

# BOOMbox at Home

## Self-Portrait and Skin-Tone Paint

Making a self-portrait can be tricky if you aren't sure how to mix colors that resemble your skin tone. Follow these instructions to make your very own self-portrait.

### Supplies

- Photo of yourself, or mirror
- Pencil
- Paper, easel, or cardboard (even a pizza box will do!)
- Paints
- Paintbrushes
- Palette (paint tray for mixing colors) or a thick paper plate
- Cup of water (to clean paintbrushes)

### Instructions

#### Step One: Draw a Self-Portrait

Create a sketch of your face. Use your fingers to estimate the distance between your eyes, between your eyes and your ears, between your nose and your mouth, etc.

- Start with a photo of yourself (or a mirror), a pencil, and your drawing surface (paper, easel, or cardboard).
- Using your picture as a reference, determine the shape of your face. Then sketch an outline using a pencil on your drawing surface.
- Mark the halfway point between the very top and bottom of the face you drew. Then draw your eyes at the halfway point.
- Draw your nose, mouth, ears, and hair.

#### Step Two: Mix Paint Colors

Now that you have a sketch of your face, it's time to mix colors for your skin tone.

- Start by mixing the same amounts of red, blue, and yellow paint.
- Compare this to your skin tone. To make it lighter, add white or yellow. To make it darker, add red.
- Try different combinations until you find the blend of paints that matches your skin tone, and begin adding paint to your portrait.

*Send a photo of your project to [mycreation@skokielibrary.info](mailto:mycreation@skokielibrary.info) and we may feature it on social media.*

