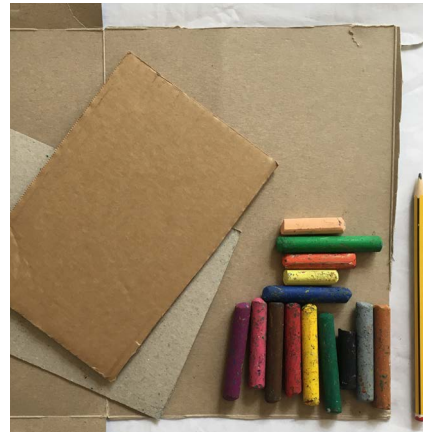
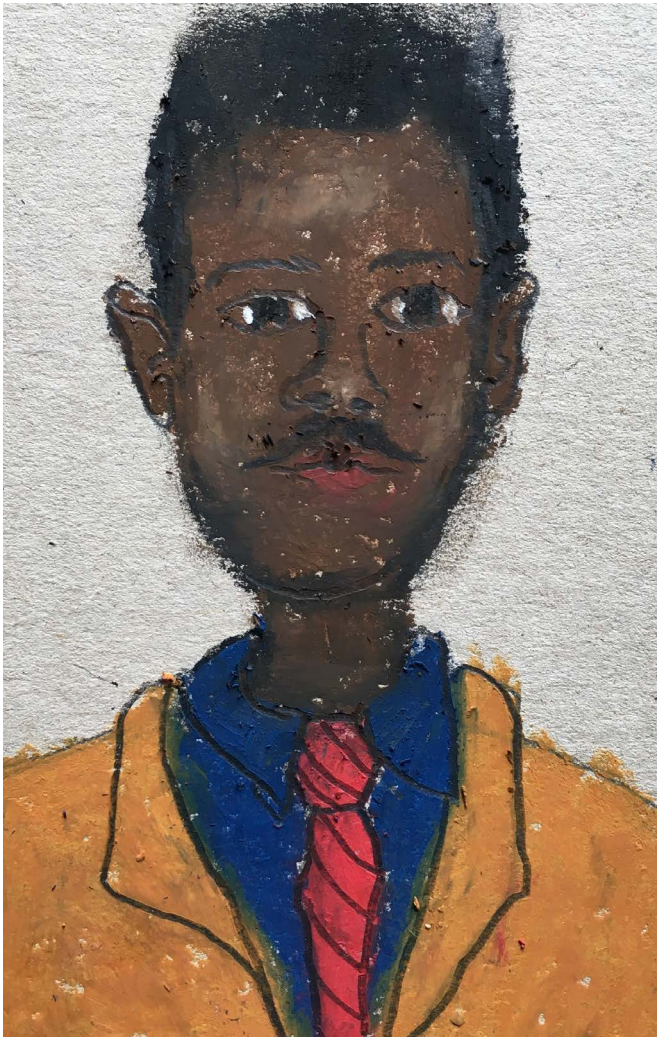


# Oil on board portrait

Artist: Abigail Reed

Drawing activity for age 7 and up.

Scribble  
&  
Sketch 



## Materials

- A small piece of cardboard (around 15x20cm) that is smooth and not too bumpy,
- Oil pastels, a pencil, a mirror if attempting a self-portrait or a willing sitter (you can work from a photograph too)!

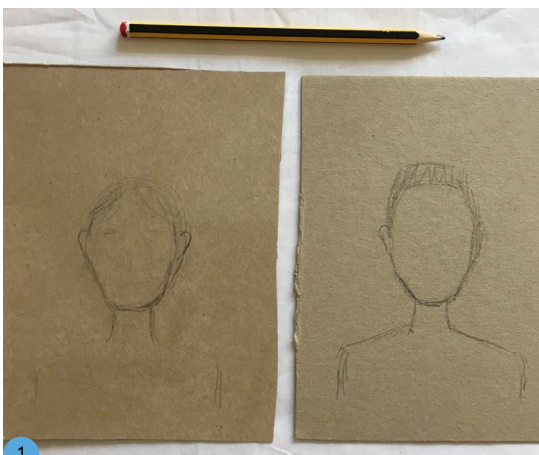
Bright bold colours look best so could you or your sitter dress up in an interesting outfit with additional accessories for fun? Try drawing some people from magazines or family photos you may find around your house.

