DATE:

LO: To learn about great architects through time

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Starter Activity

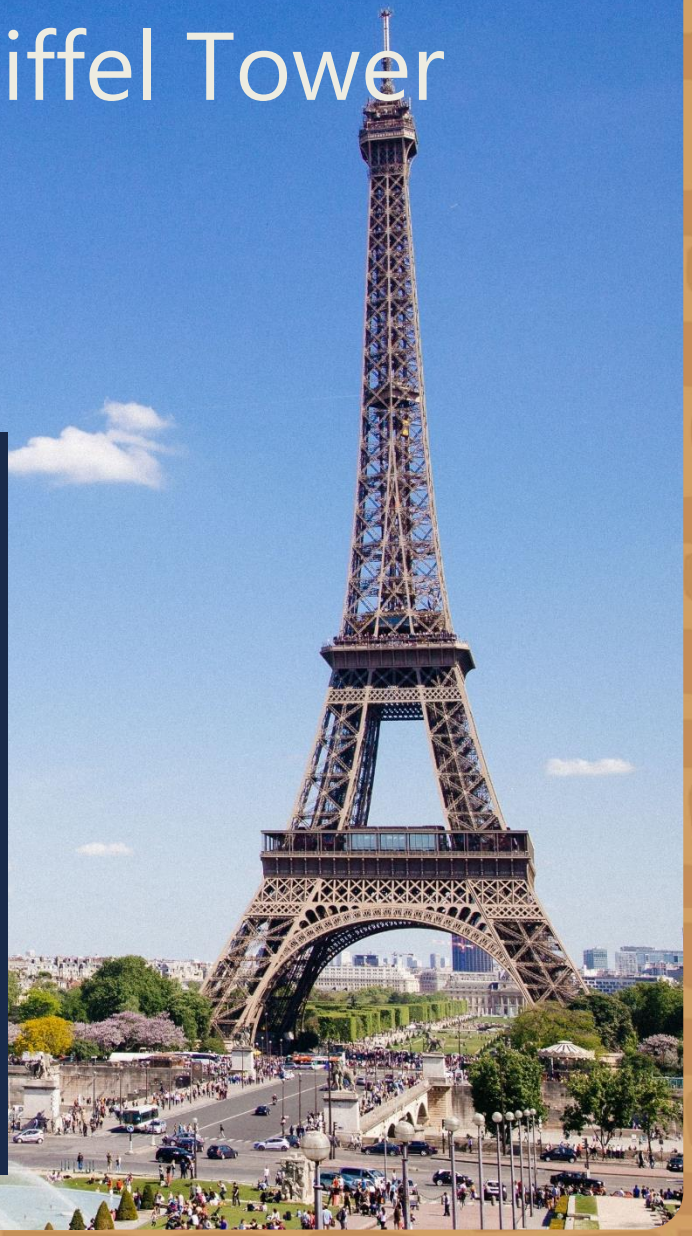
What is an architect?

What job do they do?

Can you name any famous architects?

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Eiffel Tower



The Eiffel Tower was named after Gustave Eiffel who designed it.

Millions of people climb the 1665 steps of the Eiffel Tower every year.

The Eiffel Tower's nickname is 'La dame de fer' which means 'the iron lady.'

It took two years, two months and five days to build.

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Empire State Building

The Empire State Building was designed by William Lamb.

It took 410 days to build.

The building has 6514 windows.

It has a lightning rod near the top which is struck by lightning around 23 times every year.



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Great Wall of China

The Great Wall of China is 3915 miles long.

