**Katsushika Hokusai**

**🖌️ What did Hokusai create?**

Katsushika Hokusai was a Japanese artist best known for his **woodblock prints**, **paintings**, and **illustrations**. His most famous artworks include landscapes, especially **Mount Fuji**, and powerful **ocean waves** with boats and sea creatures.

**👶 Childhood**

* He was born in **1760** in **Edo**, Japan (now Tokyo).
* His father was a mirror-maker for the shogun (military ruler).
* He started drawing around the age of **6**.
* As a child, he was fascinated by nature and the sea.

**📚 Education**

* He became an apprentice to a **wood-carver** at age **14**.
* He joined the **Katsukawa art school**, where he trained in **ukiyo-e** (pictures of the floating world).
* He studied styles from **China**, **Japan**, and even **Europe**.
* Hokusai often **changed his name** to mark new stages in his learning — he used over **30 names**!

**👨‍🎨 Career**

* He worked as a **printmaker**, **illustrator**, and **book artist** for over **70 years**.
* He created the famous **"Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji"** series.
* His work inspired **Impressionist** artists like Monet and Van Gogh.
* Even at age **89**, he was still drawing and said he was just beginning to understand art!

**💬 Quotes from Hokusai**

*"From the age of six, I had a mania for drawing the shapes of things."*  
*"If I go on trying, I will surely understand them still better by the time I am ninety."*

**🖼️ Artworks**

The Great Wave off Kanagawa (a series of paintings)

A red mountain with green hills and clouds

AI-generated content may be incorrect.A large wave of water

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Fine Wind, Clear Morning (Red Fuji)

Yoro waterfall in Mino Province

Birds in a landscape

AI-generated content may be incorrect.A waterfall in the woods

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Cranes (series of paintings)

**🎉 Fun Activities**

* Try making your own **wave artwork** with swirling blue acrylic paint!
* Make a paper **Mount Fuji collage** using coloured paper.
* Create your own **woodblock-style print** with foam and paint.
* Learn Japanese numbers and write your age in **Kanji characters**!

Colouring page inspired by The Great Wave off Kanagawa

A drawing of a wave

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Colouring page inspired by Mount Fuji in Red

A black and white drawing of a mountain

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Colouring page inspired by Yoro Waterfall in Mino Province

A waterfall with a bridge and trees

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Colouring page inspired by Flying Cranes and Clouds

A group of birds flying in the sky

AI-generated content may be incorrect.