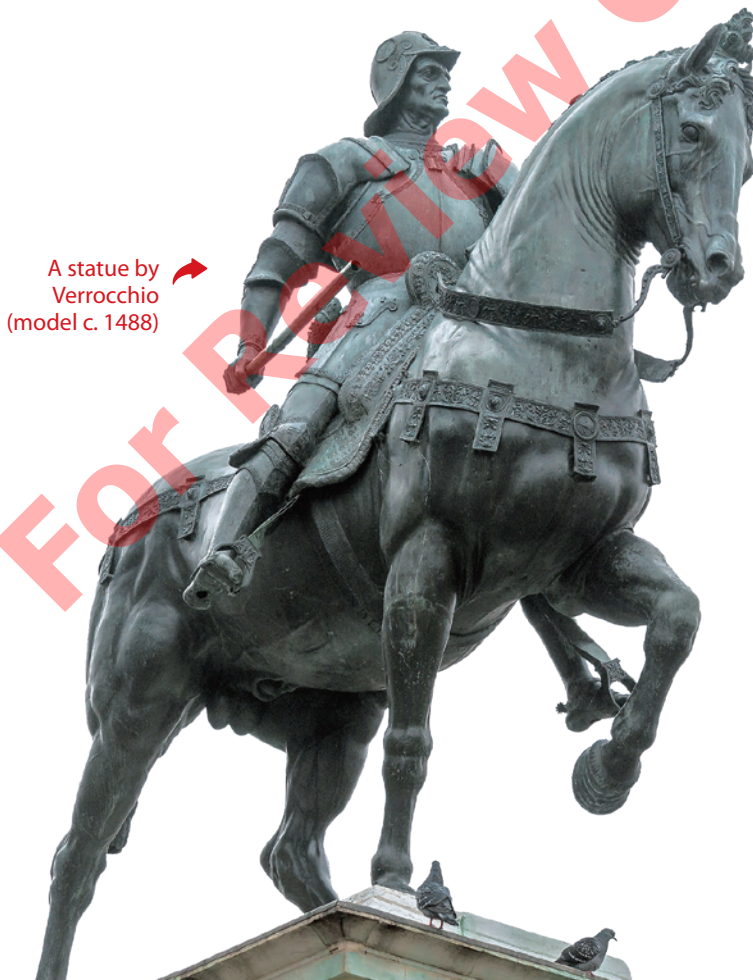
↑ Kids reading, writing, and doing math

As a boy, da Vinci learned to read, write, and do math. He learned at home. He didn't go to school, but he learned a lot. Da Vinci was very smart!

Da Vinci's father liked his son's drawings. He showed them to a famous artist. This artist was Andrea del Verrocchio. Verrocchio also liked the drawings! At 15 years old, da Vinci began to study under him.



Andrea del Verrocchio



A statue by Verrocchio (model c. 1488)



↑ *Virgin and Child with Two Angels—a painting by Verrocchio (1471-1472)*



↑ *The Baptism of Christ—a Verrocchio painting that da Vinci probably helped paint (c. 1475)*

Verrocchio taught da Vinci how to paint, sculpt, and design things. Da Vinci studied under him from 1467 to 1476.




 A drawing of the Arno Valley by da Vinci (1473)

Da Vinci studied everything around him. He drew everything, too! He drew people, birds, flowers, and mountains. The first drawing we can see from da Vinci is of the Arno valley in 1473. He drew it in pencil first, and then he used a pen.

A feather pen and ink 



Was da Vinci also a sculptor? Some people say that he made *The Virgin with the Laughing Child*. If this is true, it is the only sculpture of da Vinci's that we have today!



↶ A sculptor is an artist who makes sculptures.

Who made *The Virgin with the Laughing Child* (c. 1465)? Maybe da Vinci! Maybe Verrocchio! Maybe someone else! ↷



Reading Quiz

Choose the best answer.