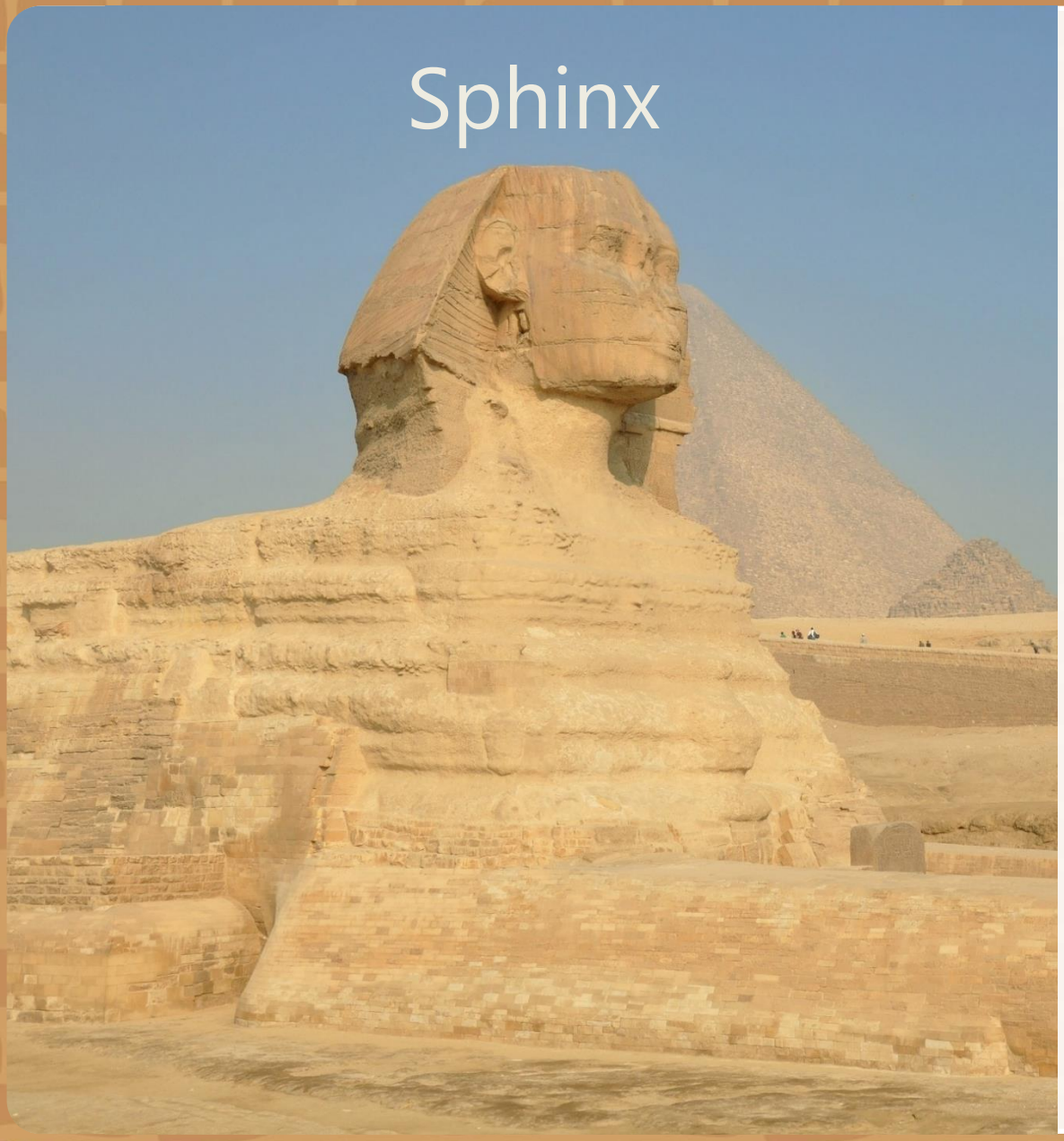
It is the longest structure ever built by humans.

Although many people believe that the Great Wall can be seen from space, this isn't true!

Earlier sections of the wall were made from stone, wood and earth.

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Sphinx



The Egyptians built sphinx statues to guard tombs and temples.

