

Changing Faces

Who's mouth is that? Recognize that smile?

With this fun project, facial features become puzzle pieces that can be changed over and over again. It's a light and humorous way to examine the endless variety found in human faces and skin tones.

A twist on the standard portrait, in this project multiple portraits are made in sections to create a new multi-faceted portrait. For source material, class photos can be used, but also encourage the use of found images, such as magazine ads, cartoons, even mythical beings. Older students can create multiple full portraits, sharing the pieces across the class. Students will utilize traditional portrait techniques with a result that is anything but traditional!

GRADES K-8

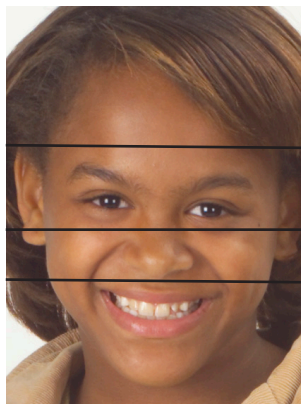
Note: Instructions and materials are based upon a class size of 24 students. Adjust as needed.

Preparation

1. Each student will need an 8" x 10" photocopied image of a face. The actual size of the mat opening is 7-1/2" x 10", so the image will need to be cropped on the sides. Faces should be viewed as straight an angle as possible, enlarged and then cropped so the whole face fills the frame. Class photos usually work well, or students can use a celebrity photo or incorporate a famous painted portrait, such as the Mona Lisa.
2. Each student will also need two pieces of posterboard that is white on one side. Cut one piece to 11" x 14" to use as a backing board. Cut a 7-1/2" x 10" piece to back the image.

Process

1. Prepare the mat frame. The inside of the mat has a beveled edge that has been scored so that it bends easily. With the pebble surface facing down, bend the border up to a 90° angle on all sides. Turn the mat over and apply glue to the pebble side, covering the entire surface up to the bevel. Press the mat onto the white side of the 11" x 14" backing board and allow it to set.
2. Glue the image onto the gray side of the 7-1/2" x 10" piece of posterboard. Once the glue is dry, use a ruler and a pencil to lightly draw lines where the face will be cut apart. Make one line just above the eyebrows, another below the eyes and one between the mouth and the nose (see below).
3. On the reverse side of the mounted image, repeat the cut lines then add a second image. You can either mount another photo, draw a self-portrait or create fantasy facial features with markers. Make sure each feature falls within the cut lines. Once this side is complete, cut the pieces apart.
4. Assemble the pieces in the matboard frame. If the fit is too tight, pieces may be trimmed. If the fit is too loose, bend the bevels of the mat to help hold the pieces in place. For extra giggles, swap pieces with classmates to see what happens when features are combined!



Materials (required)

Value Pre-Cut Mats, 11" x 14" (8" x 10" opening), package of 50 (17205-1005); one mat per student

Economy White Posterboard, 22" x 28", 8-ply, white on one side (13109-1302); share one sheet between two students

Blick White Glue, 4-oz (23882-1004); share one among four students

Crayola Multicultural Colored Pencils, set of 8 (20521-1009); share one package among four students

Prismacolor Premier Double-Ended Brush Tip Marker Set, Portrait, Set of 24 (19901-2024); share one set among six students

Blick Broadline Water-Based Markers, 8-color set (21224-0089); share one set among four students

Crayola Super Tips Washable Markers, 20-color set (21252-0209); share one set among four students

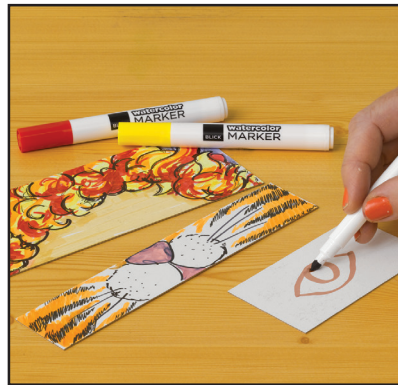
Armada Velvet Touch Scissors, blunt, 5" (57062-1005); one pair per student



Step 1: Bend the bevel edge of the mat up to a 90° angle. Glue it to the backing board.



Step 2: Glue the image to the posterboard. Allow it to dry and cut the features apart.



Step 3: On the reverse side, draw a self-portrait or fantasy face.



Step 4: Assemble the pieces in the frame and enjoy Changing Faces!

Options

- For more durable pieces that withstand much handling, mount the image on a piece of heavy Double-Thick Chipboard (13115-2232).
- Create another face on the inside opening of the matboard so that it shows when pieces are removed.
- Color or decorate the matboard to make a frame. Alternate means and materials.

National Core Arts Standards - Visual Arts

Creating

Anchor Standard 1: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.

Anchor Standard 2: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

Responding

Anchor Standard 8: Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.

Connecting

Anchor Standard 11: Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding

