**Lives of Well Known Artists Thematic Collection**

| **Author** | **Title** | **Difficulty\*** | **Artist** | **Type of Art** | **Time Period** | **Biographic Information** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Greenberg, Jan & Jordan, Sandra | [Action Jackson](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Action%20Jackson&BooksID=1306) | Easy | Jackson Pollock | painting | 20th century | Artist’s life while making his first painting |
| Foreman, Michael | [After the War Was Over](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=After%20the%20War%20Was%20Over&BooksID=384) | Medium | Michael Foreman | watercolors | 20th century | Life in his town. |
| Duggleby, John | [Artist in Overalls](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Artist%20in%20Overalls&BooksID=270) | Medium | Grant Wood | Regionalism | 20th century | Artist's whole life |
| Capek, Michael | [Artistic Trickery: The Tradition of Trompe L’Oeil Art](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Artistic%20Trickery&BooksID=302) | Difficult | Various | Trompe L’Oeil | Ancient Greece to Present | A look at the art and the artists |
| Weatherford, Carole Boston | [Becoming Billie Holiday](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksID=1774) | Medium | Billie Holiday | music | 20th century | Artist’s life told through poems inspired by artist’s song titles |
| Weatherford, Carole Boston | [Before John Was a Jazz Giant](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksID=1812) | Easy | John Coltrane | Jazz Music | 20th century | Author imagines sounds of artist’s childhood that inspired him |
| Sullivan, George | [Berenice Abbott, Photographer](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksID=1694) | Difficult | Berenice Abbott | Photography | 19th C | Parisan artists and early U.S. photographers |
| Guarnieri, Paolo | [Boy Named Giotto, A](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Boy%20Named%20Giotto%2C%20A&BooksID=510) | Medium | Giotto | frescos | pre-Renaissance | Early years |
| Lester, Julius | [Blues Singers, The](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Blues%20Singers%2C%20The&BooksID=796) | Medium | Various | vocal | 20th century | Brief biographies of each artist. |
| Roop, Peter & Connie, eds. | [Capturing Nature: The Writings of John James Audubon](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Capturing%20Nature%3A%20The%20Writings%20of%20John%20James%20Audubon&BooksID=199) | Difficult | John James Audubon | painting and drawing | 19th century | Artist’s life as told through his journals. |
| Lyons, Mary | [Catching the Fire](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Catching%20the%20Fire&BooksID=404) | Difficult | Philp Simmons | iron work | 20th cent | Based on interviews. Artist's whole life |
| Greenberg, Jan & Jordan, Sandra | [Chuck Close Up Close](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Chuck%20Close%20Up%20Close&BooksID=799) | Medium | Chuck Close | portraiture | 20th century | Artist’s whole life, based on interviews. |
| Reich, Susanna | [Clara Schuman: Piano Virtuoso](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Clara%20Schumann&BooksID=758) | Medium | Clara Schuman | piano | 19th century | Artist’s whole life |
| Lyons, Mary | [Deep Blues](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Deep%20Blues&BooksID=520) | Medium | Bill Traylor | folk art | 20th century | Artist's whole life |
| Rubin, Susan Goldman | [Delicious: The Life and Art of Wayne Thiebaud](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksID=1806) | Medium | Wayne Thiebaud | Paintings | 20th century | Artist’s life accompanied by reproductions of his paintings |
| Christensen, Bonnie | [Django: World’s Greatest Jazz Guitarist](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksID=1817) | Easy | Django Reinhardt | Jazz Music (guitar) | 20th century | Artist’s life told through poetic, rhythmic text with illustrations |
| Butler, Jerry | [Drawing in the Sand, A](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Drawing%20in%20the%20Sand%2C%20A&BooksID=757) | Medium | Jerry Butler/various | painting | 20th century | Artist’s autobiography with brief biographies of other African American artists |
| Pinkney, Andre | [Duke Ellington](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Duke%20Ellington&BooksID=449) | Medium | Duke Ellington | piano | 20th century | Artist’s rise to fame. |
| Rubin, Susan Godman | [Edward Hopper: Painter of Light and Shadow](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksID=1750) | Medium | Edward Hopper | painting | 20th Century |  |
| Meryman, Richard | [First Impressions: Andrew Wyeth](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=First%20Impressions%3A%20Andrew%20Wyeth&BooksID=789) | Difficult | Andrew Wyeth | watercolor and tempera | 20th century | Based on interviews. Artist's younger years. |
| Visconti, Guido | [Genius of Leonardo, The](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Genius%20of%20Leonard%2C%20The&BooksID=572) | Medium | Leonardo da Vinci | various | 15th century | Artist’s later life with his apprentice |
| Bryant, Jen | [Georgia’s Bones](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksID=1684) | Medium | Georgia O’Keeffe | painting | 20th Century | Early childhood |
| Igus, Toyomi | [Going Back Home: An Artist Returns to the South](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Going%20Back%20Home%3A%20An%20Artist%20Returns%20to%20the%20South&BooksID=470) | Medium | Michele Wood | folk art | 20th century | Artist looks back at her family history |
| Perry, Regina | [Harriet Powers’s Bible Quilts](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Harriet%20Powers%27s%20Bible%20Quilts&BooksID=187) | Difficult | Harriet Powers | quilts | 19th century | Information on the artist and her quilts |
| Wilson, Janet | [Ingenious Mr. Peale, The](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Ingenious%20Mr%2E%20Peale%2C%20The&BooksID=458) | Difficult | Charles Wilson Peale | portraits | 18-19th century | Artist's whole life. |