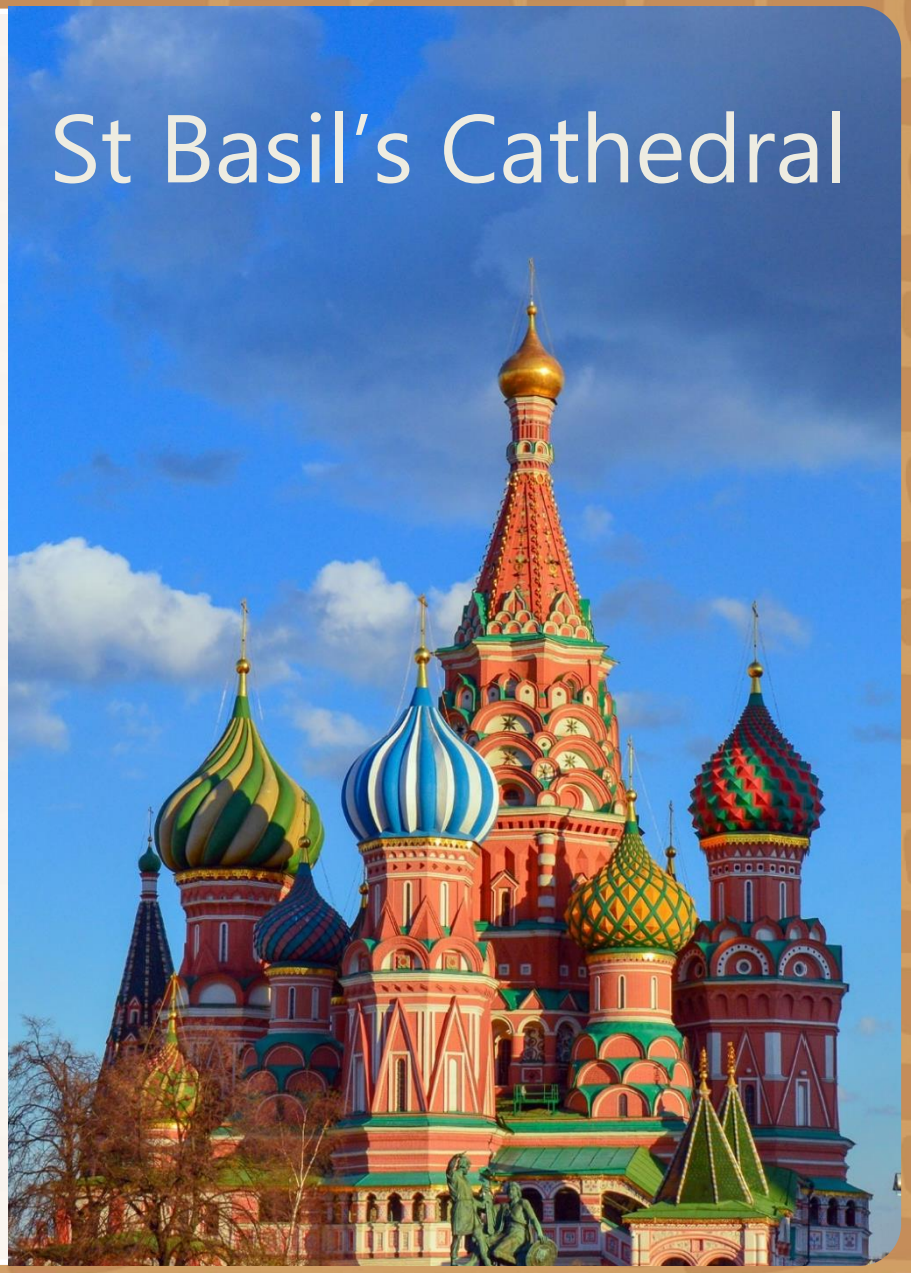
The Sphinx has the head of a Pharaoh and the body of a lion.

It was carved out of limestone and some people think it was once painted red, blue and yellow.

It is 73.5 metres long and 19.3 metres wide.

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St Basil's Cathedral



The cathedral has 9 towers which are bright and colourful.

