Daily Elementary Art Lesson

Day 2

Self-Portrait with Contour Lines

The elements of art are to art what the ABCs are to reading. One of the elements of art is LINES.

One type of line is a contour line. It's a single outline of a person or object.

A self-portrait is a drawing of the artist that created it.

You will need: One sheet of paper A crayon or marker



This is a contour line self-portrait of an artist named Paul Klee.

Can you tell that he hardly picked up his pen? It's almost one continuous line!

Your project:

Make a contour line drawing of yourself. You may want to look in a mirror while you work.

Place your crayon or marker at one point and push it around the paper to create a drawing of yourself.

Go slowly and look carefully as you go up the arm, across the shoulder, up the neck around the outside of the hair and back down the other side in the same way.

Draw BIG to fill the paper. Include your eyes, nose, mouth and ears.

It does not have to be beautiful work! Have fun with this. Try it 3 or 4 times—you will get better each time!

When you are finished, you may color it.

Trace around the outer contour line several times with different colors, like in this picture.

Hang your work somewhere for everyone in your family to enjoy!

