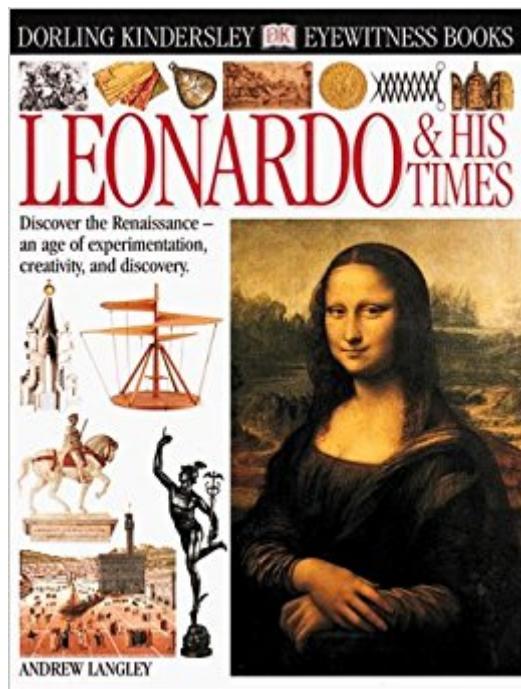


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# Eyewitness: Leonardo & His Times



## **Synopsis**

Discover the Renaissance -- an age of experimentation, creativity and discovery. Here is a stimulating introduction to the world of the Renaissance -- from the achievements of Leonardo da Vinci to everyday life in an Italian city-state. Filled with superb, full-color photographs of works of art and beautiful artifacts, Leonardo brings the Renaissance to life, offering a unique "eyewitness" view of this exciting period of history. See Leonardo's design for exploding cannonballs, inside a Renaissance home, the original platform shoes, and one of the first pocket watches. Learn how one family dominated a city for more than two centuries, how gold leaf was applied to altarpieces, when mirrors were first used, and why the ancient world was an inspiration for the modern one. Discover how the invention of the printing press changed the world, how apprentices made pigments from ground beetles, why glue was used as a beauty aid, why Leonardo studied a bird's wing to make a flying machine, and much, much more!

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 3.1 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

Grade 4 Up-Langley has combined in-depth research with the arresting, trademark photographs of the series to showcase a complex period in European history. The book covers many aspects of the Renaissance, including the rise of city-states, trade, art, architecture, and the role of the Catholic

Church. There are also sections on dress and daily life—the basis for many reports in today's classrooms. The tersely written, well-documented text takes a broad-brush approach to the period, providing an introduction to each topic. Detailed captions supply additional information. However, it's the choice and placement of full-color photographs and reproductions that make this book so appealing. The layout features a mixture of large photographs and smaller insets, drawing the eye in with its variety and movement. Unfortunately, the index is far from inclusive. For younger readers, the book will provide adequate enough visual and textural information for class projects. For others, it offers a number of wonderful jumping-off points for more in-depth research. Barbara Buckley, Jericho Public Library, NY Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

...a mini museum between the covers of a book. [Eyewitness series] -- The New York Times These books' striking visual impact will draw in even the most casual readers. [Eyewitness series] -- School Library Journal

This is one of the best Eyewitness books. It taught me a lot not only about Leonardo DaVinci but also about the beginning of the Renaissance. The focus on Italy was quite illuminating and I wonder why this topic is rarely introduced in school K-12. Usually one has to wait until high school if not college to learn about the time period. This book is a great introduction for students and I will share it with mine.

Be alert that this book is for an older child, not a younger one. The reading level and concepts would be difficult for a child under seven or eight. I checked this book out from the library first. I was particularly unhappy about the amount of artistic nudity in this book, given the fact that it's designed for children. If that doesn't bother you, then you might find the narrative quite useful, but if you don't want your child seeing page after page of nude statues and paintings, you may want to reconsider this. As expected, there is an anti-Christian slant to this book, but it is not overly pronounced.

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