

Cycle 2, Week 13- Portraits

Materials:

- Images of portraits by Rembrandt
- Parent to sit and model
- Pencils
- Drawing paper
- Small lamp or light
- Whiteboard and dry-erase marker or large paper and marker

1. Give an introduction to the artist Rembrandt van Rijn and show pictures of his portraits. Have students talk about the lighting he chose. What feeling does it give the painting? How do the shadows make the faces appear three-dimensional rather than flat? (5 minutes)

2. Have a parent sit in front of the class and place a light source near their face to create strong light and shadow (turn off lights above them, if possible).

3. You will now guide students through studying and drawing the portrait. It is important to make students go step-by-step with you. The focus is to carefully study and draw what they see in front of them. If they are drawing quickly, it is because they are drawing generic facial features rather than studying the model's.

Before each step say "Now look at the model. Study the shape of her _____."
Allow at least 10 seconds to study the model. Do not let them begin drawing that part until you give permission.

- 1) Have students put a dot near the top of the paper for the top of her head (about 2 inches from the top). Place a dot at the bottom for her chin (about 3 inches up from the bottom). Draw this on your whiteboard as well. "Study the shape of her face and draw it now."
- 2) Draw a line down the center of the face on your whiteboard. Have students do this as well, but VERY lightly. Facial features will be centered on this line.
- 3) Draw a horizontal line LIGHTLY in the center of the face on your whiteboard. This is where our eyes are! Students also draw this line. "Study the shapes of her eyes.... Draw them on the line where our eyes are." Include eyebrows.
- 4) Draw a horizontal line halfway between the eye line and chin. This is the bottom of the nose. Have students study the lower part of the nose. Draw the nostrils and lower nose area, but not the bridge of the nose.
- 5) Draw a horizontal line halfway between the bottom of the nose and the chin. This is the bottom of the mouth. "Study the shape of her mouth....Draw her lips and mouth."
- 6) Do a simple outline drawing of her ears, hair, and neck.
- 7) If time, look at the model and study where the darkest shadow is on her face. Draw this curving line on your portrait. Shade in areas of shadow. Look for shadows in the hair, nose, eyes, and chin.