

Year 5 Art and English
Week beginning 15th June

L.O.: I can understand what surrealist art is and create my own

I can research and record facts for a biography

- Surrealism art was inspired by the artists' **unconscious thoughts, dreams and imagination.**
- Surrealist art did not show what was really there.



Watch this 2-minute video to find out more
<https://www.tate.org.uk/kids/explore/what-is/surrealism>

We are going to focus on the Mexican female artist, Frida Kahlo (born 1907, died 1954).



Frida loved drawing and painting as a child.

When she was **6**, she had a serious illness called **polio**. This damaged the muscle in her right leg and she had to wear a special brace on her leg to help her walk.

In 1922, **aged just 15**, she got a place at the renowned Mexico City Prep School. This was very impressive as there was only 35 girls in the whole school, all the other places were given to men. Women weren't given the same opportunities, rights or respect as men. Frida wouldn't let this stop her following her dreams.

When she was **18**, she was in a terrible **bus crash**. She had lots of injuries: broken bones in her spine, collarbone, ribs, pelvis, leg, foot and shoulder. A metal rod pierced her abdomen from one side to the other. She **almost died** and then couldn't have children which greatly upset her.



She spent many months in bed recovering. She wanted to paint but couldn't get up to see things, so used a mirror and a special easel to paint herself.



Let's look at some of her self-portraits. Many of them represented her pain.

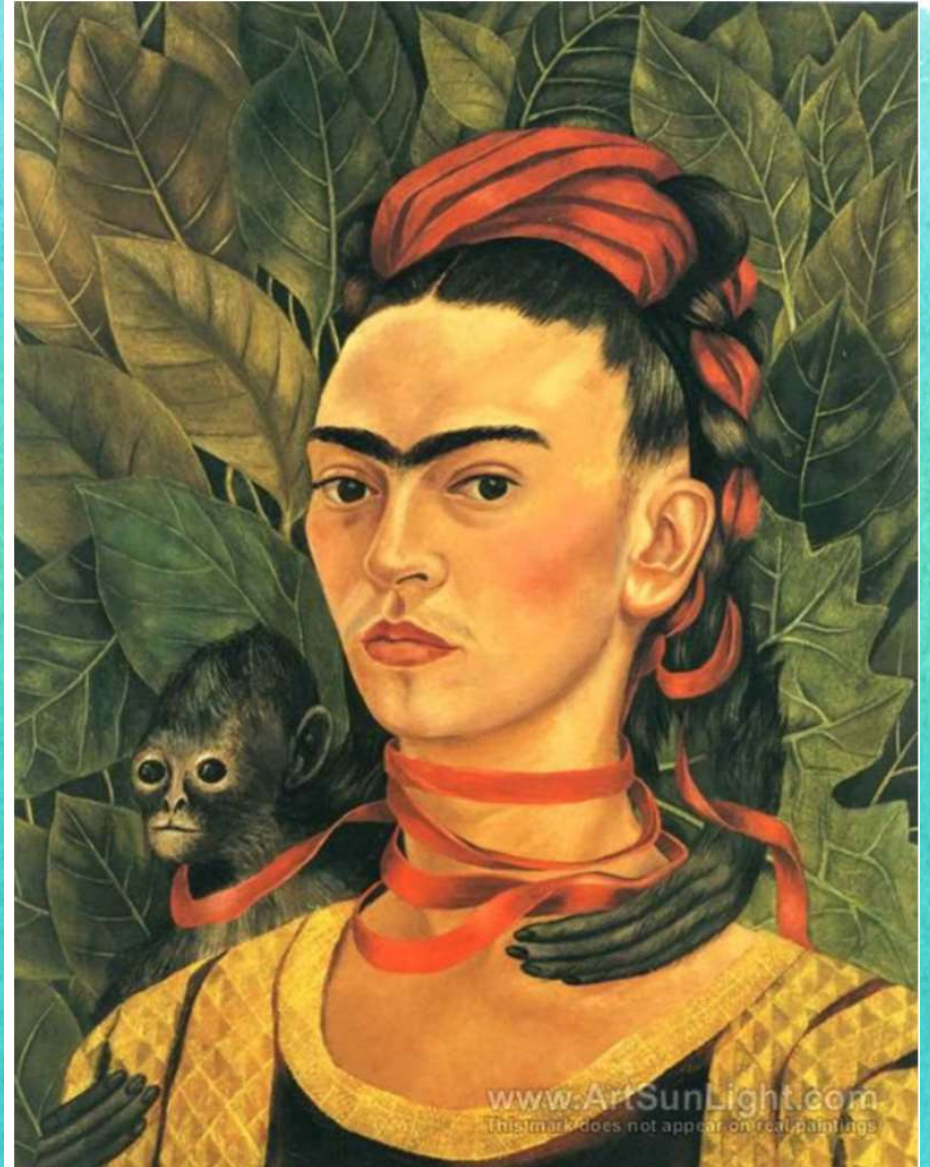
What do they have in common?