1. Da Vinci did NOT learn _____.

(a)



(b)



(c)

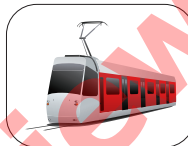


2. What did da Vinci have an idea for?

(a)



(b)



(c)



3. Where did da Vinci live?

(a) Italy

(b) France

(c) Both Italy and France

Circle T (true) or F (false).

4. Da Vinci drew pictures and wrote in notebooks. T F

5. The *Vitruvian Man* shows poems and art together. T F

6. The *Mona Lisa* is a very famous painting. T F

1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (c) 4. (T) 5. (F) 6. (T)

Key

New Words



Audio



■ **clay** (n.)

She makes a vase from **clay**.

★ earth that becomes hard when baked and is used to make things such as cups



■ **poem** (n.)

I wrote a **poem** about candy.

★ a piece of writing, often with rhyming words



■ **sculpt** (v.)

He **sculpts** a man's face.

★ to make figures or objects by shaping wood, stone, clay, metal, etc.



■ **statue** (n.)

That's a big **statue** of a dog!

★ something made from wood, stone, or metal to look like an animal or a person



■ **steal** (v.)

The thief is **stealing** a bike.

★ to take something that does not belong to you without permission



■ **supper** (n.)

She wants pizza for **supper**.

★ the last meal of the day



■ **the Renaissance** (n.)

The Renaissance was a great time for art.

★ the period during the 14th-16th centuries in Europe that had a lot of interest and activity in art, literature, ideas, etc.



■ **valley** (n.)

There is a river in the **valley**.

★ an area of low land between mountains or hills

Notes

Where should you go if you want to see some of Leonardo da Vinci's art or ideas? Check out these places:

Santa Maria delle Grazie

- *Milan, Italy*
- At this monastery, you can see *The Last Supper*. It is a large painting on one wall of the monastery.

Louvre Museum

- *Paris, France*
- This French museum is huge, and it has art from many famous artists. There, you can see many of his drawings and five of da Vinci's paintings: *Virgin of the Rocks*, *La Belle Ferronnière*, *Saint John the Baptist*, *Mona Lisa*, and *The Virgin, Child and Saint Anne*.

Museo Leonardo da Vinci

- *Florence, Italy*
- This museum has models of many of da Vinci's machines. You can even try out a few of them!

Le Château du Clos Lucé

- *Amboise, France*
- This castle has many models and 3D animations. It also shows how da Vinci lived when he was there.



Santa Maria delle Grazie



Louvre Museum

Art Timeline

Art Period	Years	1000	1100	1200	1300
Romanesque	1000–1150				
Gothic	1150–1450				
Renaissance	1400–1600				
Mannerism	1520s–1590				
Baroque	1585–1730				
Rococo	1730–1800				
Romanticism	1780–1850				
Realism	1850s–1880s				
Naturalism	1860–1935				
Impressionism	1867–1880				
Symbolism	1880–1930				
Post-Impressionism	1890–1920				
Art Nouveau	1890–1910				
Fauvism	1900s–1910				
Expressionism	1905–1920				
Cubism	1908–1929				
Neo-Plasticism	1918–1940s				
Bauhaus	1919–1933				
Surrealism	1920–1939				
Abstract Expressionism	1945–1960				
Pop-Art	1950s–1960s				
Minimalism	1960s–1970s				
Contemporary Art	1970s–now				



