

## Action Portrait Collage

Students in my sixth grade classroom explore portraits in a variety of media throughout the school year. In this lesson the students will create an action portrait collage.

Objective:

Illinois Learning Standards

**26.a.3e** describe how the choices of tools/technologies and processes are used to create specific effects in the arts.

Materials: portrait collages created by Romare Bearden, a picture of a person in action, 12"x18" sheet of paper, glue, scissors and magazines that may be cut-up

Procedures: Students study portrait collages created by Romare Bearden. They discuss the creation of his collages and the stories they tell. The students look at the process and tools Bearden used in his collages.

The students then search in magazines for a photograph of an action portrait they would like to recreate. When they have chosen their subject they make a large drawing of it on a 12"x18" sheet of drawing paper.

Next they look through magazines that have been donated to the class or that they have brought from home. They tear out pages that have the colors and textures they will need for their collage. When they have found several they are ready to start the background of their collage. They create the background on a new 12"x18" sheet of drawing paper. They should fill in the whole sheet cutting, gluing, ripping etc. They may use any technique to create the effect they want.

When their background is complete, they use their action drawing as a template for their main subject. They slowly cutting apart the body and trace the parts onto magazine pages that are a good color and texture for the subject. When they have the main body done, they go back and add details such as shoelaces, buttons, eyes, lips etc. When their person is done they glue him onto the background sheet of paper and add shadows and other details they may need.

When the student is done they will present it to the class and explain their choices for their background and foreground. They may also field questions from the class.

Final analysis is an evaluation based on a rubric.