**Frida Kahlo**

**Who was she?**

Magdalena Carmen Frida Kahlo y Calderón (6 July 1907 – 13 July 1954) was known as Frida Kahlo. She is thought to be one of Mexico’s most famous painters, and was a very fiery woman.

**Growing Up**

Frida was born in Coyoacán, Mexico. The daughter of Matilde and Guillermo Kahlo, Frida and her three sisters grew up in the colourful Mexico City. When she was only 6 years of age Frida developed polio which left her disabled. Kahlo still tried her hardest to study medicine and try to become a doctor.

**A Tragedy**

At the age of 18, when her adult life had just begun, Frida was involved in a horrific car accident leaving her injured. As a result, she had periods of awful pain for the rest of her life! To help her get better, Frida played football, went swimming, and even did wrestling. Afterwards, she took up painting instead of sport.

**Frida’s recovery**

Whilst she was getting better, Frida carried on painting. She got her first set of paints from her parents, and a year later she finished her first self-portrait. Frida once said ‘I paint myself because I am often alone, and I am the subject I know best’. Often Frida’s paintings were of women were who were in pain or treated badly.

**Becoming an Artist**

Fifty-five of Frida’s 143 paintings are of herself. Her artwork had bright colours and lots of flowers from Mexico, where Frida was born. Later, she married a famous Mexican artist who loved her paintings, too.

**Later Life**

Sadly, Frida died at the age of 47. Her artwork is still popular today and it is displayed at a museum in Mexico City. This museum is one of the most popular in America! Frida Kahlo is one of the most famous female artists of all time.