

Secondary Pupils' Activity Sheets

About the project

During this exciting project artists from the National Portrait Gallery will be coming into the hospital school to help you create your own Pop Art-inspired portraits.

If you have missed a workshop you can follow the activity steps on these worksheets (you can always ask a parent or carer to help you). Materials will be left in the hospital school for you to use.

On these worksheets you will look at some portraits from the *Pop Art Portraits* exhibition. You can create your own artwork using some of the ideas and techniques used by Pop artists.

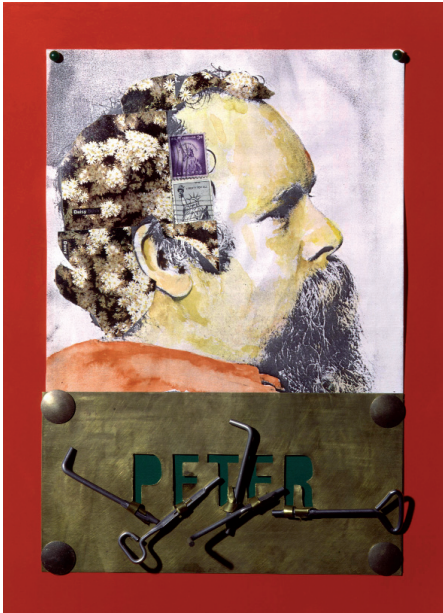
What is Pop Art?

Pop Art began in the 1950s and 60s. The art style used images from popular culture, such as advertising, magazines and film posters. During this time there was a growing interest in celebrities, film stars, pop stars, astronauts and comic-strip characters. These subjects would often appear in Pop Art. Artists used the same bright colours and graphic design style that were used in popular culture to create bold artworks.

We hope you'll enjoy this project. If you would like to find out more about the art we have on display visit us at www.npg.org.uk or search our collection at www.npg.org.uk/live/collect.asp

This project was generously supported by:

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Sir Peter Thomas Blake by Clive Barker, 1983
© National Portrait Gallery, London



Self-portrait with Badges by Peter Blake,
1961 © Peter Blake. All rights reserved,
DACS 2008. Tate, London 2007

Activity 1: Real or imagined spaces



Look at these images:

- What clues tell you these are portraits of Peter Blake?
- What materials are used in these portraits?
- There are some odd details in the portrait by Clive Barker – can you spot them?
- Peter Blake's daughters are called Liberty and Daisy. Can you find clues to their names in this portrait by Clive Barker?

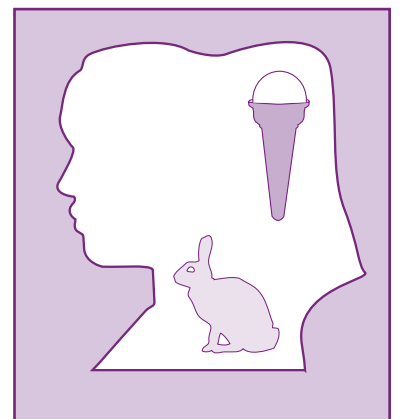
Activity introduction:

In this activity you will create a self-portrait inspired by the portraits of Peter Blake, thinking about what is important to you and how you will symbolise this in your portrait.

Activity steps:



1. Look at yourself in the mirror and draw a portrait of yourself using coloured pencils on card or paper; look carefully at the details on your face and your hair. If you have a photograph of yourself you could work from this instead.



2. Now think about what is important to you. For example, you could think about your favourite colour, animal, sport, object or even your favourite food!

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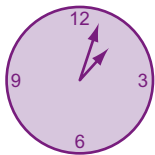
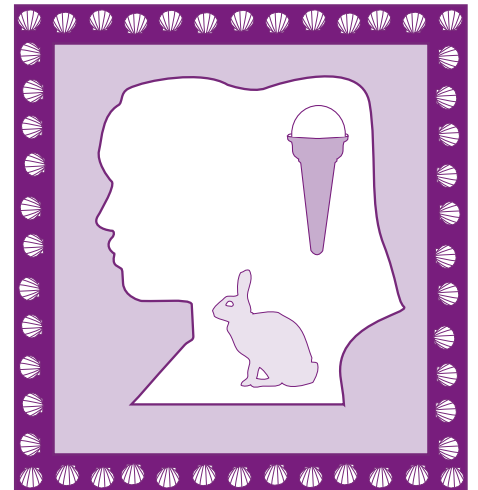
3. Once your designs are chosen look for some collage materials (magazine pictures, stickers or comic book pictures) which show your favourite things and cut these out. You can also draw pictures and cut these out too.

