

Painting With Eggs

Review Key Words*

- pigments** Pigments are powders or other materials that are used to color other things.
- minerals** Minerals are natural substances, like iron, coal, or salt, that are found in the ground.
- yolk** A yolk is the yellow, middle part of an egg.
- palette** A palette is a set of colors that an artist uses.



Read the Story⁷⁻⁹

4 An **Italian Renaissance** painter
 10 gathered his **materials**. He got stones,
 17 eggs, brushes, and a wooden **panel** to
 25 paint on. Why did he need stones and
 eggs? And what about his paint?

31 Artists during this time period made
 37 their own paint. For color, they used
 44 many different **pigments**. Some
 48 pigments came from **minerals** like
 53 stones. Other pigments came from
 58 plants and animals. Some pigments
 63 were **toxic**, so artists had to be careful!

71 The artist **ground** each pigment into
 77 a fine powder. Then he mixed it with
 85 egg **yolk** and a little water. Soon he had
 94 a **palette** of colors. This kind of paint
 102 was called egg tempera.

106 Egg tempera dried quickly, so the
 112 artist had to work fast. He also had to
 121 make just the right amount of paint. If
 129 he made too little, he would have to mix
 138 more. It would be hard to match the
 146 color. On the other hand, materials
 152 were **expensive**. The artist had to be
 159 careful not to make too much.

165 Most Italian artists used egg tempera
 171 until the 1500s. At that time, oil paints
 179 became more popular. But the egg
 185 tempera paintings of the Renaissance
 190 have lasted for centuries. They are
 196 some of the most famous paintings of
 203 all time!
 205

	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4
words read in 1 minute				
– number of mistakes				
= total words read correctly				
adult initials				

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Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Artists of the Italian Renaissance had to make their own paint.
 - b. Egg tempera dried quickly, so artists had to work fast.
 - c. Oil paints became more popular than egg tempera in the 1500s.
2. To make paint, what did artists mix with the fine powder?
 - a. minerals and water
 - b. wooden panels
 - c. egg yolk and water
3. What does the word **ground** mean in this story?
 - a. stirred
 - b. crushed
 - c. soil or earth
4. Why were artists careful not to make too much egg tempera?
 - a. because it would be hard to match the color
 - b. because it could be toxic
 - c. because materials were expensive
5. What problem would an artist have if he did not make enough paint?

6. Match each word with its definition.
 1. materials a. ___ costing lots of money
 2. expensive b. ___ able to cause sickness
 3. Renaissance c. ___ things used to make something
 4. toxic d. ___ period of time in Europe

Summarize the Story

Parent Tips

Many students confuse fluent reading with fast reading. Fluency is more than just reading quickly, it also requires accuracy and expression. If your child is racing through the passage like a robot, point out that reading should sound like talking. Pauses at punctuation marks are a necessity. The student's voice should show emotion and liveliness. Try reading the passage to your child to show him what it should sound like.