

# Draw a Selfie

**Ages:** 8+ (Grades 3–12)

**Duration:** 20 minutes

**Materials needed:**

- Paper
- Pencil, marker, crayon, or pen (colors optional)
- Access to a mirror
- Ruler (optional)
- Art Factory's [The Proportions of the Head](#) Guide

**Introduction:**

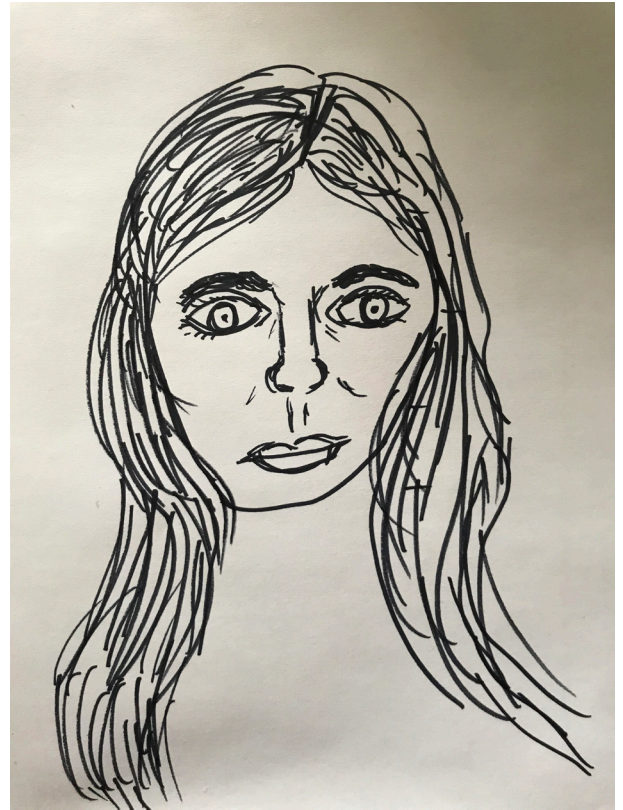
Self-portraiture is a type of portrait-making where the subject of the artwork is the artist themselves. Today, one of the most common ways people create self-portraits is by taking a selfie on a smartphone. Taking a selfie takes only a second, but in this activity you will take time to closely observe the subject (YOU!) and think about facial proportion and symmetry as you work.

**Procedure:**

1. Gather your paper and your chosen drawing medium (pencil, marker, crayon, etc.)
2. If you have access to a small handheld mirror, have it with you at your drawing space. Otherwise, try to work near a mirror of some kind—even in the bathroom!
3. Take time to study your own face. What details can you notice about your facial proportions? What do you notice about your different facial features? Experiment with some expressions that you make when you have different moods or reactions. How do those expressions change your features individually? How do those changes affect the whole appearance of your face?
4. For this self-portrait, you will draw your face at eye level—exactly the level you see when you look in a mirror.
5. Warm up with a blind contour drawing of your own face. Start to make the connection between observing your face closely and your hand.
6. Begin your self-portrait after reading through the information in the reference guide to *The Proportions of the Head*. Try out the method recommended in this guide first.
7. Work on your self-portrait slowly.
8. If you like, do more than one version, experimenting with how you add in features of your face.

**Share your work:**

Take a photo of your self-portrait drawing(s) and post to IG using the hashtags #MuseumFromHome and #SelfPortrait, and tag the Museum.



*Self-Portrait* by Bridget McCormick