It took almost 10 years to build, and the inside is also full of patterns and colour.

It was built for Saint Basil the Blessed.

Only one service a year is held in the Cathedral.

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Sydney Opera House



Jorn Utzon, the architect, was inspired by things in nature such as shells, bird wings and walnuts.

It is 187 metres long and 115 metres wide.

There are 1000 rooms inside including 5 theatres.

The Grand Organ inside the Opera house is the largest mechanical musical instrument in the world.

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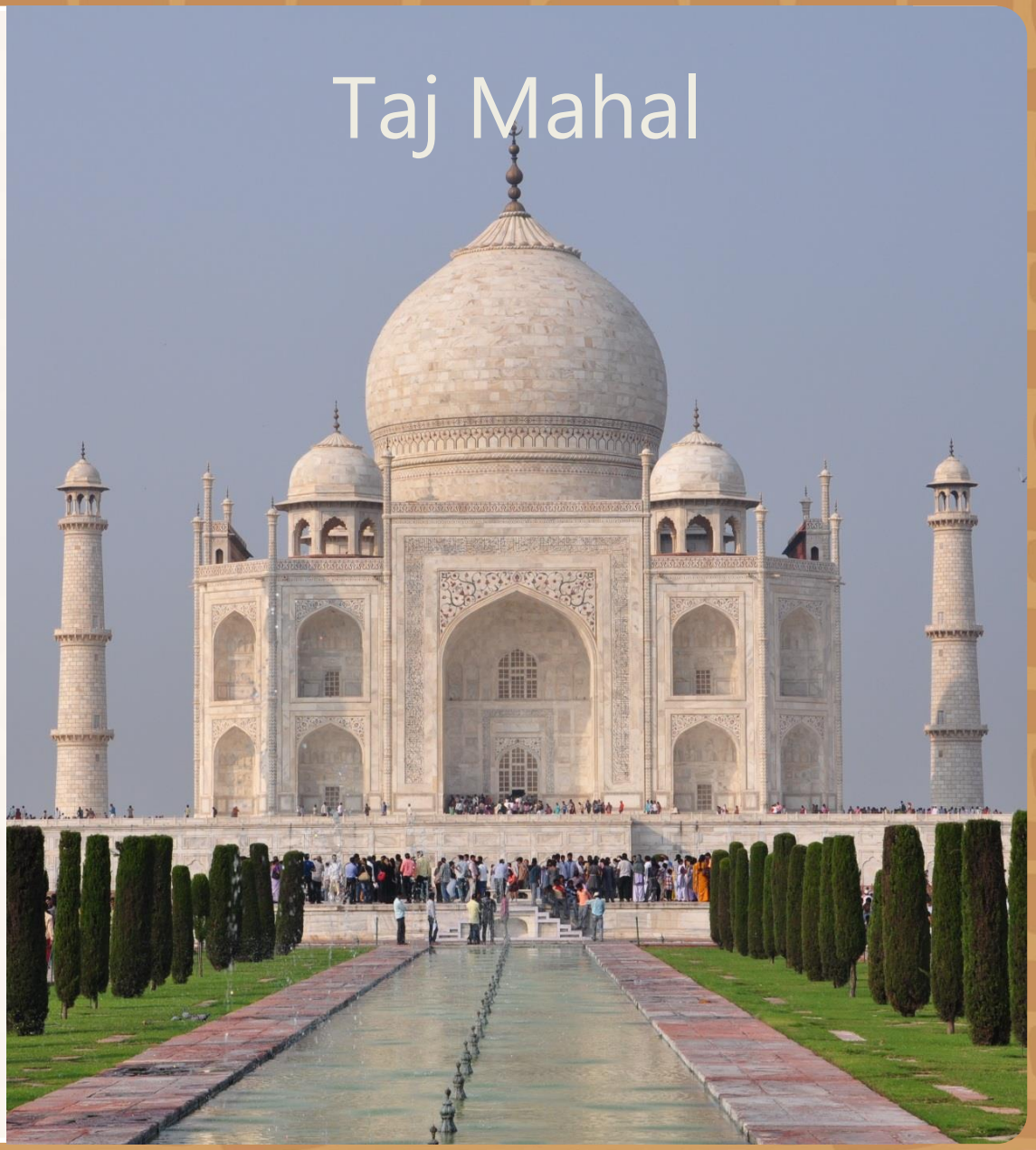
Taj Mahal

The Taj Mahal is made of white marble and took over 20 years to build.

