

Leonardo DaVinci

Born on April 15, 1452, in Vinci, Italy, Leonardo da Vinci was the epitome of a "Renaissance man." Possessor of a curious mind and keen intellect, da Vinci studied the laws of science and nature, which greatly informed his work as a painter, sculptor, architect, inventor, military engineer and draftsman. His ideas and body of work—which includes "Virgin of the Rocks," "The Last Supper" and "Mona Lisa"—have influenced countless artists and made da Vinci a leading light of the Italian Renaissance.



Leonardo da Vinci was born in a farmhouse nestled amid the undulating hills of Tuscany outside. Young Leonardo received little formal education beyond basic reading, writing and mathematics instruction, but his artistic talents were evident from an early age. Around the age of 14, da Vinci began a lengthy apprenticeship with the noted artist Andrea del Verrocchio in Florence. He learned a wide breadth of technical skills including metalworking, leather arts, carpentry, drawing, painting and sculpting.

At the age of 20, da Vinci qualified for membership as a master artist in Florence's Guild of Saint Luke and established his own workshop. However, he continued to collaborate with his teacher for an additional five years. According to *Lives of the Most Excellent Painters, Sculptors and Architects*.

Choose True or False according to the reading.

Compare answers with your partners.

1. He was born in 1542.

True

False

2. He studied laws of science and nature.

True

False

3. He studied neither laws nor science.

True

False

4. He used to live in the city.

True

False

5. He's considered one of the most excellent artists in the world's history.

True

False

6. By the age of 22 he established his workshop.

True

False

7. By the age of 14 he learned brickwork.

True

False

8. He collaborated with a teacher for more than 3 years.

True

False