Michelangelo



Millet



Degas



Rodin



Monet



Renoir

Leonardo da Vinci
1452–1519
Mona Lisa
Italian



● High-Renaissance

Michelangelo
1475–1564
David
Italian



● High-Renaissance

Rembrandt
1607–1669
Self-Portrait
Dutch



● Baroque

Paul Cézanne
1839–1906
Self-Portrait
French



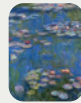
● Post-Impressionism
● Cubism

Auguste Rodin
1840–1917
The Thinker
French



● Realism
● Impressionism
● Symbolism

Claude Monet
1840–1926
Water Lilies
French



● Impressionism
● Naturalism

Gustav Klimt
1862–1918
The Kiss
Austrian



● Symbolism
● Art Nouveau

Edvard Munch
1863–1944
The Scream
Norwegian



● Symbolism
● Expressionism

Wassily Kandinsky
1866–1944
Blue Mountain
Russian



● Expressionism
● Bauhaus

Marc Chagall
1887–1985
Over the Town
Belarusian-French

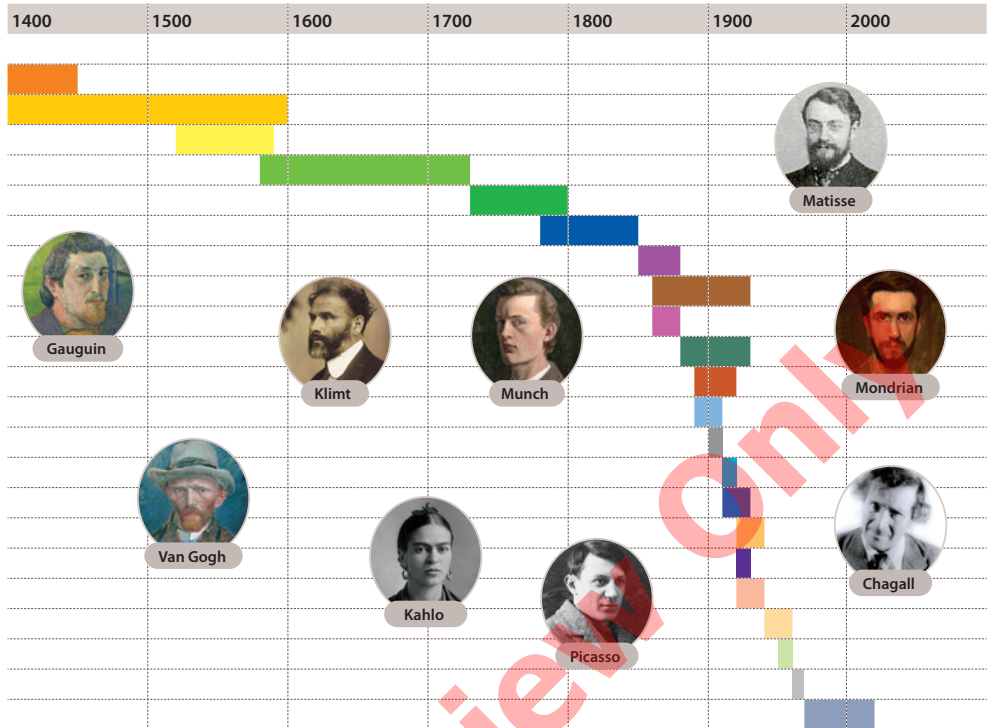


● Expressionism
● Cubism

Frida Kahlo
1907–1954
*Self-Portrait with Thorn
Necklace and Hummingbird*
Mexican



● Surrealism



Johannes Vermeer
1632–1675
Girl with a Pearl Earring
Dutch



● Baroque

Jean-François Millet
1814–1875
Harvesters Resting
French



● Realism
● Naturalism

Edgar Degas
1834–1917
Dancers at the Barre
French



● Realism
● Impressionism

Pierre-Auguste Renoir
1841–1919
By the Seashore
French



● Realism
● Impressionism
● Naturalism

Paul Gauguin
1848–1903
Two Women
French



● Post-Impressionism
● Symbolism

Vincent van Gogh
1853–1890
Sunflowers
Dutch



● Post-Impressionism

Henri Matisse
1869–1954
The Green Line
French



● Post-Impressionism
● Fauvism

Piet Mondrian
1872–1944
Tableau I
Dutch



● Neo-Plasticism

Pablo Picasso
1881–1973
Guernica
Spanish



● Symbolism
● Cubism
● Surrealism