## Curriculum Title: “Nature Self-Portraits”

Time: 60min minutes     Ages/Group: 5-13     Lesson Number: 4     Theme: Nature

### GOALS/OBJECTIVES

- Enhance observation skills which can be useful for self-reflection and inquiry.
- Create an understanding of why portraits are important.
- Students will learn about the art form of portraiture and analyze portraits of Latinx historical and contemporary figures. Students will use what they have learned to create portraits of themselves.

How do these goals preserve, create, present or promote cultural arts of Mexican Americans or other Latinx cultures? Is it socially relevant? Will your lesson address the 5 E’s? (Engage, explore, explain, elaborate-extend, evaluate)

This lesson engages students in active seeing and looking as they learn about the art form of portraiture. Students will use these skills to create a portrait of another person. Students will learn about Latinx artists, art, and historical/contemporary figures as they analyze various types of portrait.

### AGENDA

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<tr>
<td>Check-In/Opening Ritual:</td>
<td>7min</td>
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<td>Zoom expectations/etiquette</td>
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<td>After the Introduction Video is show, Check-in with Students' names and three words that describe themselves.</td>
<td>5-10min</td>
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Core Activity: “Nature Self-Portrait”

1. If you have all your ‘nature findings’ (sticks, leaves, plants, grass, etc.) then you may begin by laying out your canvas (cardboard/carstock)
2. Sketch your self-portrait using a hand-held mirror or photo.
3. Arrange items on cardboard or heavy cardstock paper in the shape of your face and a cool background.
4. Glue items down once you have them arranged how you like. Allow to dry.

Discussion Questions:

- “Why have portraits been important through history?” Ans: Portraits have been used to show power, importance, virtue, beauty, or other qualities of the sitter.
- “What kind of information can you transmit through a portrait?” Ans: Portrait paintings can reveal the sitter’s place in society, their hobbies or occupation, or aspects of their personality or beliefs.
- “How can portraits and self-portraits help you think about your own and others’ identity?”
- “What’s the difference between a portrait and a self-portrait?” Ans: A portrait is a picture of a person done by someone else. A self-portrait is a picture of one’s self done by one’s self.

Vocabulary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Portrait</th>
<th>Retrato</th>
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<tr>
<td>Self Portrait</td>
<td>Auto Retrato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frida Khalo</td>
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<td>Pablo Picasso</td>
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<td>Dolores Huerta</td>
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Check-Out/Closing Ritual: Ask students to describe one of the people who they learned about in the portraiture discussion.

GAME:

“Scavenger Hunt”: First one back with a “blank” wins!

Disney Movie, Box of cookies, Penny, Lego, Straw, (blue)Crayon, Car, Hair brush
Go find something pink, find something plastic, go find something square,
**Special Supplies Needed/Things to Prepare Ahead of Time**

- Cardboard or cardstock for background
- Glue
- Paper
- Pencils

**Challenges/Successes/Notes for Coordinator:**

*Students may need assistance when it comes to visualizing their self-portraits and gluing the nature findings onto their surface!*

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**References:**

- **Cassie Smith’s Nature Lesson Plan #4: “Me seeing you; Found object portrait”**
- **Huerta Dolores** ([https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/one-life-dolores-huertayglc-xrhj99cja?mc_cid=a1b64e28dd&mc_eid=0d44a7c872](https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/one-life-dolores-huertayglc-xrhj99cja?mc_cid=a1b64e28dd&mc_eid=0d44a7c872))
- **Frida Kahlo** ([https://www.si.edu/spotlight/frida-kahlo-smithsonian](https://www.si.edu/spotlight/frida-kahlo-smithsonian))
- **The History of Portraits. Behind the News, 2018. YouTube,** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x-XyGWFXQ0I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x-XyGWFXQ0I)

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**Supplemental Materials:**
Templates of ‘Nature Findings’:
Colorful fall leaves!

Color and cut out these pretty fall leaves.
Picture Guide

Go on a nature walk around your yard or other safe area.

Find items like moss, flowers, twigs, and leaves that can serve as parts of your face.

Sketch your self-portrait from a mirror or photo.

Arrange items on cardboard or heavy cardstock paper in the shape of your face and a cool background.

Glue items down once you have them arranged how you like.