

B5 Y6 Art Autumn 2020

A sense of place; a sense of belonging:

The children looked at a number of self-portraits by **Vincent Van Gogh**. They focussed on the way van Gogh positioned his head for his self-portraits as well as his choice of colour palette.

The children drew their own portraits and used and applied oil pastels, making marks as seen in Van Gogh's work.



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Pupil Voice

NF: *In art, we created self-portraits inspired by Vincent Van Gogh. To make them we drew different parts separately and perfected them. We drew a test portrait before the real thing. To add colour, we used oil pastels in small lines for texture. This was the technique that Vincent Van Gogh used. I was pleased with my portrait because it looked like me. I learnt about Vincent van Gogh, a Dutch painter, who painted landscapes, self-portraits and still life.*

BC: *We did our self-portraits by drawing our facial features in a book and then sketched the outline of our-selves. We used oil pastels to colour them. We did little lines to colour our faces with the colours that looked most like the colours on our own faces. We learnt that Van Gogh didn't want to be an artist but his dad and his brother got him into art. He also cut his ear off because he had mental health issues. He was only 35 when he died. During school, my art has improved by: shading, drawing side profiles and colouring faces.*

WH: *We started with sketching ourselves (face and shoulders) without a photo, which went well. Next, we got our photo and did a sketch by looking at the photo to get the detail. When we had finished, we used oil pastels and did short lines with them using the technique like Van Gogh. Miss Phillips taught us how to do the short lines. We have used oil pastels before with Mrs Cador in Year 4, but this time we had different colours and we were using a different technique. I enjoyed doing my self-portrait because I like sketching and drawing and it fun to draw myself. I was pleased with the end result.*

AW: *We did a self portrait without a photo to start with, then we made a sketch book and in that we sketched different parts of our heads. We then used a bigger piece of sketch paper to draw ourselves and made lines with oil pastels to add texture and colour to our self portraits. During school, I have improved my drawing by practicing the parts before completing the whole drawing. I found out that Van Gogh moved to different countries; always used the technique of drawing short lines; didn't use bright colours (used orange, red, blue, green and white); chopped his ear off because he was unwell.*