Who Was Leonardo Da Vinci?
Synopsis
Leonardo da Vinci was a gifted painter, talented musician, and dedicated scientist and inventor, designing flying machines, submarines, and even helicopters. Yet he had a hard time finishing things, a problem anyone can relate to. Only thirteen paintings are known to be his; as for the illustrated encyclopedia he intended to create, all that he left were thousands of disorganized notebook pages. Here is an accessible portrait of a fascinating man who lived at a fascinating time—Italy during the Renaissance.

Book Information
Age Range: 8 - 12 years
Lexile Measure: 650L (What's this?)
Series: Who Was...?
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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (108 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #3,684 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art > History #1 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Musical #1 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Renaissance

Customer Reviews
My 12-year-old hates reading on his own with a passion. So when he had to do a biography on Leonardo for school, we both dreaded the process. He got a book from the school library and tried to wade through it, but he wasn’t getting much usable information out of it because it was too long and complicated. I ordered this book four days before his assignment was due as a last desperate measure. Boy were we glad I did! This book was wonderful for my reluctant reader. It was informative but not overwhelming for a child who doesn’t like to read. The basic information on Leonardo was enhanced with illustrations, timelines and information boxes on the Renaissance. I would highly recommend this book.
This is one of the best biographies aimed at children that I have ever read. The main narrative is interspersed with sidebars about different historical explanations about relevant topics such as the invention of paper, ranking of workers within the guild system, Copernicus, The illustrations by True Kelley are light-hearted, accessible, and they carry the text. How else do you explain a painting?

I read this book with my 9 year old. Leonardo da Vinci is a very interesting figure in history and I don't think that this book did a good enough job capturing that, even for a book designed for youths. The book made him sound more like a whiney artist that never finished anything and just bickered back and forth with Michelangelo. The book didn't really go beyond his painting and hardly talked about any of his other ideas. I just felt like this was a wasted opportunity.

In need of an introductory book about Leonardo da Vinci for some young pupils and not quite comfortable telling them to scroll through the information on Wikipedia, I went to the "Who Was" series looking for some answers. With a more of a storyline and less of a this is the facts version of his history I found it more interesting for younger audiences. For art teachers and artists alike this is a good book to have in the classroom and studio.

Love these books. My son, who is 9 has been reading them for a little over a year now and this book is wonderful. I must say that this one is not one of his favorites. He is a history junkie, lol. He so far seems to love the Jackie Robinson, Teddy Roosevelt, Abraham Lincoln, Robert E Lee, What is the world series the best as a 8 and 9 year old.I also read these to him in the evenings and I really enjoy them as a 40 year old father. I have learned so much from them as well. Sometimes I read them before or after my son in order to have an educated discussion with him about the subject of the book. I really also get a lot out of them as well.

Good book with great info about do Vinci. The large font, pictures, and short chapters make it an easy read. We homeschool and we read one "Who Was..." book each week for enrichment. Fast shipping, arrived in perfect condition. Will add it to our collection.

I really like this book. It's easy to read and full of details. The information on Leonardo is interesting for kids as well as adults. The art work along the way is great too to keep the history interesting. The book is made to understand Leonardo from his loveless childhood to his self views of failing as an adult. I felt the story motivates and also encourages children to know that failure often means a way
to success and to explore and do what you love, is a life worth living.

How great is it to just go to your phone and download a good kids book when you little one forgets to bring home their nightly reading from school? Can not beat the convenience. Oh, and the biographical books are very entertaining an informative. After reading this one, my 10 year old wanted to go online and look the paintings. High quality images of the paintings were not included, just drawings of them.

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