4. Stick down any collage material on your portrait using Pritt stick.

5. Finally, you can frame your portrait using a mount provided. You could design your own frame out of card and decorate it.

If you have time...

Why not create a portrait of someone in your family or a friend? If you enjoy collage you could make a collage portrait using lots of images of heads cut out of newspapers and magazines. Use cut-out eyes to make up the eyes, and other features for the other facial parts to build up your portrait.



You will need:

- Photocopies of artwork
- A3 colour/white card
- Furby colour pencils
- HB pencils
- Berol fine felt pens
- Pritt stick
- Scissors
- Magazine images/stamps/stickers/comic books etc
- Mirrors
- Frames or mounts

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Man Playing Snooker and Thinking of Other Things by Derek Boshier, 1961 © Derek Boshier

Activity 2: Pop Art profiles



Look at this image:

- What can you see in this portrait?
- What is this man thinking about?
- What is he feeling?
- What signs or symbols can you see?
- Can you see the snooker table? Is there anything hidden that you didn't notice?

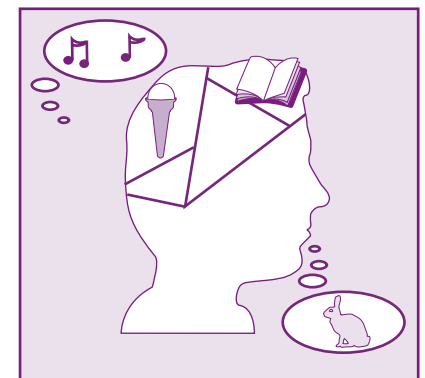
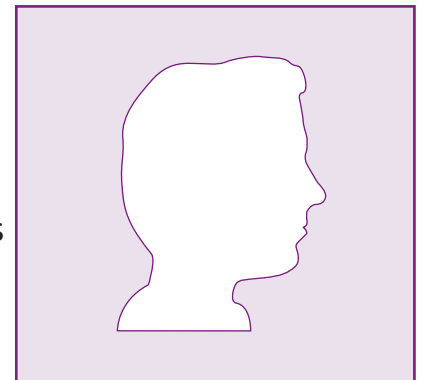
Activity introduction:

In this activity you will make your own portrait inspired by Derek Boshier's man. You can draw different areas in your head for all the things you think about. What would people see in your imagination?



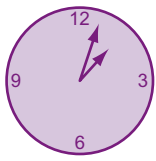
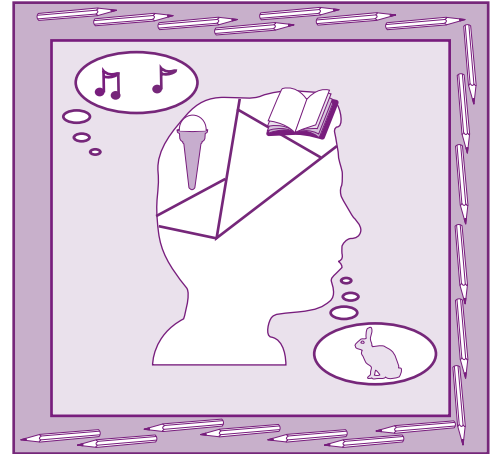
Activity steps:

1. Ask someone to help you trace your profile (profile means a side view of your head) on to the card.
2. Divide the space in your profile up into areas and draw your ideas and dreams. How will you show them? Will some ideas and dreams be bigger, some smaller? Are the images real or cartoon-like?
3. Draw, colour and collage all the images in your imagination. You could also include cartoon thought bubbles to let people know what you are thinking!



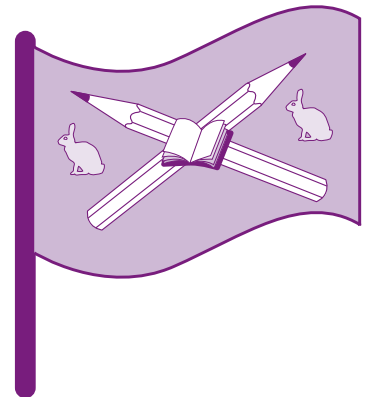
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4. The man in Derek Boshier's portrait is framed by a snooker table. What would you draw around your portrait to show your interests? Now decorate your frame to finish your portrait.