What impression do they give you of Frida Kahlo?

What do you think she was trying to say through her paintings?







What do her portraits have in common?

What impression do they give you of Frida Kahlo?

What do you think she was trying to say through her paintings?

Frida painted 'surrealist' paintings - this means they mixed reality with emotions, dreams and personality.

Frida expressed her personality and emotions through her paintings.

This is called
'The Wounded
Deer'.

What do you
think she is
trying to convey
in this painting?



English Task:

Next week, we will write the biography of Frida Kahlo - don't start writing it yet!!

In order to this, we need to find out some facts.

Your task this week is to research facts to do with these sub-headings:

- **Early life/childhood** (where she grew up, family, events - include the bus accident at age 18)
- **Education** (what did she study, where)
- **Her artwork** (what is it like, what does it feature)
- **Her legacy** (why is she important, what was special about her, what impact has she had)

Links on the following page will help you find out this information, or you can use your own sources!

Useful websites:

2-minute video: <https://youtu.be/wfbLR15Bh74>

[https://kids.kiddle.co/Frida Kahlo](https://kids.kiddle.co/Frida_Kahlo)

Frida Kahlo Twinkl fact file: <https://content.twinkl.co.uk/resource/7f/0a/us2-g-22-significant-mexican-frida-kahlo-fact-file.pdf?token=exp=1591634297~acl=%2Fresource%2F7f%2F0a%2Fus2-g-22-significant-mexican-frida-kahlo-fact-file.pdf%2A~hmac=ca3c044c9146f790064619ac2777d64d02eeeb7b573f9c71190b773b1ee4e194>

<https://www.biography.com/artist/frida-kahlo>

Art task:

We are going to create our own surrealist self-portraits in the style of Frida Kahlo.

You will draw yourselves surrounded by objects that represent your personality, hopes, dreams and emotions.

Think about what you would like to represent through your drawing. For example, if you enjoy art, you may include brushes, paints, patterns. If you are an animal lover, you may include lots of animals. If you are a swimmer, you may want to draw yourself in water.

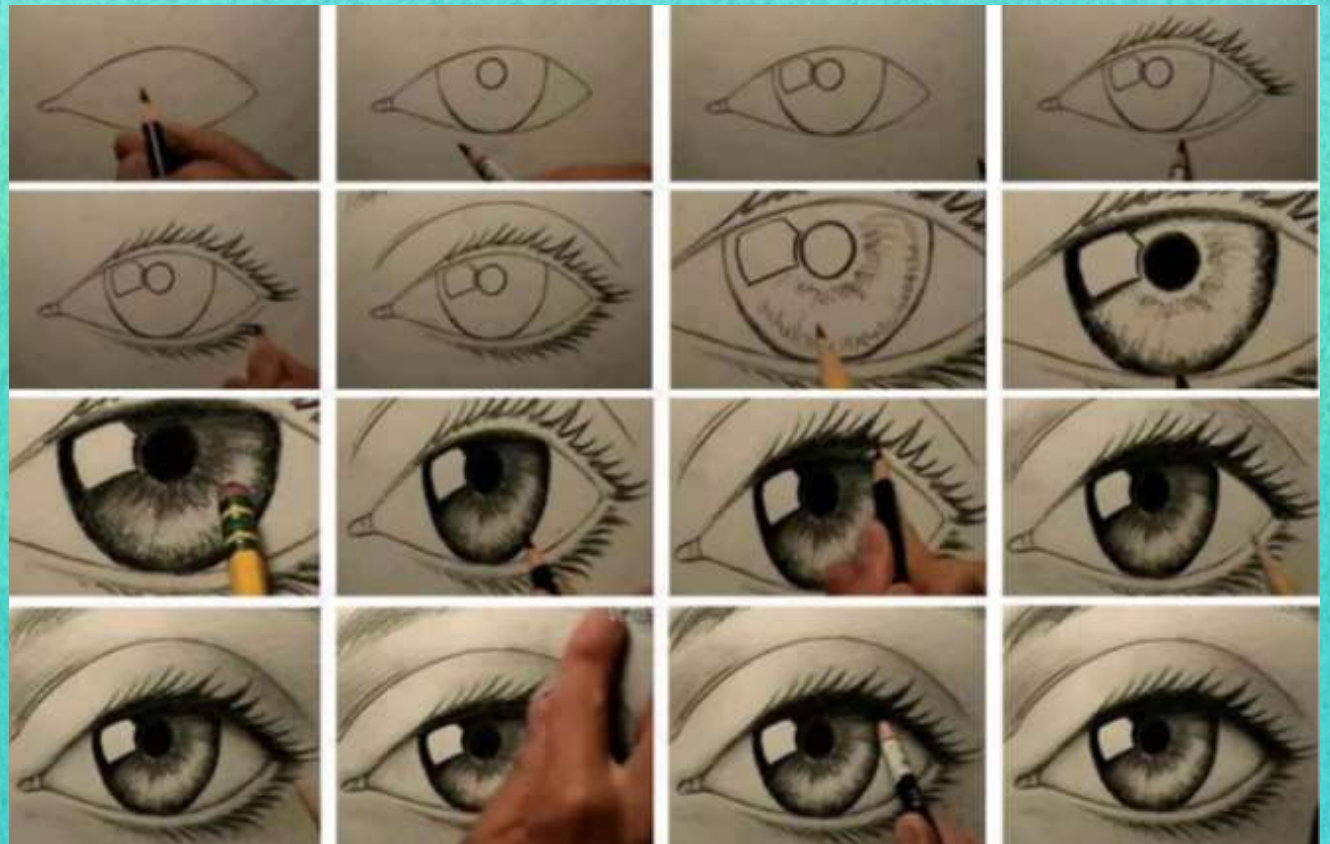
Consider how you will represent it - try to be 'surreal', representing your identity and emotions in different ways. E.g. Frida was very proud to be Mexican, so she drew herself with monkeys and plants that were native to Mexico.

