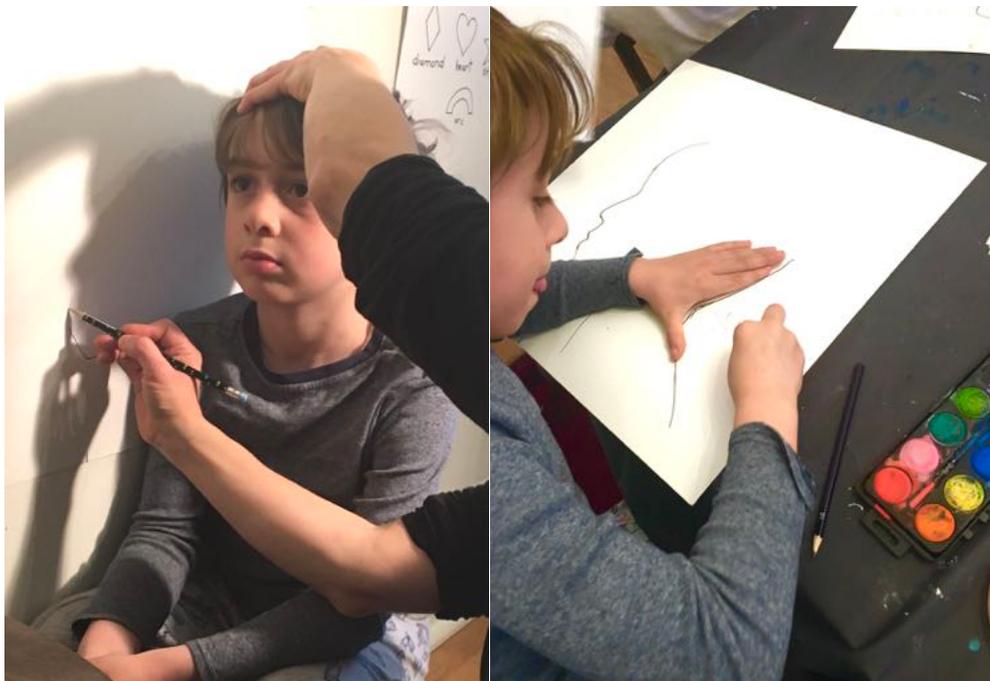


Egyptian Inspired Self-Portraits Steps

By Sandra Tarantino

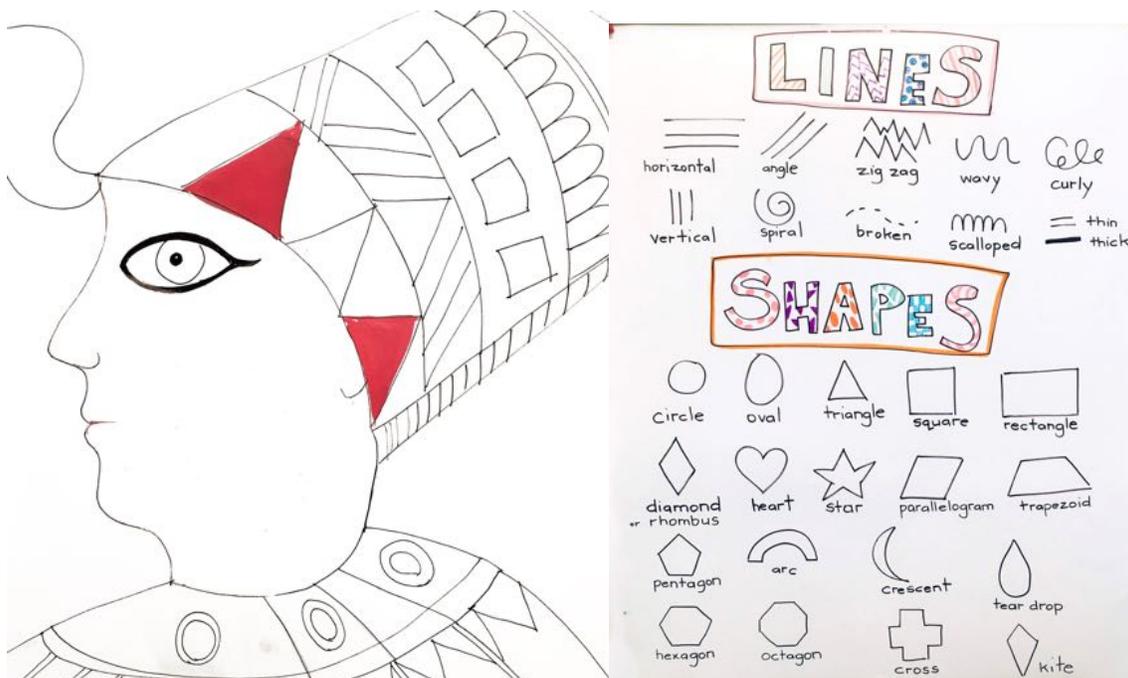
Step 1: Trace your child's profile.

1. Tape your watercolour paper or alternative (cardboard, bristol paper) up on a wall at a height that is comfortable. You'll need to be in front of a stool where your model can sit comfortably for a few minutes and stay as still as possible.
2. Shine a clamp light or desk light in your models direction to cast a shadow on the paper.
3. Ask your model to sit as still as possible and as close to the paper/wall as possible. (Remember that the shadow will enlarge and warp the further away you are from the paper.) You may need to rest your hand on their head to help them stay in this position. Ask them if this is helpful to do.
4. Trace the silhouette of their face, neck and back of their head but leave the top unmarked. This is where your child will draw their design.



Step 2: Look at shapes and patterns.

1. Look at some of the imagery of Egyptian hieroglyphs and imagery on papyrus paper of the time. Note some of the characteristics of how artisans rendered people. Look at the side profile views over the young and idealized portrayals of the different figures. Look at how the eye is represented in a frontal view with a circle and two crescent lines.
2. Brainstorm different types of lines and shapes that your child may know and introduce them to new ones. I.e. straight lines, curved lines, circles, triangles, etc. Ask them which types of lines and shapes do they spot within the Egyptian imagery. Look at clothing, hair and head decoration in particular.
3. Ask your child to create a head decoration of someone they would have liked to have been, had they lived during the Egyptian time. Would they be a god, priestess, pharaoh, artisan or other being?
4. Let your child draw the top of their head using a pencil and ask them to use at least 2 lines and 3 shapes to create patterns. For example will it be vertical lines and circles or stripes with triangle and scalloped lines. Here is where some math comes in ... Ask them to explain their choices and what lines and shapes they used and how.



Step 3 : Adding colour.

1. Look at a colour wheel and discuss the primary and how they mix to create secondary colours.

Primary- yellow, blue, red

Secondary- orange, green, purple

Yellow + red= orange

Yellow + blue = green

Red + blue = purple

Take a look at warm (reds, orange, yellow) vs cool colours (blues, greens, purples). Discuss how warm colours jump forward and cool colours recede. Look at complimentary colour that are across from each other on the colour wheel and how well they look when places next to one another. Red with green. Blue with orange. Purple with yellow.



2. Select a colour media of your choice, whether watercolors or crayons, and have children colour in their designs. For watercolours you'll need a watercolour palette, water container, brushes and paper towel. If using pencil crayons have a sharpener available.
3. Have fun!!

