

Self Portraiture in Sketchbooks on 9/21



Flora, Owen, Piper, Cedar, & Camille arrived to their sketchbook invitation in the piazza with their sketchbooks, a printed photo of themselves, two mirrors, pens, & pencils. As they drew they were encouraged to look closely at their faces in the mirrors & photographs.



The children readily draw a circle for a face, a dot for a nose, a line for a mouth, & circles for eyes. *But what do your eyes look like inside the circle? How many nostrils do you have? What do you notice about your lips?* Posing these kinds of questions as the children draw serve as gentle motivators to look deeper & contribute more details to their work.



What do we notice about our eyes?

Camille reminds her friends to look at their eyelids. Owen remembers eyebrows. Cedar notes "my mommy puts contacts in her eyes to make her see better."





Camille observes Flora drawing.





Cedar touches his lips as he observes the photo of himself.



Camille's self portrait. She focused on refining her circular shapes.



Flora's self portrait, featuring her tongue!



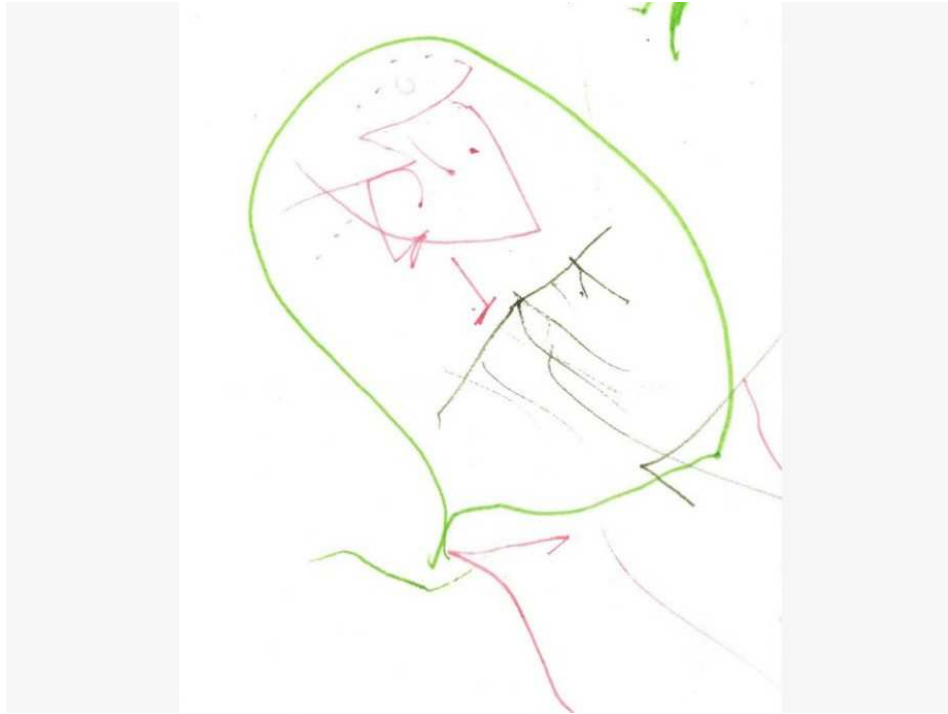
Flora's portrait of her brother, "baby Jude."



Flora begins to make a portrait of her mother in a "beautiful dress" but adjusts it to a "monster mommy" - importantly, not *her* mommy, when some overzealous pencil & pen marks obscure the face she's drawn.



Cedar makes many observations about the features of his face but does not seem ready to represent them visually quite yet. He chooses to represent himself in drawing by tracing his hand.



Owen's self portrait with eyebrows, two pupils, a nose, a horizontal-line mouth, & vertical-line teeth. He recalls a past event to characterize his work further *"I'm making the day I was camping & hurt my chin so I will draw a cut."*



Owen draws a portrait of his brother Hayden from memory; "Sometimes my brother is sad - water is dripping out of his eyes. My brother is bigger than me, so that's why I made him this big."



Piper's self portrait, which includes ears, pupils, a chin, & "fur," perhaps to indicate her affinity for cats.

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