| Monceaux, Morgan | [Jazz: My Music, My People](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Jazz%3A%20My%20Music%2C%20My%20People&BooksID=161) | Medium | Various | vocal and instrumental | 20th century | Brief glimpses of each artist. Contains a glossary of jazz terms. |
| Livingston, M | [Keep on Singing](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Keep%20on%20Singing&BooksID=401) | Easy | Marion Anderson | vocal | 20th century | Artist’s rise to fame written in verse. |
| Krull, Kathleen | [Leonardo da Vinci](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksID=1556) | Difficult | Leonardo DaVinci | Varied | 16th Century | Scientific inquiry |
| Stanley, Diane | [Leonardo DaVinci](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Leonardo%20Da%20Vinci&BooksID=228) | Medium | Leonardo DaVinci | oil painting | 15th century | Artist’s whole life. |
| Fritz, Jean | [Leonardo’s Horse](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Leonardo%27s%20Horse&BooksID=807) | Medium | Leonardo Da Vinci,  Charles Dent,  Nina Akamu | sculpture | 15th century and 20th century | Story of Leonardo’s horse sculpture |
| Goffstein, M.B. | [Lives of the Artists](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Lives%20of%20the%20Artists&BooksID=82) | Medium | Various | various | various | Brief account of each artist. |
| Roalf, Peggy | [Looking at Paintings: Self Portraits](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Looking%20at%20Paintings%3A%20Self%2DPortraits&BooksID=450) | Medium | Various | self-portraits | 15th-20th century | Contains a glossary of art terms. |
| Freedman, Russell | [Martha Graham: A Dancer’s Life](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Martha%20Graham%3A%20A%20Dancer%27s%20Life&BooksID=387) | Difficult | Martha Graham | dance | 20th century | Artist’s whole life. |
| Stanley, Diane | [Michelangelo](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Michelangelo&BooksID=590) | Medium | Michelangelo | painting  sculpture | Renaissance | Artist’s whole life |
| Winter, Jeanette | [My Name is Georgia](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=My%20Name%20is%20Georgia&BooksID=1315) | Easy | Georgia O’Keefe | painting | 20th century | Tells of the artists travels and inspirations. |
| Arnholt, Laurence | [Picasso and the Girl With a Ponytail](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Picasso%20and%20the%20Girl%20With%20a%20Ponytail&BooksID=492) | Easy | Pablo Picasso  Sylvette David aka Lydia Corbett | various | 20th century | Brief period of the artists' lives. |
| Mathis Sharon | [Ray Charles](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Ray%20Charles&BooksID=1320) | Medium | Ray Charles | vocal and piano | 20th century | Brief highlights in the artists life |
| Partridge, Elizabeth | [Restless Spirit: The Life and Work of Dorothea Lange](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksID=1771) | Easy | Dorothea Lange | Photography | 20th century | Story of artist’s life accompanied by some of her photographs |
| Winter, Jeanette | [Sebastian: A Book About Bach](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Sebastian%3A%20%20A%20Book%20About%20Bach&BooksID=806) | Medium | Sebastian Bach | music | 17th century | Highlights of the artists musical life. |
| Littlesugar, Amy | [Shake Rag](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Shake%20Rag&BooksID=505) | Easy | Elvis Presley | vocal and guitar | 20th century | Early Years |
| George-Warren, Holly | [Shake, Rattle & Roll: The Founders of Rock & Roll](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Shake%2C%20Rattle%20%26%20Roll&BooksID=1288) | Medium | Various | instrumental and vocal music | 20th century | Short glimpses into each artist’s life. |
| Martin, Jacqueline | [Snowflake Bentley](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Snowflake%20Bentley&BooksID=519) | Medium | Wilson Bentley | photography | 19th century | Artist's whole life. |
| Lyons, Mary | [Starting Home](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Starting%20Home&BooksID=132) | Medium | Horace Pippin | folk art | 20th century | Artist's whole life. |
| Duggleby, John | [Story Painter: The Life of Jacob Lawrence](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Story%20Painter%3A%20The%20Life%20of%20Jacob%20Lawrence&BooksID=1422) | Difficult | Jacob Lawrence | painting | 20th century | Artist's whole life. |
| Lyons, Mary | [Talking with Tebe](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Talking%20with%20Tebe&BooksID=481) | Easy | Clementine Hunter | folk art | 20th century | Based on interviews. Artists whole life. |
| Littlechild, George | [This Land is My Land](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=This%20Land%20is%20My%20Land&BooksID=127) | Easy | George Littlechild | folk art | 20th century | Artist weaves his biography with Native history |
| Freidman, Russell | [Voice That Challenged a Nation](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Voice%20That%20Challenged%20a%20Nation%2C%20The&BooksID=1458) | Difficult | Marion Anderson | vocal | 20th century | Artist's whole life. |
| Nickens, Bessie | [Walking the Log: Memories of a Southern Childhood](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Walking%20the%20Log&BooksID=427) | Easy | Bessie Nickens | painting | 20th century | Artist’s life as told by the artist |
| Zelver, Patricia | [Wonderful Tower of Watts, The](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Wonderful%20Towers%20of%20Watts%2C%20The&BooksID=312) | Easy | Simon Rodia | sculpture | 20th century | Focus is on the building of the towers |
| Goldman Rubin, Susan | [Yellow House, The: Vincent van Gogh & Paul Gauguin Side by Side](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_book.cfm?BooksTitle=Yellow%20House%2C%20The&BooksID=1278) | Medium | Vincent van Gogh  Paul Gauguin | impressionist | 19th century | The year the artists lived together. Short biographies included. |

\* Easy = Levels 1 & 2

Medium = Levels 3 & 4

Difficult = Levels 5 & 6/HSE