

1 Artist Diego Rivera

Diego Rivera (1886–1957) began his life as an **artist**. He got his **start** drawing on the walls of his family's home. His dad, impressed with his talent, gave Diego his own space just for his **art**.

By age 10, he was taking **part** in **art** classes at night. By age 13, he became an **art** student in Mexico City.

Rivera liked making his **art** using **charcoal** pencils. But it was his bright paintings and **large** murals that got him noticed.

Rivera painted political subjects. His paintings showed problems in Mexican society as well as in daily life. He painted life as he saw it.

Lots of people found his subjects **alarming**. Still, the world learned a lot about life in Mexico because of his **art**. Today, Rivera is **regarded** as one of the finest **artists** of his time.

Word Count: 138



Glossary Links
political
society



What subjects did Rivera paint?



Use with Teaching Guide, page 382.



Resource Links

Decodable Digest: p. 152

SAM Keyword: DD 19.2

1 Attack of the Spiders!

As Shereen sat down at **her terminal** in the **computer lab**, she was **surprised** to find a tiny **spider** between two **letters** on her keyboard. Then Ty found a **spider** on a **printer**. Other kids spotted **spiders** on their **computers** as well. They jumped up and down, **squirming**.



Mr. Baker looked up. “What is the problem?” he asked, **concerned**.

Shereen showed Mr. Baker the **spider** on **her** keyboard.

“It’s just a little **spider**,” exclaimed Mr. Baker.

“But they’re everywhere!” the class yelled.

“These little **spiders** are harmless,” a **girl** named Haley insisted. “You guys would really freak out at Buster, my **furry** pet tarantula. He’s huge!”

“Some **spider** eggs must have hatched over the weekend,” Mr. Baker told the class. “We can easily get rid of them.”

“But don’t squish them!” Haley exclaimed. “**Spiders** are useful! They eat bugs and **other** pests.”

“You are right, Haley,” Mr. Baker said. “But this class can do without the **computer** bugs!”

Word Count: 158

Glossary Links

keyboard
tarantula



How would you react if you found spiders in your room?



Use with Teaching Guide, page 382.



Resource Links

Decodable Digest: p. 160

SAM Keyword: DD 19.4