

Week #1

Michelangelo

Born: March 6, 1475, in Caprese, Italy

Died: February 18, 1564

Full name: Michelangelo Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni

Michelangelo was an Italian painter, sculptor, architect, poet, and engineer. Much of his artwork has a Biblical theme. He did most of his work during the High Renaissance Era (1475–1525). Some of Michelangelo's best-known sculptures are the statues *David* (1504) and *Pietà* (1492). Michelangelo also painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel and helped design St. Peter's Church in Rome, Italy.



Art Project: Place a chair in the middle of the floor. Tape a piece of art paper underneath the seat of the chair. Have your artist lie on the floor and slide under the chair, facing up. Place a tray next to your artist with markers, pencils, crayons, or paintbrushes and a palette of paints. Have them create a masterpiece while lying down, just like Michelangelo did while painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel! (If they are using paints, be sure to protect their eyes in case they get too much on their brush and it drips.)

A little something extra: Suggest their masterpiece have a Biblical theme.

Library Aids:

Title: *Michelangelo: The Artist, The Man, and His Times*. Author: William E. Wallace ©2010

Title: *Michelangelo and the Sistine Chapel* Author: Andrew Graham-Dixon ©2009

Title: *Michelangelo* (JUV) Author: Phyllis Raybin-Emert ©2012



Scene from *Genesis* on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel

Week #2

Pablo Picasso

Born: October 25, 1881, in Malaga, Andalucia, Spain

Died: April 8, 1973, in Mougins, Alpes-Maritimes, France

Picasso Quote: "Art is a lie that makes us realize the truth."

Pablo Ruiz y Picasso was a Spanish artist/sculptor who painted in many moods and styles. He popularized cubism, a style that incorporates simple, flat shapes. Some of Picasso's most famous paintings are *Les Femmes d'Alger* (1907), *The Old Guitarist* (1903), *Jacqueline with Flowers* (1954), *The Three Musicians* (1921), and the sculpture *Head of a Woman* (1959).



Cubism was the first "abstract" art style that began in the early 1900s when artists such as Georges Braque (French) and Pablo Picasso (Spanish) began painting in such a way that was far removed from traditional art styles. The Cubists tried to create a new way of seeing things in art. Many of their subjects, be they people or landscapes, were represented as combinations of basic geometric shapes—sometimes showing multiple viewpoints of a particular image. This approach was related more to the way we see images in our "mind's eye" rather than in real life, that is if we close our eyes and try to see an image, perhaps of a friend or a family member, it is often hard to visualize the "whole" image—we usually see parts or fractured pieces. Cubist pictures are therefore often described as looking like pieces of fractured glass. (Definition courtesy of theartgallery.com)



Art Project: Choose several different colors of construction paper. Cut out geometric shapes in all different sizes (circles, squares, triangles, rectangles, diamonds, etc.). Create your masterpiece by laying the different shapes out on a blank piece of construction paper. Ovals and circles could be faces, mountains, or bodies. Triangles could be someone's nose or a series of mountains. Squares or rectangles can be houses or tree trunks. Once a masterpiece has been created, glue down the pieces. Your artist can add some details with a marker or pencil, but be sure the main focus of the masterpiece is the

shapes.

Library Aids:

Title: *Pablo Picasso* (JUV)

Author: Mike Venezia ©2015

Title: *Who was Pablo Picasso* (JUV)

Author: True Kelley ©2009

Title: *Pablo Picasso*

Author: Stefano Loria ©1995

Picasso's *The Three Musicians*

