



# Masterclass

In the Classroom • Primary

*with Kylie Wickham*



Inspired by the art practice of Contemporary Australian painter Dan Butterworth

This professional learning workshop has been designed as an extension to the education resource, *Masterclass: In the Studio with Dan Butterworth*. Build your skills, connect it to your classroom and improve student learning.

# LOWER PRIMARY ACTIVITY: PAPER BAG HEAD

YEAR LEVELS: 1 – 2

## OVERVIEW

This lesson is an exploration of portraiture using the inspiration of artists Dan Butterworth and Saul Steinberg.

Dan and Saul use unusual materials that are recyclable in their art, including cardboard, pizza boxes, and paper bags.

Students will learn to draw imaginary facial features and create humour within their art.

Combining drawing, collage, and photography; students will immerse themselves in this fun activity.

## ART ELEMENTS & PRINCIPLES

Shape, Line, Pattern, Texture

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- **Explore** - pattern, line and texture with mark making. Explore drawing shapes that resembles facial features.
- **Make** - using collage techniques create jigsaw like pieces to play with when creating a face/portrait.
- **Consider** adjusting the facial features and be playful with size and shapes. Experiment with composition and positioning.
- **Discuss** - what makes a face? What do you need? How far can you manipulate it and change the elements?
- **Discuss** - the outcomes of the class and what is successful? Why do particular outcomes appeal to you? What was difficult and what did you enjoy most?

## MAKE

**Step 1:** Take a piece of A3 paper cover the whole sheet in a variety of lines using a thick marker. Create variety by changing the types of lines as you go.

**Step 2:** Turn the paper over and draw some shapes to loosely represent facial features. Cut them out and turn them back over to see your line designs.

*\*Tip: If carrying this activity over multiple lessons, place these pieces in a paper bag and label with the students' name. Put away for safe storage until the next lesson.*

**Step 3:** Take a second sheet of A3 paper and use your marker to draw a variety of interesting, funny or quirky facial features. Fill the page with eyes, nose, ears, moustaches, hair, mouth, open mouths, closed mouths, eyebrows, etc. Cut these out (around the shape) to use or store for the next lesson.

**Step 4:** Next, lay out all your facial feature pieces, and have a play with making different compositions of faces.

*\*The teacher may photograph students work as they go to use later for discussion.*

**Step 5:** When students have decided on a final face they like, glue the pieces onto a paper bag (with the opening at the bottom).

**Step 6:** Try your mask on!

*\*Optional: you may like to cut a semi-circle out of the side gusset of the bag, to make it sit easier on your shoulders.*

**Step 7:** Go outside and have the students pose around the school wearing their masks. The teacher (or students in groups) can take photographs.

Students can all contribute to each other decide on interesting or funny poses for their mask or take group photographs all together.

**Step 8:** The teacher can now edit the photographs to black and white for display or display both colour and black-and-white photography outcomes together along with the mixed media collage masks.

## EXTENSION

This activity could be repeated or altered to introduce a Picasso-style approach by changing where the facial features go, creating abstraction.

Animal features could also replace human features to create animal portraits.

## DISCUSSION / REFLECTION

- How did you decide which facial features to choose?
- Were you trying to show emotion in your work?  
(eg: sad, funny, excited, etc.)
- How do you feel about your work?
- What did you find difficult?
- What would you change if you had more time?
- What would you do differently next time?

## MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT

PA028	Paper Bag Asst Colours 30's Medium
PA036-ME	Paper Bag with Handle 10's Medium
PM439-BU	EverZart Broad Marker 20s
PM041-CH	Prockey Marker 12's Chisel Black
SC013	Basics Zart Scissors 170mm
AA280	Zart Glue Stick 35g
PA107	Cartridge 130gsm A3 297 x 420mm

## INSPIRATION RELATED ARTWORK, LINKS & SOURCES

Research and explore portraits and photographs using paper bags by artist Saul Steinberg

### **Reference Images Provided:**

Mask Series by Saul Steinberg (photographer: Inge Morath)