Eyes are one of the hardest things to draw! Have a go at sketching some eyes before you start your portrait. You can use a mirror to sketch you own or look at a family members.

~Take your time

~ Don't press too hard

~Pay attention to shape and position

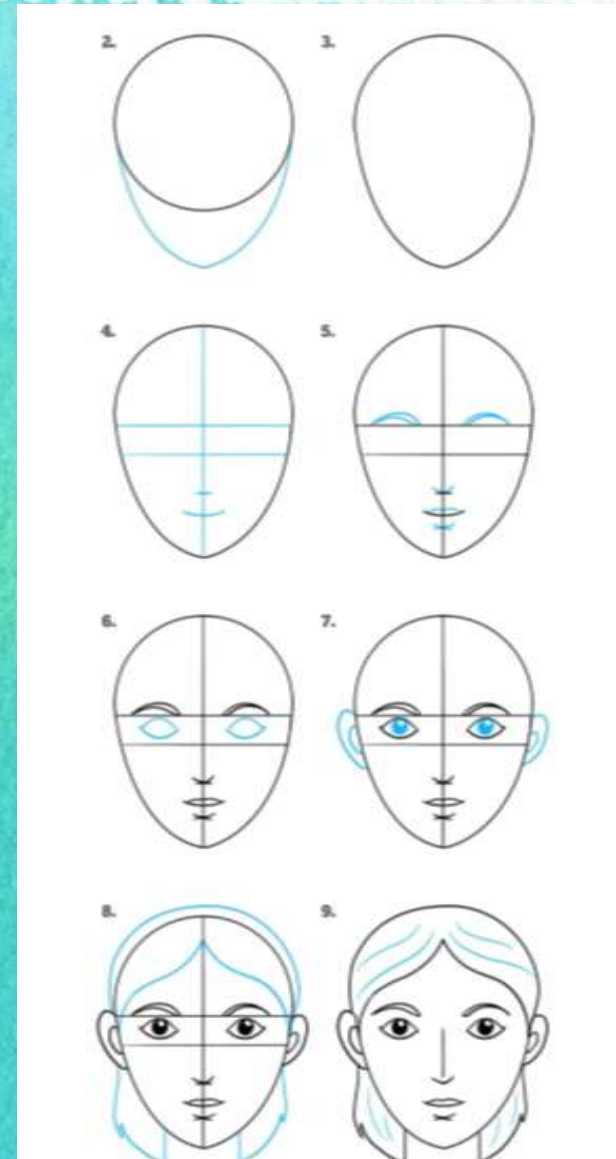


Let's draw!

Start by sketching your face shape and positioning your eyes, nose, mouth, brows. Use the guide here and a mirror to help you be accurate.

Then start to add detail to your facial features.

Next add in elements to represent your personality and emotions in the background and maybe as jewellery, clothing etc



Here are some examples of portraits inspired by Frida Kahlo's style



Keep your facts somewhere safe for next week. If you are coming in to school next week, please bring your facts with you!

Don't forget to send me photographs of your finished self-portraits!