If you have time...

The artist Derek Boshier has included a flag in his portrait. What are flags for? How do countries identify themselves with colours and shapes on flags? Design your own flag or logo which will tell someone about you.



You will need:

- Photocopies of artwork
- A3 colour/white card
- Furby colour pencils
- HB pencils
- Berol fine felt pens
- Pritt stick
- Scissors
- Magazine images/stamps/stickers/comic books etc
- Mirrors

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Just what is it that makes today's homes so different, so appealing? by Richard Hamilton, 1956 © Richard Hamilton

Activity 3: Pop Art self-portrait diorama



Look at this image:

- What can you see in this home?
- What are the people in this image doing?
- What things in this image are fantasy?
What are real?
- This image was made in 1956 (over 50 years ago!). Not many people at the time would have furniture or objects like this so this image was a 'fantasy' to a lot of people.
- How is this image made? Is it a photograph? A painting? A print?
- What objects would be in this 'fantasy' home today?

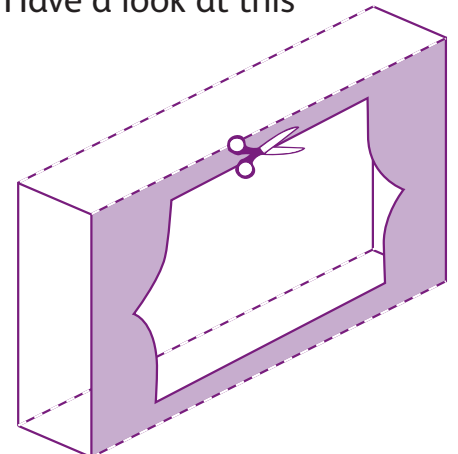
Activity introduction:

In this activity you will create a diorama (a type of theatre set). Imagine your own dream home and think about the objects you would like around you. What does this say about you? If you prefer you can create your collage on an A3 sheet of card and instead of you in this scene you could choose your favourite famous person.

Activity steps:

1. How would you like your theatre set to look? Have a look at this image and think about what you would have in your dream home.

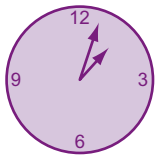
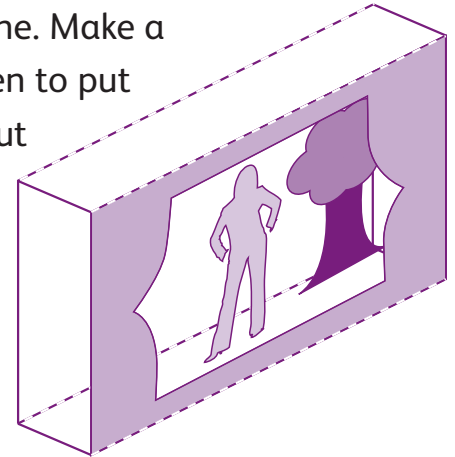
2. Using the template, cut out the front of the theatre set (as in this drawing). Now fold along the dotted lines to create the box shape. You will need to use Pritt stick to glue your theatre set together.



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3. You can now cut, colour and collage your scene. Make a pop-up portrait of yourself or have a photo taken to put inside your pop-up theatre set. You could also cut out pictures of some famous people from magazines to live in there with you.

4. Don't forget to think about the story your scene tells and share this story with someone else.



If you have time...

Create 2-D collages of you, friends and family. Use A4 card trimmed down to create a square composition. You could create your own environment. Arrange your collage portraits together to create a storyboard layout. Does the layout affect the way you view these portraits? Do the sitters look as if they are communicating their thoughts and feelings to each other?

