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Michelangelo For Kids: His Life And Ideas, With 21 Activities (For Kids Series)



Synopsis

Michelangelo Buonarroti is known simply as Michelangelo and has been called the greatest artist who has ever lived. His impressive masterpieces astonished his contemporaries and remain some of today's most famous artworks. Young readers will come to know Michelangelo the man as well as the artistic giant, following his life from his childhood in rural Italy to his emergence as a rather egotistical teenager to a humble and caring old man. They will learn that he did exhausting, back-breaking labor to create his art yet worked well, even with humor, with others in the stone quarry and in his workshop. Michelangelo for Kids offers an in-depth look at his life, ideas, and accomplishments, while providing a fascinating view of the Italian Renaissance and how it shaped and affected his work. Budding artists will come to appreciate Michelangelo's techniques and understand exactly what made his work so great. Twenty-one creative, fun, hands-on activities illuminate Michelangelo's various artistic mediums as well as the era in which he lived. Kids can: make homemade paint, learn the cross-hatching technique used by Michelangelo, make an antique statue, build a model fortification, compose a Renaissance-style poem, and much more.

Book Information

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Age Range: 9 and up

Grade Level: 4 and up

Customer Reviews

Michelangelo for Kids passes the "excellence test" with gusto, from its clear and lively writing, to its

copious striking images, to its overall feel of facility. A School Library Review raves, "This intelligently written, comprehensive, and fascinating account of the Renaissance icon's life, art, personal and professional relationships, and prickly personality and the ways in which he navigated the religious and political upheavals of his time are handled smoothly and with sophisticated language." • Not only does this praise aptly describe Michelangelo for Kids, it helps set a much-needed benchmark for any writing that any of us should care about: When given the choice, we should settle for nothing less than writing that is intelligent, thorough, and fascinating. Anyone who has written or read historical books understands the tension between getting the story right and using the story to grab readers by the hand and heart and draw them into the narrative. Carr does both. As readers learn about Michelangelo's blossoming talents as a young man we can't help feeling a desire to create. As the artist wrestles with disappointment, mortality, and divine sovereignty, readers can easily join him in the strain. Michelangelo (1475-1564) was a slightly older contemporary of Martin Luther "the artist was born almost ten years earlier and died almost twenty years later than the theologian. Like all of us they wrestled with the same questions. What is real beauty? How can a mortal experience immortality? They asked these questions in different contexts and did not answer them in exactly the same way. But we need to know both their stories. Both the artist and the churchman can help us know God.

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