

2nd Grade LWSD Art Docent Project: Painted Portraits

Focus on Portraiture

Objective: To create a simple and colorful self-portrait in pencil and tempera paint.

Artistic Influence: Tel Aviv based illustrator, Yali Ziv



Materials:

- **Stiff paper** (9" x 12" watercolor or white sulphite paper at least 90#)
- **Pencil and eraser**
- **Tempera paint**
- **Paint brushes** (medium and small round)
- **Palettes or paper plates**
- **Water cups**
- **Paper towels**

Instructions and notes:

1. Spend some time discussing Yali Ziv's portraiture style as presented in the slide deck.
2. The first part of the lesson is a guided drawing lesson. Walk the students slowly through the steps. Remember that they may not have drawn a self-portrait that looks to the side before, so this may be a new challenge for them.
3. The idea is to keep the portrait simple. Yali Ziv's portraits show eyebrows, eyes, nose, lips and ears but with little detail, no eyelashes, no fine lines in the ears, no teeth, and most do not even show the contour of the chin.
4. Once the students have completed their drawings, they should begin to paint.
5. Explain to students that they need a very small amount of paint to complete this portrait, and the backdrop is meant to remain white.
6. Remind students of brush cleaning skills, making an X in the bottom of their water cups and gently drying their wet brush on a paper towel when they want to change colors.
7. Invite students to talk about their self-portraits if time allows.
8. Distribute parent information page for students to take home, and print an extra page to post on your bulletin board with the finished art. See following page.
9. Please complete the brief [LWSD Art Docent Program Feedback Survey](#) for this lesson.
10. Thank you for supporting our elementary students' visual arts education.

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The goal of this 2nd grade lesson was to draw and paint a side-oriented self-portrait.



Figures illustrated by Yali Ziv

WA State Visual Arts Standard

Categorize images based on expressive properties. (VA: Re7.2.2)

In this art lesson taught by volunteer art docents, students worked through a guided drawing lesson to create a simple self-portrait looking sideways in the style of Israeli illustrator Yali Ziv. This might have been a new challenge for some students who are used to drawing portraits that face forward. Students then mixed tempera paint to achieve the colors that they wanted and painted their self-portraits, practicing brush care skills along the way.