

# Medusa in Art

There are many representations of Medusa  
(The Gorgon) in Art.

Sculpture, plaques and paintings...

Take a look...look for similarities &  
differences...









This is probably the most famous painting of Medusa by the artist Caravaggio.

Two versions were created one in 1596 and the other in 1597 – depicting the exact moment she was executed by Perseus.

It is thought that Caravaggio replaces Medusa face with his own to show that he is not affected by her dreadful gaze!

**What is said to have happened if Medusa looked into your eyes?**

The painting is now in the Uffizi Museum in Florence (Italy).

Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio 1571 – 1610 was an Italian painter who worked in Rome for most of his artistic life. He was a volatile man who often got involved in brawls and physical attacks – which many say you can see in the violence expressed in some of the crucial moments in his paintings. **Do you think this is true of this painting of Medusa?**

He didn't make sketches but worked quickly directly onto the canvas.

**In what centuries did Caravaggio live and work?**



In school I would have given you card, tissue paper, pipe cleaners (to make the basis of the snakes) and other materials from the Art Space

BUT

I have been thinking about what you could do at home to **make a 2-D representation of Medusa and her unique head of hissing snakes!**

What about a potato as a basis for the head and you could then stick things into it?

Use twigs and leaves from the garden to make your model.

Look to see if your little sister(?) has any playdoh in the cupboard OR you might be able to make some bread dough (then you can eat her afterwards!)

Don't worry if you can't think of anything yourself – a picture will be great – don't forget the 3 steps using Austin's butterfly.

Please take a picture and send to school – I would love to compile a Y6 gallery of everyone's work at home and school.

If you need any help don't forget to contact me and I'll give you a call.

Mrs Wood.