

# Express Yourself! Portrait Painting

## Materials

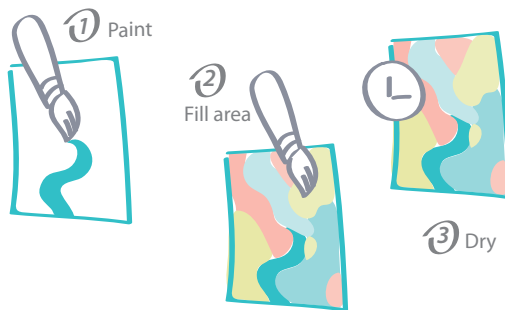
8" x 11" Cardboard  
Acrylic Paint  
(black, white + 3 colors)  
Paint Brushes  
(1 large + 1 small)  
Paper Plate  
Jar of Water  
Paper Towels

*A self-portrait can communicate your emotions. For this project, you will paint a picture of your face using your imagination. Your choice of colors, shapes, lines and brushstrokes will give clues to the viewer about how you are feeling.*



## 1 Prepare Paint

- 1 Squeeze a blob of black paint onto paper plate "palette".
- 2 Add a blob of white paint, being sure to leave space between colors.
- 3 Add three more colors of paint along the outside edge of the plate.



## 2 Paint Background

- 1 Using a large brush, paint the background using one or more colors to reflect how you feel.
- 2 Cover the entire area with paint. Try not to overmix the colors or it will turn a grey-brown. Use a little water to help spread the paint.
- 3 Allow a few minutes for the paint to dry.

### 3 Outline Face & Add Features

- Using your small brush and black paint, to paint an oval that takes up most of the cardboard.
- Select one or more of the examples to create facial features.

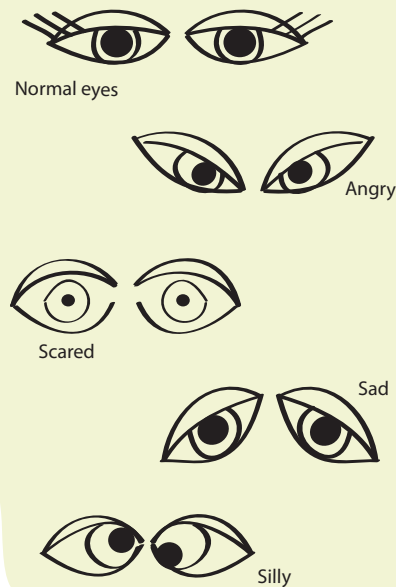
1 paint oval



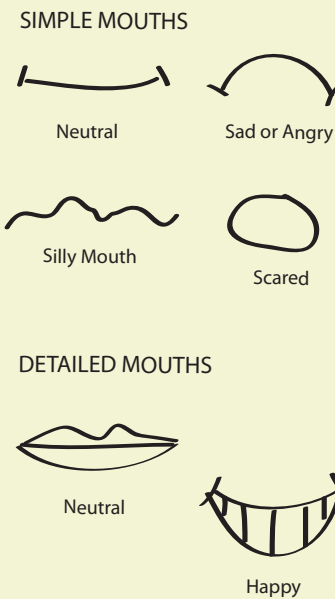
2 add features



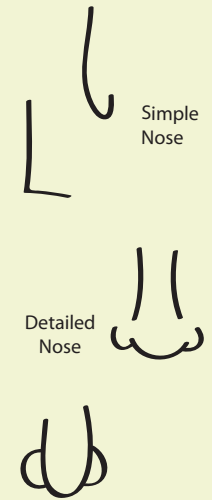
#### Eyes



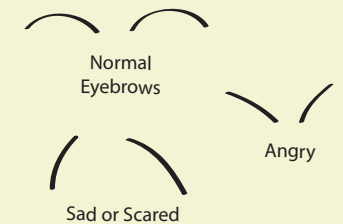
#### Mouth



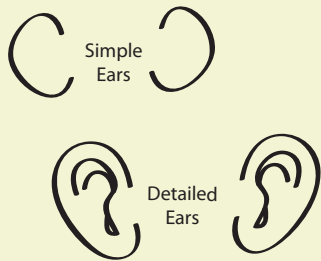
#### Nose



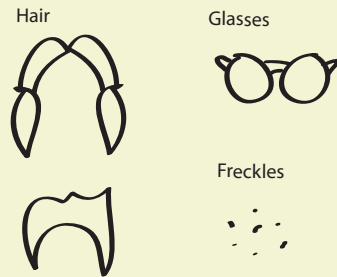
#### Eyebrows



## Ears



## Other Features



## Get Creative!

Your facial features don't need to be in the usual places. Try adding a few upside-down or sideways. If you don't like something, you can paint over it. You can add white to make highlights on the face. To exaggerate a feature, just paint it larger. Add color and brushstrokes. Paint over features and change them.



**Watch the how-to video!**

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