

## Mona Lisa Observation and Self-Portrait

For this project students will draw a picture of themselves.

The art concepts and skills covered in this lesson include utilizing the elements of art: color, shape, line, texture and space; and use appropriate proportions to create a self portrait.

Materials Needed: Construction paper, pencil, something to color with (I suggest either crayons or colored pencils) optional: black marker to outline your drawing \*You could even create this drawing in chalk on the sidewalk!

### **STEP ONE:** Exploring the Mona Lisa and Leonardo da Vinci

Below is a picture of the Mona Lisa. Please reflect upon the following questions:

- What do you notice about the painting?
- Is her portrait painted in bright or dull colors?
- Next to the Mona Lisa I have put another artwork created by Leonardo da Vinci. How do they look the same? What are some of their differences?



*Mona Lisa*, Leonardo da Vinci



*Self-Portrait*, Leonardo da Vinci

### **STEP TWO:** Drawing Yourself

This project requires a mirror for observation to create the drawing. If you can't find a mirror that would be easy to use for your drawing you can also use a picture that you have of yourself to copy.

Using the mirror, or picture, for reference start by drawing the middle of the flower on your paper in pencil. Start by drawing the shape of your face. Concentrate on the shape of your eyes, your nose and your mouth. Here is a link to break down the proportion of the face to help make it easier: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uXIO6ocidiY>

(Optional: As you complete the drawing you can trace your lines in black marker to define your spaces.)

**STEP THREE:** Adding Color

Using either crayons or colored pencils start to add color to your drawing. Try using two colors in one space to color mix and create shading. Do you think it helps to bring your picture to life? Make sure to add color to your entire page.

**REFLECTION:** How do you feel about your drawing? Would you like to draw more portraits like da Vinci? Was this drawing easy or hard for you? What is one thing you would change about your drawing for next time?