It is a mausoleum which is a building that contains tombs for important people.

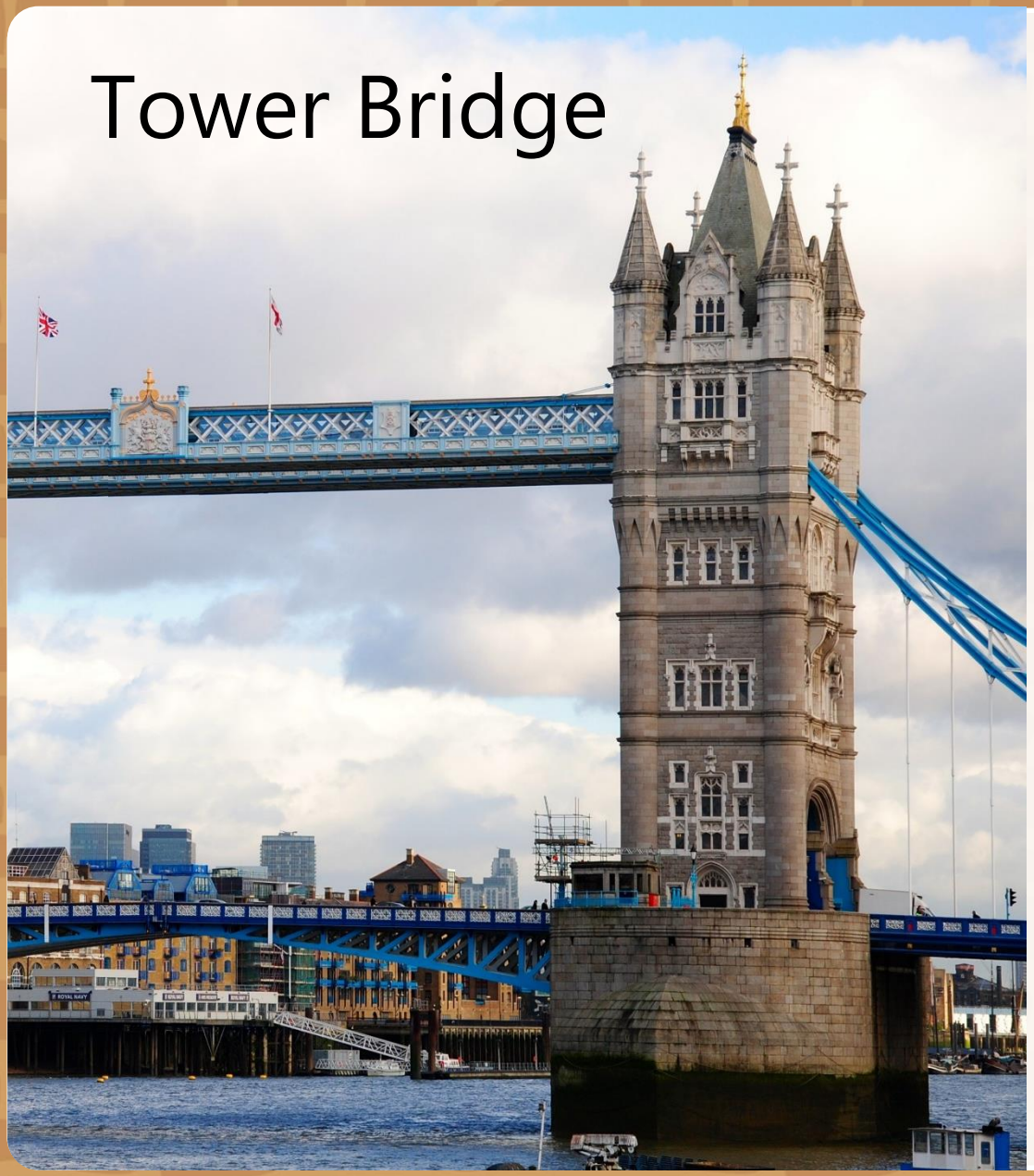
The name Taj Mahal means ‘crown of palaces.’

