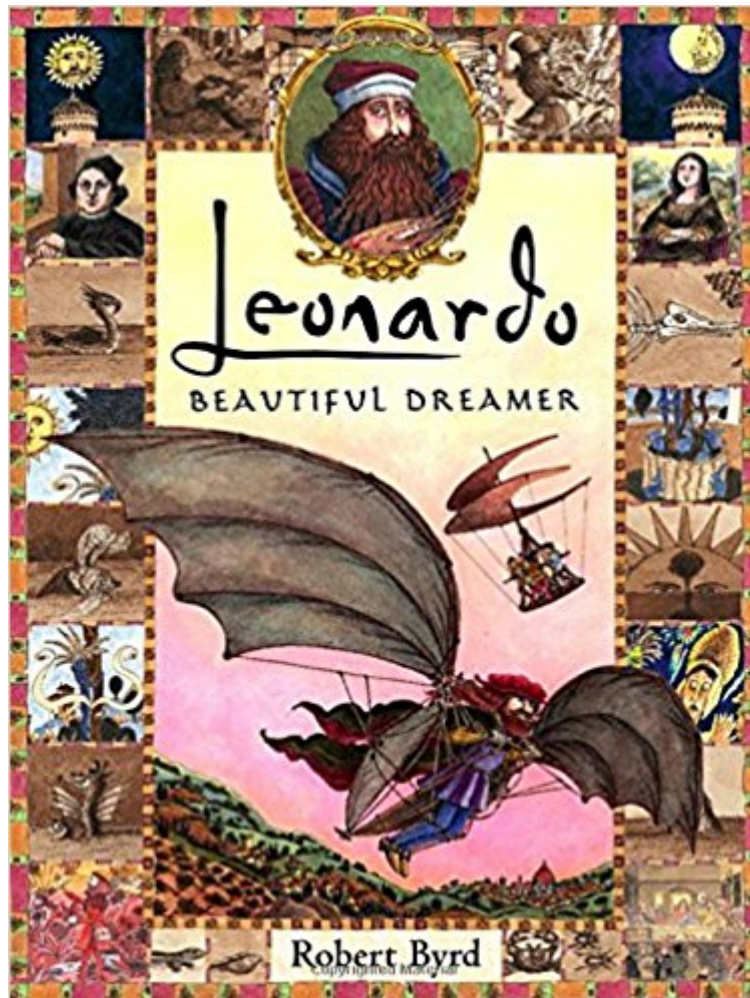




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# Leonardo: Beautiful Dreamer



## Synopsis

Famous in his time as a painter, prankster, and philosopher, Leonardo da Vinci was also a musician, sculptor, and engineer for dukes, popes, and kings. What remains of his work-from futuristic designs and scientific inquiry to artwork of ethereal beauty-reveals the ambitious, unpredictable brilliance of a visionary, and a timeless dreamer. Robert Byrd celebrates this passionate, playful genius in a glowing picture book replete with the richness and imagination of Leonardo's own notebooks. Twenty lavish spreads, including side drawings, supplemental texts, and quotes from Leonardo's writings, highlight distinct periods and make the master's art, jokes, explorations, and inventions wonderfully vivid and accessible. A striking tribute to an irrepressible mind and to the potential within all who are curious.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1120L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Dutton Children's Books; 1st edition (July 28, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0525470336

ISBN-13: 978-0525470335

Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 0.4 x 12.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 18 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #365,244 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > European](#) #180 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Art](#) #258 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Science & Technology](#)

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## Customer Reviews

Grade 3-8-A gorgeous biography suitable for group sharing or for independent reading. The brilliant, full-page ink-and-watercolor paintings characterize da Vinci's life in a cartoonlike manner. The animated artwork and lively text that brings together facts and anecdotes keep interest high. The layout varies from page to page. Each spread includes the main biographical text (easily identified by its appearance in cream-colored boxes) accompanied by pertinent art. Light green text sidebars offer additional information and serve as captions to the pictures. The deep purple endpapers are

packed with da Vinci quotes written in old-world-style lettering. A bibliography (referencing the quotes), references for the illustrations, suggested Web sites, and further reading (for children and adults) are also included. This excellent resource provides an in-depth look at da Vinci and the impact that his work has had on the world. Christine E. Carr, Lester C. Noecker Elementary School, Roseland, NJ Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Gr. 4-6. This vision of da Vinci's life, work, and dreams is a celebration of the Renaissance artist's genius. The large-size format with bordered spreads and a variety of framed insets was inspired by the style of Leonardo's own distinctive notebooks, and it incorporates many quotes. Spread captions allow spot reading, but their tiny print demands concentration. The detailed pen-and-colored-ink illustrations create layers of information juxtaposing facts and anecdotes. Diane Stanley's *Leonardo da Vinci* (1996) presents the time period in an elegant, graceful style, while Byrd saturates his scenes with images to suggest da Vinci's mind overflowing with ideas and questions. The extensive back matter (some in even smaller print) includes an author's note, a lengthy time line, a bibliography that includes Web sites, and sources for the illustrations. Effective book design is carried out even to the endpapers, which are patterned with quotes in tiny simulated handwriting. An impressive tribute to a man whose curiosity and artistic imagination amazed the world, then and now. Julie Cummins Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

These books are so interesting to my students. The illustrations by Peter Sis bring the people to life. At times, this book can appear a bit busy-the text and illustrations are both so forceful that they overpower each other instead of complimenting, but middle school students will find this a nice text in a text set on inventors, the Renaissance, or Italy.

#### Quality book

I teach 5th grade history, including the European Renaissance. I bought this book hoping to read it to my class along with the lesson on Leonardo da Vinci. There is so much information in the book that it would easily take an hour to read to the class. Instead I will read excerpts of this beautifully illustrated book and encourage my students who are interested in the detailed life of Leonardo da Vinci to read it. It is a biography that celebrates the life, ideas, and work of this extraordinary man. It is kid-friendly, well-written, beautifully-illustrated book.

Leonardo: Beautiful Dreamer book. This is a superb book that I ordered for my six year old grandson. It's a little too sophisticated for him though and I'm going to keep it for another year or two before giving it to him. I do not regret buying the book because this type of special book is not always available forever and I would hate to have missed it. I just think that at age six, he is not ready for it yet.

Bought for a student who wanted to know more. Beautiful book and extremely informative.

This story is beautifully illustrated and told. Lots of interesting facts about the man, his life and his work. My 8 year old daughter is enjoying it. The language level and some of the concepts are a bit too difficult for my 5 year old, but the pictures have captured her interest.

This was enjoyable for my children. Packed with information and lots of nice art.

Perfect condition

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