You will need:

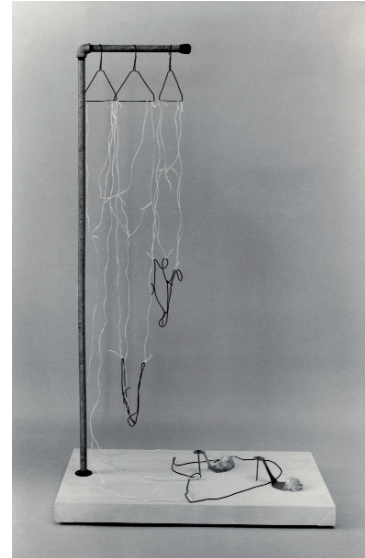
- Theatre template
- Photocopies of artwork
- A3 colour/white card
- Furby colour pencils
- HB pencils
- Berol fine felt pens
- Pritt stick
- Scissors
- Magazine images/stamps/stickers etc
- Mirrors
- Digital camera
- Postcard printers

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Activity 4: Pop Art photographic self-portraits



Astronaut 4 by Gerald Laing, 1963
© Gerald Laing



Ghost Wardrobe for MM by Claes Oldenburg,
1967 © Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van
Bruggen



Look at this image:

- What can you see in *Astronaut 4*?
- Which parts of this portrait have the most impact?
- Why do you think the artist made this portrait?
- What different things do flames symbolise?

Look at this image:

- What is missing from *Ghost Wardrobe for MM*?
- What does 'MM' stand for? Try and think of the name of a famous actress in the 1960s.
- What is this portrait made from?
- Do you think this work is a portrait? Why/Why not?

Activity introduction:

During this activity you will look at how artists use symbols and objects to tell us more about themselves and the person in their work. What will you have in your portrait to symbolise you? How would you like to be seen by others? In this activity you will use

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digital cameras to create a portrait, using only objects to show someone your personality. You can ask an adult to take your photo using the hospital school camera, or use a parent's camera or mobile phone.

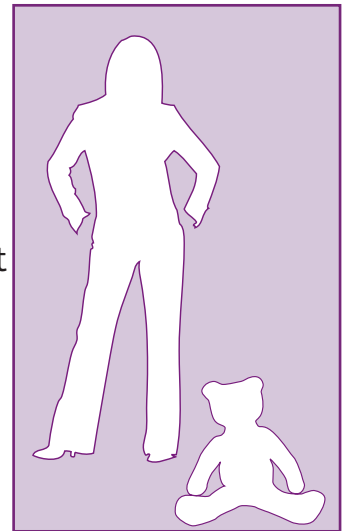


Activity steps:

1. Look at *Astronaut 4* by Gerald Laing. What comes to your mind when you think about flames? ... space rocket at lift-off, flames burning brightly ... like stars ... like celebrity status ... flames are dangerous ... being an astronaut is dangerous/exciting, etc.

2. What would you have in your portrait to symbolise your personality? How would you like to be seen by others? Choose an object: this could be an iPod to show you like music, your favourite book or piece of clothing – the choice is yours! What does this object tell the world about what you are really like?

3. Ask an adult to take a photo of you with your object, using a digital camera or mobile phone.

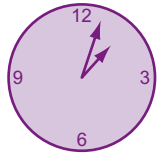


4. Now look at the other portrait, *Ghost Wardrobe for MM* by Claes Oldenburg. In this portrait the person 'MM' is missing.

5. For the next activity you will create another photo. This time you will only be taking a photo of your object. Think about the setting and arrange your object carefully. Now think about the composition of your photo. Are you going to zoom in or take it from a distance?

6. Ask an adult to print out your images. Then ask friends, family and hospital staff to guess which mystery person is behind the object.

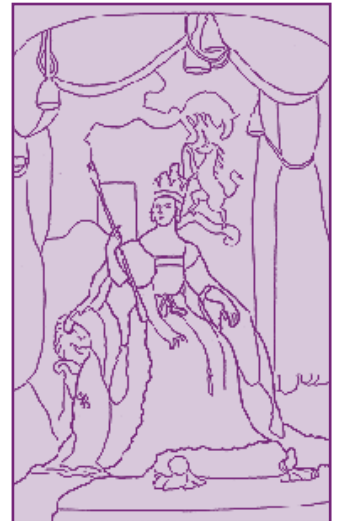
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If you have time...

Look at a range of paintings from different times. Think about how artists use symbols, objects and props to show wealth, power and knowledge.

Now create a portrait of someone in your family, a friend or a favourite celebrity. Which symbols, objects and props would be in the portrait? You can create a photo, drawing or collage.



You will need:

- Photocopies of artwork
- A digital camera or mobile phone
- Some props/objects