It is visited by up to 70,000 tourists every day.



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Tower Bridge



It took about 432 workers eight years to build.

It is 244 metres long and is 18 metres wide.

The roadway opens up to allow tall ships to pass through. This happens around 1000 times a year.

It is often confused with London Bridge which is further down the River Thames.

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Tower of Pisa



The Tower of Pisa is famous for leaning to one side.

It took 200 years to build because several wars occurred and interrupted its construction.

The bell tower is home to 7 bells and was built on unstable, marshy soil.

There are either 296 steps or 294 steps to climb to the top, depending on which staircase is used.

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What is an architect?

Architects design buildings and make important decisions about how the building will look and how it will be constructed.

Architects have to consider the structure of the building, the materials used to construct it and how the spaces inside the building will be organised. This is known as the design process.

Do you recognise any of the famous architects below?







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Sir Christopher Wren

Christopher Wren was born in 1632. He graduated from Oxford University and eventually became a Professor of Astronomy. At this time in his life, he'd had no formal training in architecture but taught himself through his own interest in the subject. In 1665 he undertook his first visit abroad to France to study French architecture. With his great ability for mathematics and his keen interest in architecture, his uncle commissioned a new chapel for Pembroke College, Cambridge which was Wren's first work of architecture.



Pembroke College, Cambridge

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Sir Christopher Wren

After The Great Fire of London damaged most of the City of London, Christopher proposed new safety regulations for buildings. He later became the chief architect for the rebuilding of over 40 churches from which he developed the single steeple.

Perhaps his most famous work is the design and construction of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, which was eventually completed in 1711.

Christopher Wren is known for working with the finest building materials and craftsmen on all of his projects and was eventually knighted. He was laid to rest in St Paul's where his tombstone reads (translated from Latin): "Underneath lies buried Christopher Wren, the builder of this church and city; who lived beyond the age of ninety years, not for himself, but for the public good. If you seek his memorial, look about you."



St Paul's Cathedral, London

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Activity

Can you find out about any other buildings designed by Sir Christopher Wren?



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Zaha Hadid 1950-2016



Zaha Hadid is British and one of the world's most famous female architects, being the first woman to win the Royal Institute of British Architects' (RIBA) Gold Medal in 2016.

She has been called 'Queen of the Curve' in reference to her fantastic curvy designs on some famous buildings, including the London Aquatics Centre, pushing the boundaries for architecture itself and leading the way for women in the field.



The London Aquatics Centre



Hungerburgbahn Track, Austria

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Zaha Hadid 1950-2016

She was the first woman to win the Pritzker Architecture Prize in 2004 and she has won the RIBA Stirling Prize twice, which is the most prestigious award in the field. She has been given Commandeur de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres from France and also Japan's Praemium Imperiale.

Her design for the 2020 Toyko Olympic Stadium had to be halted due to the complexity of the building works.

Zaha Hadid Quotes:

"There are 360 degrees, so why stick to one?"

"Women are always told, 'You're not going to make it, its too difficult, you can't do that, don't enter this competition, you'll never win it,' - they need confidence in themselves and people around them to help them to get on."



The digital Design Centre, Seoul



Wangjing SOHO Building

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Activity

Look up other designs by Zaha Hadid and have a go at creating your own curving designs.

