

Black Artists



Hi Everyone,

Sometimes we look at paintings to better understand ourselves and the world around us. We visit galleries and museums to get a glimpse of portraits that gaze back at us. Often what we see does not truly represent us as a society.

In recent years, however, there have been various high-profile exhibitions dedicated to the work of black artists, including Tate Modern's exploration of civil rights-era art 'Soul of a Nation', Nottingham Contemporary's 'The Place is Here', and the magnificent Frank Bowling retrospective at Tate in 2019.

<https://www.tate.org.uk/kids/explore/kids-view/kids-think-about-art-and-race>

Have a go at the tasks below and send me some of your fantastic efforts.

Ms Hanif-Banks

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ART

Activity 1 -Art Appreciation – I wonder...

Take a look at these art works by famous artists.



Middle Passage - Frank Bowling, 1970



Between the Two My Heart is Balanced - Lubaina Himid, 1991

Look really closely at these artworks. Talk to a family member about what you see.

What differences /similarities do you notice?

What do you notice about the brushstrokes and mark making?

Who could the people in the paintings be?

Think about the titles of both artworks, how could they relate to the paintings?

Activity 2 – Supa Hero

Supa Hero's style is very simple and graphic. Everything is condensed down to shape, colour and an animated style.



How could you represent yourself using this style?

Draw a simple body shape and cape.

Think about how you could describe yourself using simple motifs. It could be a feeling, a piece of jewellery, a hat, a football shirt or an item of clothing. I have shown myself with sticking up hair (a result of not being able to go the hairdressers for months!) and a heart – to send out love to those I haven't been able to see for a while.

Use felt tips or colouring pens to fill in your drawing with block colour.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ur7WNCmlGvU>

Afro Supa Hero - Rhythm Rhyme Revolution & Carleen Anderson Video

Activity 3 – Romare Bearden

Romare Bearden was an American artist, author, and songwriter. He worked with many types of media including cartoons, oils, and collages. Bearden's early work focused on unity and cooperation within the African-American community.



Using Bearden's work as inspiration, create a collage using images from newspapers and magazines.

Look for images of facial features. Cut or tear them, play around with the placement of each piece. Once you are happy, stick them down.

Now think about what your person could be wearing.

What type of background will your collage have? It could be a street scene or a garden. Cut out and collage images that represent the clothes your person is wearing and the environment they are in.

Activity 4 – Singh Twins



The Singh twins are sisters who create art together. Their style is a mix of Indian traditional art and modern western influences. Think about how this painting works, it is very flat but it still uses background, middle ground and fore ground.

Collage inspired by the Singh Twins PDF

https://pdfhost.io/v/t8utRa1q9_Collage_inspired_by_the_Singh_Twinspdf.pdf

Activity 5 – 100 Greatest Black Britons

**Who are the Black Britons that you admire?
 What do they do?
 What is it that makes them great?**

I would like as many as us as possible to enter the 100 Greatest Black Britons competition. There are lots of creative ways to enter and loads of fabulous resources to help you.

The closing date is the 30th September 2020.

You can submit your work directly or by sending it to me at the email address on page 1.

Brixton's Black Cultural Archives are backing a national competition launched by the 100 Great Black Britons campaign and supported by Britain's biggest teachers' organisation, the New Education Union (NEU).

Parents or guardians of pre-school children who want to enter can upload a picture of their children dressed up as their Black heroes or a drawing that their children have done, representing their favourite Black Britons.

Children under 16 can use campaign resources available online and look at the biographies of Great Black Britons nominated on 100greatblackbritons.com.

They can choose one or several Great Black Britons and create an innovative project to celebrate their work and legacy. This could be a presentation, display, or any other way of promoting the stories of Great Black Britons, including social media campaigns, website designs and posters.

Further information about the competition:

<https://brixtonblog.com/2020/05/great-black-britons-competition/?cn-reloaded=1>

Fanstatic resources to inspire you:

<https://www.100greatblackbritons.co.uk/resources.html>

How to enter: <https://www.100greatblackbritons.co.uk/competition.html>