Pablo
Picasso
Self
Portrait

fine art mom

FINDING CREATIVITY IN EVERYDAY

Pablo Picasso Self Portrait

In this project we are going to create our own self-portrait from construction paper inspired by **Pablo Picasso**.

So who is Pablo Picasso?
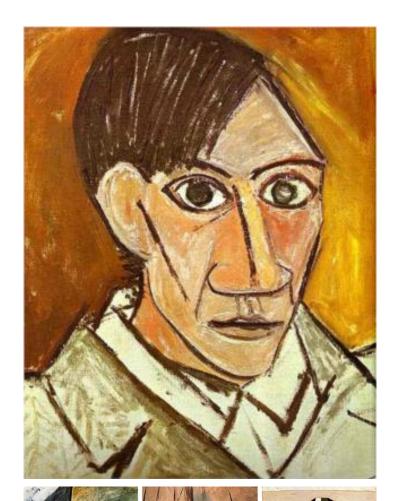

Let's find out...

Who:

Pablo Picasso was born Pablo Diego José Francisco de Paula Juan Nepomuceno María de los Remedios Cipriano de la Santísima Trinidad Ruiz y Picasso on October 25th, 1881 in Málaga, Spain. Now isn't that the longest name you've ever seen!

What:

Picasso was a Spanish painter, sculptor, printmaker, ceramicist, stage designer, poet, and playwright.

When:

Picasso was born on October 25th, 1881 and lived until April 8th, 1973.

Where:

Picasso was born in Spain but spent most of his adult life in France.

Why:

Picasso was an amazing modern artist. He was the co-founder of the famous Cubist art movement in the early 1900's.

During this time period, some artists looked at their subjects in new ways and re-created them using different shapes and angles.

- *Cubist paintings use blocks of shapes and bright colors.*
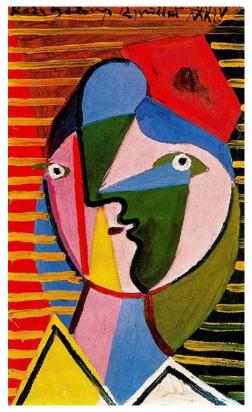
Picasso's father was also an artist and art teacher.

You can say that art was a part of Picasso's life from a very early age.

Picasso was a very realistic painter *(that means you can recognize the subject matter)*, before his art became more abstract *(that means you might not be able to recognize the subject of the art).*

Abstract art might just be lines, shapes and colors. You may or may not recognize what subject the artist is depicting.

Our inspiration piece for this art project is this painting:

Woman Turned Right from 1934.

If you notice, her eyes appear to be looking forward, while her nose and mouth appear to be turned to the side. You can see both angles of her face in one painting! Cubism at work!

This portrait is a great example of the use of large shapes and blocks of color to abstract the woman's face.

The added details like the lines in the background and the outlined shapes add another layer of interest to this painting.

So let's get started...

Supplies needed for this project are:

- colored paper (construction or card stock)

- pencil

- scissors

- glue sticks

- oil pastels

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If you do not have oil pastels, you can also use:

- markers

- crayons

- paint pens

- various drawing supplies

Oil pastels are opaque so they show up nicely on any color, but any drawing supplies will do!

● Next step, ask your child to draw a self-portrait.

Tell them to have fun and be creative with their drawing.

The less realistic their drawing is, the better for this art project.

We're taking a little journey into the world of abstract art and Cubism for this art project!

We will be using the drawing of the portrait as a template to cut out shapes to recreate the portrait in colored paper.
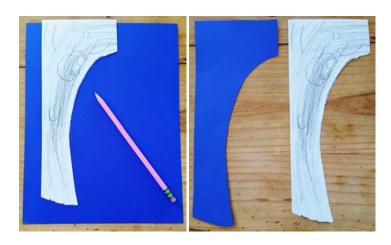
● ***Make a photocopy of the drawing if you'd like to preserve the original drawing.***

● To "abstract" our portrait, cut around the shapes and separate the drawing into pieces.

● Next use each piece of the drawing as a template to trace each shape with a pencil on the colored paper of your choice.

Be bold pick bright colors!

● Once you have all of your shapes traced, cut them out with scissors.

Keep track of each shape as you cut them out so you can easily recreate your portrait with the cut pieces of paper.

Now comes the fun part!

● Pick one sheet of paper to be the base for the cut pieces to be glued on.

The color doesn't really matter since most of this sheet will be covered with the cut pieces of paper.

Now it's time to put our portrait together again.

● **Arrange each piece so you have them in the right places.**

● Coat the back of each piece of paper with a glue stick and attach it to the base piece of paper.

Start with the largest shapes along an edge first then fit the other pieces with that one.

Voilà!

Now it's on to the final step to add some fun details with oil pastels.

Time to make your portrait come alive!

Oil pastels for children are a great alternative to crayons.

They blend smoothly, add bright colors and add fun texture to your artwork.

Oil pastels show up better on darker paper because of their opaque quality.

- Add colors, textures, details, outlines, anything you'd like your final artwork.

Take some cues from your inspiration piece…

- *Are there any large areas you'd like to color in a different color?*

- *What patterns and textures can you add to the background?*

- *What personal details can you add to make it look a little bit more like you?*

Have fun and let your imagination take you for a journey exploring Cubism and abstract art!

Your finished artwork!

Frame your work and proudly display it. I hope you had fun with this project and learned some interesting facts about Pablo Picasso.

About The Author

Hello! My name is Crystal Foth. I am a mother, artist, and teacher who has worked in Fine Art education for the last 17 years.

You can find me at FineArtMom.com, where I share my creative pursuits and encourage other creatives to do the same.

I believe everyone can achieve their artistic dreams with the right instruction and guidance.

The wonderful world of art and creativity is for everyone!

You can read more about me at FineArtMom. com/about-me/.