



LESSON 1 LEVEL A PORTRAITS

ALL ABOUT ME A Self-Portrait

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

drawing a self-portrait or a well-known subject with familiar materials.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

white or light colored paper; any size wax crayons, felt pens or tempera paints, assorted colors; a mirror.

"TIPS":

Explore different sizes and shapes of paper. Use small crayons; broken and peeled ones are more versatile than new ones. Put a pad of newspaper under the drawing paper for a softer surface.

WORDS TO LEARN:

portrait: a picture of a person

self-portrait: a picture of the person who made the picture.

it is called a self-portrait. You can make a self-portrait to show everybody how you look and the things you like.

1. Look at yourself in a mirror. Look at the shape of your face. What color is



Myself Portrait Landscape 1890
National Gallery, Prague

GETTING STARTED: Look at the picture that Henri Rousseau painted of himself. Can you find some of the things he was interested in? Can you find his painting tools. a sailing ship; a hot air balloon; the flags of a celebration? What else? Artists make pictures of other people. These pictures are called portraits. When the artist makes a picture of himself,



your hair? Can you see your ears? What color are your eyes? Is your nose big or little? Are you smiling? Can you see your teeth? Do you have big eyebrows?

2. Look how your head fits onto your neck. Are you wearing a sweater? What color is it? Is there something special about how you look? What is it? Freckles? Rosy cheeks? A missing tooth?

3. If you want to make a self-portrait of your whole body, look at the colors and designs on your shirt and pants and socks and shoes. Are you wearing some jewelry?

4. Use your crayons or paints to draw your self-portrait. Start with the shape of your head near the top of the paper. If you use crayons, press hard to make the crayon marks shiny and bright. Color in all the shapes. Add patterns if you want to.



Vivienne Age 5

5. Now draw your favorite toy or a pet or something else you like in the space that is left.

CLEAN-UP: Put crayons back where they are kept. Put paints away. Wash the brush with soap and water. Rinse well. Pull the bristles to a point and leave the brush to dry in a dry container with the brush part pointing up.

TALK ABOUT IT: What did you see in the mirror that you might have forgotten to draw?

MORE IDEAS:

1. Make a self-portrait of what you want to be when you grow up.
2. Find more self-portraits in art books.