## Instructions

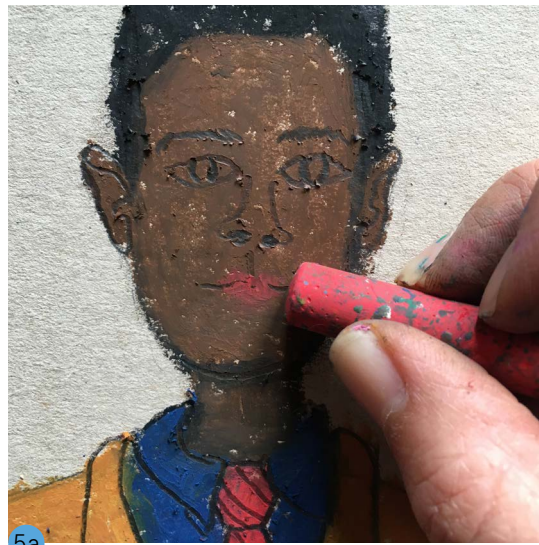
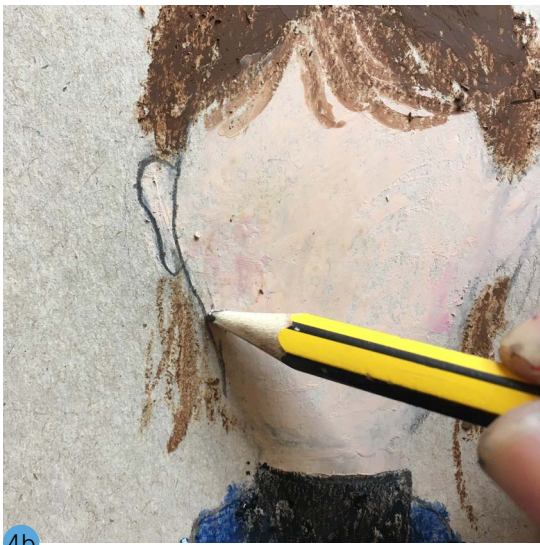
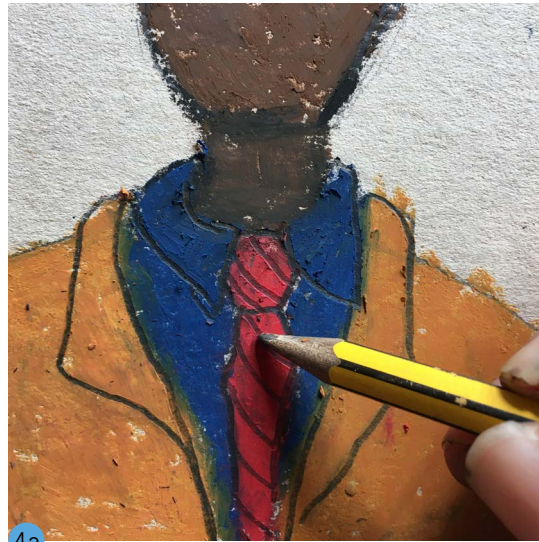
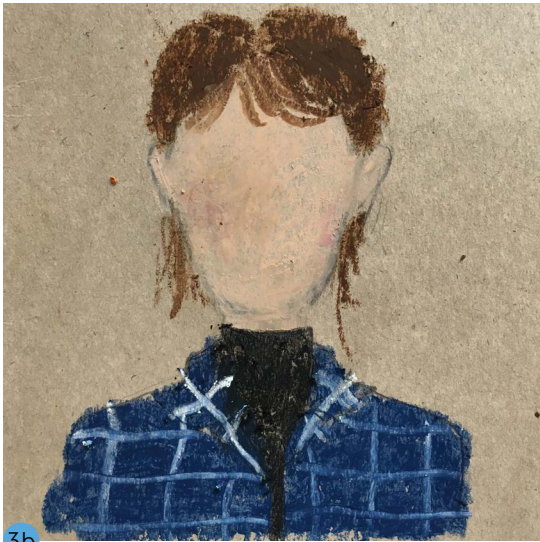
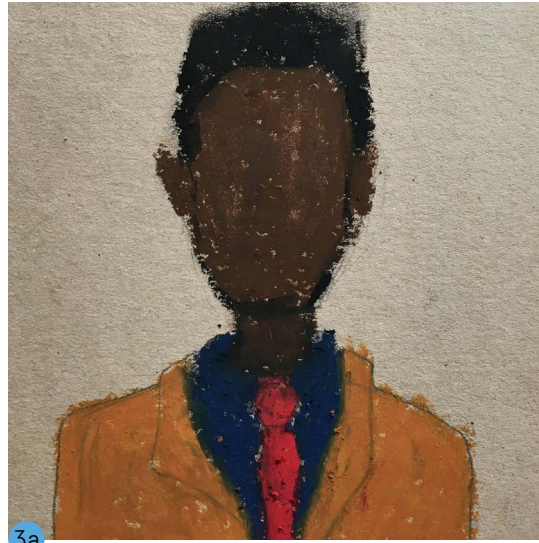
**Step 1.** Draw a loose pencil sketch of your subject. Try and fill the space you have, keeping the figure in the centre. Don't make it too small or too big to fit on the cardboard!

