

## SEPTEMBER: Abstract Self Portraits

### Art Appreciation with Pablo Picasso

*Essential Questions: How can I create an abstract self portrait? How can I create art using primary and secondary color?*



Supplies Needed:	Art Vocabulary:	Learning Target:	Meets WA Learning Standard:
2 pieces of 6" x 6" watercolor paper	Primary color	Students will be able to make an abstract self portrait  Students will be able to use primary color and secondary color with intention.	VA:Cr1.2.K
Watercolors & brushes + cups for water	Secondary color		
Sharpie marker (or pen)	Abstract art		
Construction paper	Self portrait		
Scissors + glue stick			
Optional: pocket mirror			

Instructions:
Show students the painting <a href="#">Girl Before A Mirror</a> by Pablo Picasso. Talk about abstract art and how it doesn't have to look realistic. What do students notice about the placement of the eyes, nose and mouth? What colors do they see? Do they like it? Why/why not?
Give each student 2 pieces of 6" x6" watercolor paper, pencil and sharpie. For younger students you can omit the sharpie or use a black pen.
Tell students to draw their face with a pencil. Keep the drawing simple, not too many details. Then, draw the same face on the second piece of paper. Notice both won't be exactly the same. Then, outline both self portraits in sharpie.
Collect all the sharpie markers. Show students <a href="#">the color wheel</a> . Talk about primary colors and secondary colors.
Have one student pick up one watercolor pallet and one cup of water to share with a partner. Have one student pick up brushes for their table group.
Tell students to paint one of their portraits with primary colors and the other one with secondary colors. They can paint quickly, and with little detail, but paint all of the paper, even the background.
Next, to give time for the paper to dry, have students wipe out the water of their watercolor palettes with a paper towel and return their brushes to the sink to be rinsed and laid flat to dry. Divide clean up tasks or assign to specific students to make it easier.
Next, tell students to stack their two pieces on top of each other, <u>both facing up</u> . It is okay if they are still slightly damp. Tell students to make 3 or 4 cuts going diagonal, horizontal or vertical.
Last, give students a piece of construction paper and a glue stick. Have them piece their portraits back together like a puzzle. Then, mix a couple of the primary and secondary pieces together to make two different self portraits. Glue them down to a piece of construction paper.

### Pro Tips for success:

- For those with limited time, break this project into smaller chunks:
  - 1) Draw the faces and trace with sharpie
  - 2) paint in one face with primary colors and clean up
  - 3) paint in the second face with secondary colors and clean up
  - 4) Cut the faces into 3-4 pieces and then glue back together
- Don't be too rigid with students, let them have autonomy. If they aren't following the directions exactly, that's okay. Just let kids just ENJOY the process of making art.