

Famous Marble Statues

There are two versions of this worksheet. The first page has the private parts blurred out; the second does not. There are a few teacher notes about these statues on the last page.

Famous Marble Statues

Marble Statues

Can you identify these famous marble statues?

			

		

Laocoön and His Sons; David by Michelangelo; Venus de Milo; Moses by Michelangelo; Winged Victory of Samothrace; Pieta by Michelangelo; Discobolus Lancelotti

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Marble Statues

Can you identify these famous marble statues?

			
Winged Victory of Samothrace	Venus de Milo	David by Michelangelo	Discobolus Lancelotti

		
Laocoön and His Sons	Moses by Michelangelo	Pieta by Michelangelo

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Notes about the Marble Statues:

Winged Victory of Samothrace, also called the Nike of Samothrace – a sculpture of Nike, the Greek goddess of victory.

Venus de Milo – one of the most famous works of ancient Greek sculpture.

Laocoön and His Sons, also called the Laocoön Group shows the Trojan priest Laocoön and his sons Antiphantes and Thymbraeus being attacked by sea serpents.

Laocoön was a Trojan priest of Poseidon who was killed with his sons attempting to expose the ruse of the Trojan Horse by striking it with a spear. In another version of the story the serpents killed only Laocoön himself. In at least one Greek telling of the story, Laocoön was able to escape, and the composition seems to allow for that possibility. David is a 17-foot (5.17-meter) tall marble statue created between 1501 and 1504 by Italian artist Michelangelo. It is a masterpiece of Renaissance sculpture.

This sculpture is of the Biblical David. David looks tense and ready for battle after he has made the decision to fight Goliath, but, before the battle has actually taken place. His brow is drawn, his neck tense, and the veins bulge out of his lowered right hand. His left hand holds a sling that is draped over his shoulder and down to his right hand, which holds the handle of the sling.

Moses is a sculpture by the Italian High Renaissance artist Michelangelo, commissioned in 1505 by Pope Julius II for his tomb.

The Discobolus of Myron is a Greek sculpture completed at the start of the Classical period, figuring a youthful athlete throwing discus, about 460–450 BC. The original Greek bronze is lost but the work is known through numerous Roman copies, both full-scale ones in marble, which was cheaper than bronze.

The Pieta is a work of Renaissance sculpture by Michelangelo, housed in St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City. The statue was commissioned for the French Cardinal Jean de Bilhères, who was a representative in Rome. The sculpture, in Carrara marble, was made for the cardinal's funeral monument.

Name: _____

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Laocoön and His Sons; David by Michelangelo; Venus de Milo;
Moses by Michelangelo; Winged Victory of Samothrace;
Pietà by Michelangelo; Discobolus Lancellotti

Name: _____

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Winged Victory of
Samothrace



Venus de Milo



David by Michelangelo



Discobolus Lancellotti



Laocoön and His Sons



Moses by Michelangelo



Pietà by Michelangelo

Laocoön and His Sons; David by Michelangelo; Venus de Milo;
Moses by Michelangelo; Winged Victory of Samothrace;
Pietà by Michelangelo; Discobolus Lancellotti

Notes about the Marble Statues:

Winged Victory of Samothrace, also called the Nike of Samothrace – a Hellenistic (Greek) sculpture of Nike, the Greek goddess of victory.

Venus de Milo - one of the most famous works of ancient Greek sculpture. It was carved from marble by Alexandros, a sculptor of Antioch on the Maeander River about 150 BCE. It is popularly believed to represent Aphrodite, the Greek goddess of love and beauty, who was known to the Romans as Venus. The statue, Venus de Milo, is immediately recognizable by its missing arms.

Laocoön and His Sons, also called the Laocoön Group shows the Trojan priest Laocoön and his sons Antiphantes and Thymbraeus being attacked by sea serpents

Laocoön was a Trojan priest of Poseidon who was killed with both his sons after attempting to expose the ruse of the Trojan Horse by striking it with a spear. (This story was not mentioned by Homer. The most famous account of this story is now in Virgil's *Aeneid*.) In another version of the story the serpents killed only the two sons, leaving Laocoön himself alive to suffer. In at least one Greek telling of the story the older son is able to escape, and the composition seems to allow for that possibility.

David is a 17-foot (5.17-meter) tall marble statue created between 1501 and 1504 by the Italian artist Michelangelo is a masterpiece of Renaissance sculpture.

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The Pietà is a work of Renaissance sculpture by Michelangelo, housed in St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City. The statue was commissioned for the French Cardinal Jean de Bilhères, who was a representative in Rome. The sculpture, in Carrara marble, was made for the cardinal's funeral monument.