

Frida Kahlo · Bold Self-portraits

Sunday 23 August 2026 · 11:00am start · 88 min planned, ends 12:28pm · La Vita Nova, South Yarra

AGES 8 to 12	GROUP Small	RUNS 90 min	DECK 21 slides	THEY TAKE HOME A self-portrait + flower crown
------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------	--------------------------	---

READ THIS FIRST · THE ORDER CHANGED

Re-sequenced so **children are drawing within five minutes** instead of sitting for forty-six. The two games and the face warm-up now come **before** the story. Slide numbers below match the new deck, which opens on the title then "Game: spot the Frida colours."

TIME	WHAT HAPPENS	SLIDES
11:00am 2 min	Welcome and smocks on Names on tags. "Today we become portrait painters." Keep it to two minutes.	1
11:02am 5 min	On your feet · two fast games Call a colour, they point to it in the room, fastest wins. Then pull a face and the neighbour names it. Loud and physical, and it teaches the palette and the expressions before either is explained. ON THEIR FEET	2-3
11:07am 3 min	Warm up your face · pencils out In the workbook: one big circle, three eyebrows, three mouths. Feel how the feeling changes. No rubbers, no wrong. HANDS ON	4
11:10am 4 min	Now meet Frida Her flowers, her colours, her bold proud face. Then the real photographs.	5-6
11:14am 5 min	Film · Frida's world Full screen, sound tested before the room fills. VIDEO	7
11:19am 4 min	Frida's Mexico Where the colour comes from: folk art, markets, her blue house. Then the real thing.	8-9
11:23am 6 min	The story · polio, the accident, the big idea Gentle and brave, not sad. She was hurt badly and painted herself because she was the person she knew best. Slow down, this is the heart of it.	10-12
11:29am 5 min	The gallery of self-portraits Our versions, then the real ones. Ask what feeling each face is showing before you say anything.	13-14
11:34am 3 min	The four secrets Go big. Be bold. Bright colours. Add you. Keep pointing at a number when a child is stuck.	15
11:37am 24 min	THE MAKE · part one, the self-portrait Skin-tone paper, pastels and mirrors out. Big and light in pencil first, then go bold. While they work, drop in the fun facts on slide 18 — they will listen with their hands busy. THE MAKE	16
12:01pm 16 min	THE MAKE · part two, the flower crown Demo one 3D flower: fold, round the edges, pinch to pop. Each child makes three to five and crowns their portrait.	17
12:17pm 2 min	Artist words while the glue dries Self-portrait, folk art, symbol, expression. Ask for an example of each. Skip if tight.	19
12:19pm 8 min	Show and tell, then the group photo One sentence each: who is this, and what feeling are they showing? Everyone claps. Group photo with permission only. PROTECT THIS	20
12:27pm 1 min	Close and hand back "You are a Master in the Making." Portrait dry, crown on, tell them who is next Sunday.	21

If you are running early

- Let the make run longer. It is the part they remember.
- Play "guess the feeling" again with their finished faces.
- Add the artist words slide and ask for examples.
- An extra flower or two for the crown.

If you are running late · trim in this order

- **First:** the artist words slide. Pure filler.
- **Then:** one of the two colour games.
- **Then:** shorten the Mexico block.
- **Never:** the face warm-up, the make, or show and tell.

Watch for

Safety, every time

- Scissors passed handle first, never carried open.
- Pastels stain. Smocks on before anything comes out.
- Glue sticks capped between uses.
- Mirrors are handed out, not slid across tables.

The room

- Name tags written before slide 1.
- Workbooks open at the face page before they sit.
- Skin-tone paper and pastels within reach of every child.
- One mirror each if you have them, shared between two if not.

The three things that make it land

- **Play before you teach.** They feel the colours and pull the faces before either is explained. When the story arrives they already have somewhere to put it.
- **Say the rule out loud, often:** this is your face and your feeling, so there is no wrong one. Every child who asks "is this allowed?" gets the same answer.
- **Protect show and tell.** Eight minutes, every child, who is this and what feeling are they showing. This is the bit the parent hears about in the car.

Links you will need

- **"Frida Kahlo for Kids" film** — slide 7. Cue it full screen and test the sound before the room fills.
- **Mirrors, skin-tone paper and pastels** — needed from slide 16 onward.
- **Tissue and crepe paper for the crowns** — needed from slide 17.