

原画 王人彦
神楽川
使徒





Katslitter Hawkseye

Surfing the Great Wave of Koalabear



Furryman Velociraptor Delacros

Monkey Leading the Ape People

Pete Monkeyman

Four Birds, with Black,
Red, Blue, and Yellow

Clawed Monkey

The Frogs' Pad





Gorgeous Sir Rat
Giraffes in the Bath

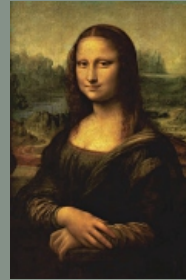






Sandro Botticelli,
Birth of Venus,
late 1485–1486
Uffizi Gallery, Florence

Venus, the Roman goddess of love and beauty, was born of the sea. A cockle shell emerged from a wave and, when it opened, Venus stood there. She didn't appear as a little baby, but as a wondrously beautiful, fully-grown young woman. The god of wind, Zephyr, and the goddess of the breeze, Aura, blew the shell like a boat onto the island of Cyprus. Waiting there with a pretty pink cape was Hora, the goddess of the seasons. Clearly, Venus could not land there naked! Renaissance artist Sandro Botticelli made this painting, and he depicted Venus as quite thin. But beauty can be any size! The 'hippo lady' on page 8 would also make a perfect goddess of beauty and love! → p. 8



Leonardo da Vinci,
Mona Lisa (La Gioconda),
approx. 1503-1506
Louvre, Paris

This fine lady is Mona Lisa. Leonardo da Vinci was commissioned to paint her portrait, but when the work was completed, Leonardo refused to give it away. He took the Mona Lisa painting everywhere he went. It eventually ended up with the king of France, and it now hangs in one of world's grandest art museums, the Louvre in Paris. This painting became even more famous after it was stolen in 1911 and then recovered 2 years later. Our illustrator found the picture a little too gloomy, so she looked for an animal with a light pink color. That's how the Mona Lisa became a smiling piglet. → cover and p. 9



Michelangelo Buonarroti,
The Creation of Adam, 1510
Sistine Chapel ceiling, Rome

Michelangelo was among the world's best artists in his time. One day, Pope Julius II asked him to paint the ceiling of his chapel. It took four years to paint the entire ceiling, which is about the size of 2 tennis courts. Throughout this process, the artist was in pain. Michelangelo worked high above the ground on scaffolding, and he constantly had to look above him and hold up his arm when painting! → p. 10/11



Diego Velázquez,
Portrait of Innocent X.,
approx. 1650

Galleria Doria Pamphili,
Rome

Diego Velázquez was court painter to the king of Spain, and Pope Innocent X in Rome was also a big fan of Diego's art. When he commissioned a portrait from Diego, the artist depicted him with a rather stern and angry face. Everyone thought Innocent would be annoyed, but he accepted the portrait with grace and hung it in his palace. By the way, the pope is the head of the Catholic church, and most popes are old, wise and gray - just like an elephant! → p. 12



Jean-Honoré
Fragonard,
The Swing,
approx. 1767

Wallace Collection,
London

This work is a rococo painting. Rococo isn't the name of a parrot - it's an artistic style. Rococo painters adored dresses with lots of lace, cuffs, bobbles, bows, flowers and pastel colors. You can see most of these items on the girl here, painted by French artist Jean-Honoré Fragonard. → p. 14



Johannes Vermeer,
The Milkmaid,
1657–1658

Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam

Johannes Vermeer only created 34 paintings in his lifetime. He could paint beautifully, but he often couldn't devote much time for it. Johannes had an art shop and an inn and, added to all that, no fewer than eleven kids, each of whom wanted to play with their papa every day. *The Milkmaid* is one of Vermeer's best known works. Later, it was even used to advertise chocolate pudding! → p. 13



Jacques-Louis David, *Napoleon
Crossing the Alps*, 1801–1805

Five versions of this painting exist around Europe: at the Palace of Versailles (2 Versions) in Versailles, France; at Malmaison Castle and Charlottenburg Palace in Berlin; and at the Belvedere museum in Vienna

Have you heard of Napoleon? Long ago, he was the emperor of France. Napoleon was powerful and always got his way (like a crocodile). One day, he announced that he wanted to hunt rabbits. His attendant quickly bought one thousand white bunnies and set them loose in a park, so Napoleon would not need to look very far. These rabbits, however, were tame and did not run away. Instead, they ran up to the emperor trustfully, thinking he would give them some carrots! Napoleon found the animals so cute, he didn't shoot a single one of them. → p. 15