

“LEGO Self-Portraits”



Objective: Students will develop LEGO mini-figures that resemble themselves.

Materials

- White Drawing Paper
- Pencils, Erasers and Sharpies
- Colored Pencils and Watercolor Paints

Motivation

- Have students watch a [video](#) featuring LEGO artist Nathan Sawaya.
- Have students practice creating the basic LEGO mini-figure body and observe and sketch a variety of different LEGO facial expressions, hair, and outfits.

Step 1: Practice and Sketch

Provide a variety of visuals featuring LEGO mini-figures, LEGO faces, and LEGO hair. Discuss how drawing LEGO features differs from drawing realistic features. Have students sketch the basic LEGO mini-figure body and then decide upon a facial expression and hair style true to LEGO design. Students can then design and draw an outfit that they currently wear.

Step 2: Begin Final Drawing

Discuss and approve sketches with each student. Once they are working on the final drawings, encourage students to draw large to fill the paper. Once the LEGO figures are fully sketched in pencil, have students trace with Sharpies. This step will help the figures stand out against the background. Discuss proper colored pencil techniques and demonstrate how to create smooth, blended color. Then, have students fill the LEGO-figures with color. For authenticity, keep the standard yellow for “skin.”

Step 3: Add Background

Students will sketch a background with pencil, then fill the large areas with watercolor. Details are encouraged. Students may highlight or outline areas in the background with colored pencil so there is contrast. Encourage students to work their way around the page so that colors don’t run together.

Tip: Remind students to “draw light until they’ve got it right” to help keep the final pieces looking neat.