

Artful Activities for Early Learners



MoMA

These activities for children ages four and up can be done with teachers, parents, and caregivers at home or in a classroom.

Look closely

- What do you notice about this artwork?
- Who do you see?
- What do you notice about the facial expressions of the characters?
- See if you can find the ribbon that connects these two characters

Learn

This is a self-portrait of the artist Frida Kahlo with her pet monkey. She often included her pets, like cats, parrots, and birds, in her artworks. Kahlo later gave this painting to her close friend Mary Sklar, along with a framed mirror so that, when Sklar looked in the mirror, it would be as if the two friends were together even when far apart.

Connecting with friends

Suggested materials: mirror, paper and something to draw with. Optional: colored pencils, markers, or crayons

1. Look in a mirror and make facial expressions that show different emotions. For example, happy, sad, excited, scared, wondering.
2. Make a self-portrait; a picture of yourself. Show how you are feeling by drawing a facial expression.
3. Include something or someone special to you in your picture. It could be a stuffed animal, a special toy, or even your favorite food.
4. Share: Place your self-portrait next to a picture of a friend or family member, or mail it to someone you miss.



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Family Programs are made possible by the Samuel and Ronnie Heyman Family Endowment Fund.

Generous funding is provided by Brett and Daniel Sundheim. Additional support is provided by the Annual Education Fund.

School and Teacher Programs are generously supported by the Carroll and Milton Petrie Education Program Endowment, the William Randolph Hearst Endowment Fund, and the Mimi and Peter Haas Endowment Fund for Elementary School Programs.

Additional funding is provided by the Ducommun and Gross Family Foundation and by the Annual Education Fund.

Image: Frida Kahlo. *Fulang-Chang and I*. 1937 (assembled after 1939). In two parts, oil on board (1937) with painted mirror frame (added after 1939); and mirror with painted mirror frame (after 1939). Mary Sklar Bequest. © 2020 Banco de México Diego Rivera. Frida Kahlo Museums Trust, Mexico, D.F./Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York