Make art with the Art Gallery of New South Wales People and faces
Do you love to draw and paint?

Artists love to create. Some artists like to paint pictures of people to explore what they look like and to reveal their personalities and interests.

Look at the different ways artists create portraits. Some focus on just the face. Others show people in groups, or on their own surrounded by special objects that tell us something about the person in the picture.
clockwise from left: Margaret Olley Portrait in the mirror 1948, oil on cardboard, Art Gallery of New South Wales, gift of the artist 2001 © Estate of Margaret Olley; Weaver Hawkins Dance of the football field 1947, oil on canvas on cardboard, Art Gallery of New South Wales, purchased 1953 © Estate of HF Weaver Hawkins; India, Portrait of a nobleman 1720–50, opaque watercolour with gold on paper, Art Gallery of New South Wales, purchased 1962. Photos: © AGNSW

People and faces

Look in a mirror and draw a picture of yourself in one of the frames on the next page. Consider what you could include to show what’s important to you, such as your favourite toy, pet or place.

Draw or paint portraits of your family and friends in the other frames.

You will need:

Pencils
Paint and brush
Marker pens
Charcoal
Coloured pencils
Anything you like to draw with
Your imagination!