

An Art Class with Frida Kahlo

Children’s Express Theatre

Grades: K-12

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

A crack in the space/time continuum brings Frida Kahlo, the internationally renowned artist, from Mexico in the 1940s to present day Houston to lead an art class for kids. Everyone will learn about Frida and make their own self-portraits. Designed for kids of all ages - parents, too!

TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills):

	Art	Language Arts	Social Studies	The Students Will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice listening and speaking. Analyze art works. Create art works. Write/tell stories to express ideas and feelings about real or imagined people, events, and ideas.
K	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 6, 8, 11	11, 13, 14, 15	
1	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 6, 8, 12	14, 16, 17, 18	
2	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 6, 8, 12	12, 14, 15, 17	
3	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 6, 8, 12	10, 12, 14, 15, 16	
4	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 6, 8, 12	17, 19, 20, 21	
5	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 6, 8, 12	20, 21, 22, 23, 24	
6-8	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 5, 6, 7, 11	13, 16, 21, 22	
HS	1, 2, 3, 4	Eng. I: 1, 4, 5, 6, 10	World Hist. 23, 25, 29, 30	

STAAR (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness)

Reading comprehension skills in Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 Writing skills in Grade 4, 7 Social Studies skills in Grade 8 End of course tests in English and World History

Academic Vocabulary:

Frida Kahlo	Magdalena Carmen Frida Kahlo y Calderón was a Mexican painter known for vibrant, self-portraits that explored themes of identity, the body, and death. After a near-fatal bus accident in 1925, art became a way for Kahlo to express herself and survive. Influences included Mexican indigenous cultures, European Realism, Symbolism, and Surrealism.
Diego Rivera	Famous Mexican artist and muralist. Married to Frida Kahlo. Known for his depictions of indigenous peoples.

Autobiographical	Writing about or otherwise expressing one's own life and story.
Self-portrait	An art piece by an artist of her/his own self.
Surrealism	Writing or art that shows dreamlike or illogical images. Objects in the art are recognizable but shown in impossible states, such as melting clocks or a deer with a human face.
Remedios Varo	A Spanish Mexican female surrealist painter.
Salvadore Dali	A surrealist Spanish artist, filmmaker, author, and critic.
Rene Magritte	A Belgian surrealist artist.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS:

Before the performance

- What stories do you know?

After the performance:

- What did you like best about the presentation?
- Write, draw, tell, sing, dance, or act out your favorite part.

Language Arts:

- Choose a work by Frida Kahlo (or another surrealist painter) and observe it closely. Write a story or poem, act out a skit, compose a song, or otherwise express it. Other ideas: Act out it out as if it came to life. Act out or tell what happened just before the painting.
- Study other self-portraits by famous artists. Ideas

Van Gogh
Rembrandt
Picasso
Durer
Leonardo da Vinci
Monet

<https://www.myartbroker.com/collecting/articles/self-portraits-by-urban-and-contemporary-artists>

- Draw a self-portrait and write a poem, rap, story, or song about yourself.

Math:

- Learn the math of drawing a head.
<https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=math+of+drawing+a+head&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8>

Social Studies:

- Research another famous artist from a culture/country you like.

Science:

- Study the features of different animals and discover the reason for their form and function. Ideas: *What Do You Do with a Tail Like This?* by Robin Page and Steve Jenkins, *Actual Size* by Steve Jenkins, and *Biggest, Strongest, Fastest* by Steve Jenkins.
- Create portraits of your favorite animals.

Resources:

Frida Kahlo

<https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=frida+kahlo+for+kids&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8>

https://kimballartcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/EVA_2018-20194Frida.pdf

<https://sn1.scholastic.com/issues/2023-24/030224/lesson-plan.html>

<https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=lesson+plan+frida+kahlo&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:0b885bc6,vid:Iqnac7li7jA,st:0>

Self-Portraits:

<https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=self-portraits&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8>



ABOUT THE ARTIST:

For over 30 years, Express Children's Theatre has been Houston's largest multicultural theatre company dedicated exclusively to creating and performing work for children and their families in the Greater Houston area. All shows are interactive where kids can participate from their seats. This dynamic allows for great social and emotional learning where children have a voice in the experience and a stake in the outcome. In addition to performing over 200 shows a year at schools, day care centers, museums and hospitals (including 6 annual shows at Miller Outdoor Theatre) they also lead theatre arts workshops from one day to entire semesters. We are proud to have been a member of the Young Audiences roster since 2017. At Express, they don't only provide innovative entertainment, they strive to build self-esteem and promote good choices to help children become more positive participants in their families, schools and society-at-large.