

# Self-Portraits

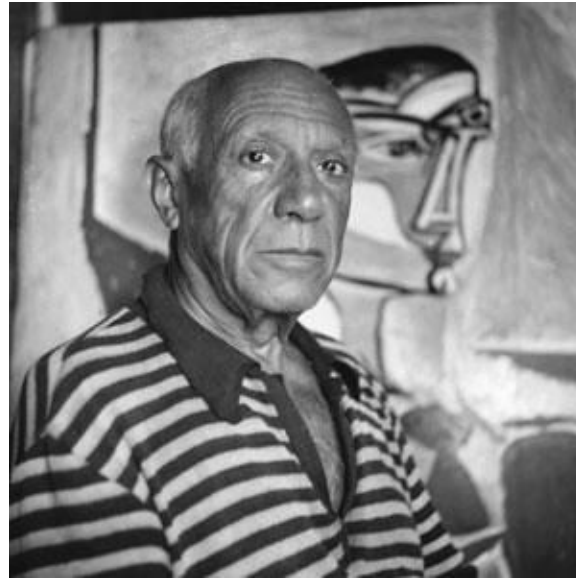
Directions: Read this packet to prepare yourself for creating your own self-portrait. You can read this aloud with an adult to help you read some of the more difficult words and answer any questions that might pop into your head.

A **self-portrait** is a painting or drawing of you that is created by you.

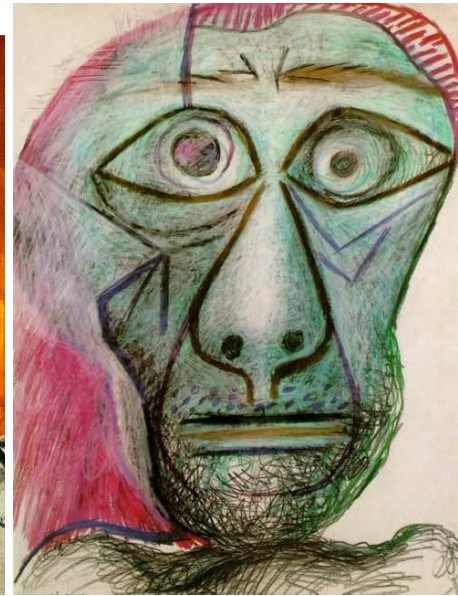
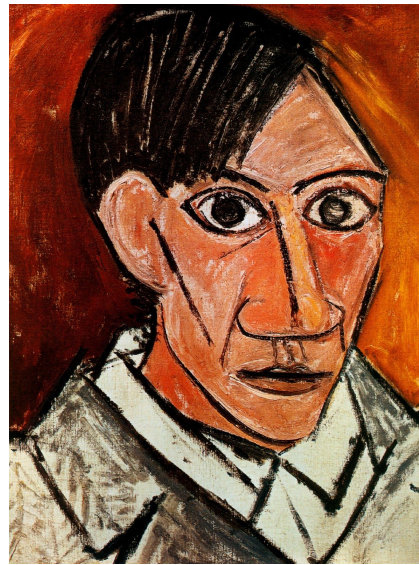
**We will be creating our own self-portraits to display around the classroom. Not only will they make our class beautiful, but anyone who walks in our room will know who all the members are of the 5-412 community!**

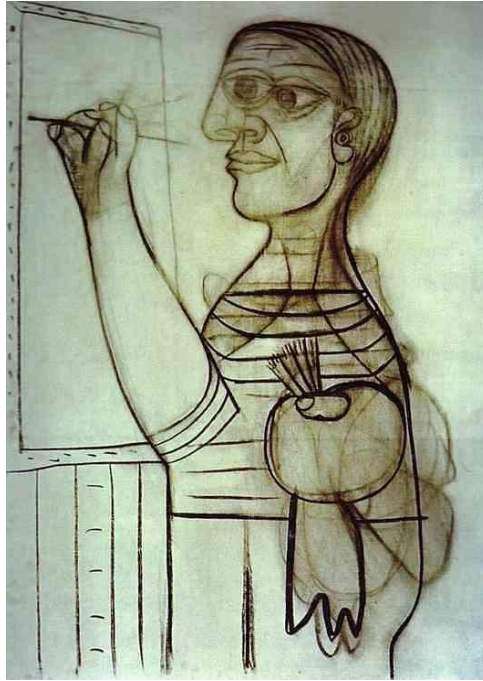
We will be using the artwork of Pablo Picasso to help inspire our self-portrait creations.

## Pablo Picasso



## Picasso's Self Portraits





## Who is Pablo Picasso?

**Pablo Picasso** was born on October 25, 1881 in Malaga, Spain. He was the first child of Don Jose Ruiz y Blasco, an art teacher, and Maria Picasso y Lopez. At an early age Pablo showed an interest in drawing. His first words were "piz, piz", which is short for "lapiz", the Spanish word for pencil.

At the age of 7, Pablo began receiving art instruction from his father. His father believed that an artist's training should include copying the masters and drawing the human body from plaster casts and live models. The precision of Pablo's painting technique grew until it soon surpassed that of his father.

In 1895, Pablo's father accepted a position at Barcelona's School of Fine Arts. He asked officials to allow his son to take the entrance exam. The officials were impressed with Pablo's abilities and

admitted him to the academy. As a student he lacked self-control but made friends and continued to grow as an artist.

At the age of 16, Pablo's father enrolled him in Spain's most distinguished art school, Madrid's *Royal Academy of San Fernando*. However, his instruction at the Royal Academy lasted only a short time as he struggled to accept formal instruction. In spite of these difficulties, his time in Madrid was not wasted. Pablo visited Madrid's museums and saw the paintings of Diego Velasquez and Francisco Goya, though it was the works of El Greco that he admired most.

In 1900, Picasso made his first trip to Paris. At that time Paris was considered to be the art capitol of Europe. While in Paris, Picasso's work began to attract the attention of art collectors.

In the early 1900's, Picasso painting started a movement. He created with, painter and sculptor, Georges Braque the brand new art movement known as "Cubism". Cubism allowed the artist to show his/her model from many different viewpoints. In the paintings of earlier times, the artist showed his subject from one particular viewpoint. In cubist paintings the artist may show the front and the side of a person's face at the same time. Pablo Picasso died on April 8, 1973 in Mougins, France. As a young boy, Pablo Picasso was a prodigy whose skills became an expressive power that profoundly affected the art of the twentieth century.

**Respond to these questions in your reading notebook (RNB):**

What do you find interesting about Pablo's life?

What art movement was Pablo a part of?

What type of art did artists create during the movement?