**Step 2.** Pick out the oil pastel colours that best match your subject's skin and hair colour. You can blend the skin colour if one colour doesn't match up. To do this, apply one colour then another on top and blend in with your finger slowly. Keep dabbing more of each colour to get the desired effect. Oil pastels are made to be smudged like this and that is why they are perfect for capturing the look of skin. Try it out on a little piece of spare cardboard first.

*continued on page 2*



## Oil on board portrait (continued)



### Instructions continued from page 1

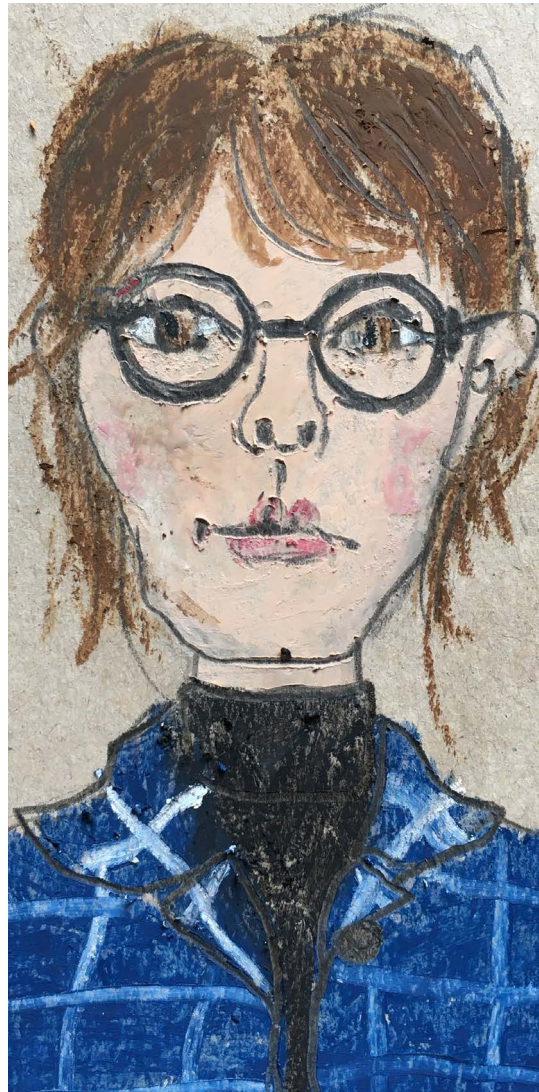
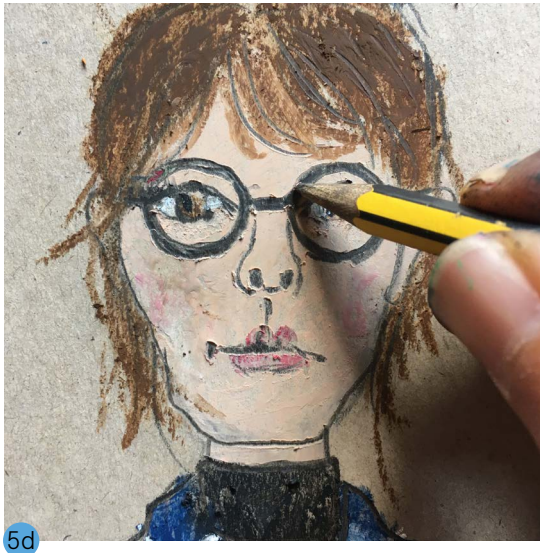
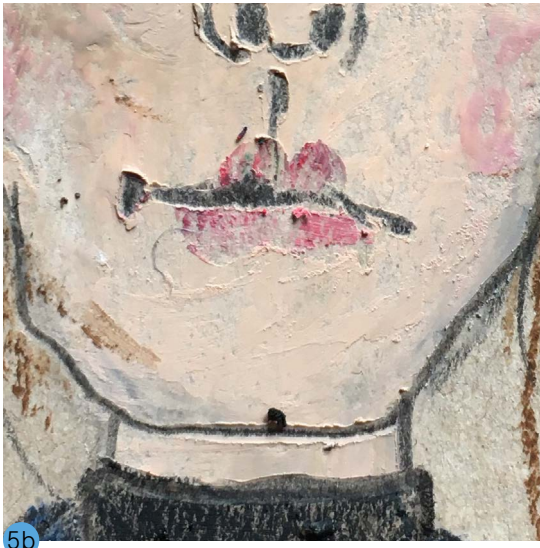
**Step 3.** Once you have coloured in the skin and hair, it's time to focus on the clothes, leaving any detail that we will draw on with pencil till last. Just block in all the colours you see, blending in with your finger tip as you go so the oil pastel appears smooth on the cardboard.

**Step 4.** Now it's time to add detail! With a pencil, go around the shape of the face bringing out the detail of the ears and strands of hair. Also, draw on the detail of clothes. It helps to go over almost all the oil pastel portrait with a pencil to define the smudged edges and create a neater look.

**Step 5.** Draw on the lips by

*continued on page 3*

## Oil on board portrait (continued)



### Instructions continued from page 2

dabbing a bit of lip colour in the correct area, then draw on with a pencil the line of the mouth. Try adding a bit of colour to the cheeks and blend in with your finger. Draw on the nose with a pencil. Draw a simple shape for the eyes. An oval with a circle inside works best. Add a dab of colour to the circle then with a white oil pastel, dab each side of the circle. Finally, dab a black oil pastel in the centre of the circle. Now add any details your person has like glasses or a moustache.

**Tip:** If you make a mistake then scrape the oil pastel away with your fingernail to remove it and add more of the desired colour on top. Oil pastels are very malleable so you can keep scraping off and adding more layers over your pencil marks until it looks right.

Bright bold colours look best so could you or your sitter dress up in an interesting outfit with additional accessories for fun? Try drawing some people from magazines or family photos you may find around your house.

*Scribble & Sketch* 