

LEONARDO DA VINCI

1452-1519



A True Renaissance Man

Leonardo da Vinci was a master of many things! He was an extremely accomplished artist, working with mediums such as drawing, painting, and sculpting. On top of that, he was also an inventor and scientist! Many of his ideas were very advanced for the time period he lived in. Leonardo da Vinci was interested in how things worked, as well as how they looked, which is what makes his works so special.

About His Life

Leonardo never went to a proper school. Instead he was taught at home! At the age of 17, he began working as an apprentice at an art studio. He stayed there for 7 years and developed a very close relationship with his mentor.

Famous Works

Have you heard of these famous works?

- The Mona Lisa (1503-1506)
- The Last Supper (1490)
- Lady With Ermine (1489-1490)

Terms to Know

Linear Perspective - a technique developed during the Renaissance period that allowed artists to illustrate depth and space on a flat surface.

Perspectograph - a device Leonardo invented to help perfect Linear Perspective. It was made up of a pane of glass in a frame and had a viewing slot. If placed in front of the scene you were drawing, you could look into the viewing slot you'd to get a better idea of the perspective needed to accomplish your drawing.

Golden Ratio - a term that describes how elements in a work of art should be arranged in order to look the best. This concept is also used in architecture and scientific fields.

Mirror Writing - Leonardo wrote a lot of his personal notes and dictations backwards, so they could only be read if you held them up to a mirror!