Lesson/ Activity: by Tina Schindler
Reach for Peace. A self-portrait

Grade Level:
5th Grade

Suggested Time:
3- 45 minute classes.

Objectives:

Students will:

1. Demonstrate understanding of Evan Turk’s use of foreshortening, pattern, line and emphasis to create depth in the illustrations in the book *Grandfather Gandhi*.

2. Create a self-portrait showing foreshortening, patterns and emphasis.


Materials:

rulers
pencils
erasers
markers
colored pencils
examples

Preparation:

After reading *Grandfather Gandhi*, look again at the book and ask students to carfully look at the imagery. Where do we see examples of distortion or foreshortening? Show examples of foreshortening, emphasis, drama and distortion for example in:

**David Alfaro Siqueiros. El Coronelazo, Self-Portrait.** 1945. Pyroxylin. Museum of Modern Art, Mexico, Mexico
How do these design principles create drama in Siqueros’ work? How does this help emphasize the message of the story *Grandfather Ghandi*?

**Gather prior knowledge/ Turn and Talk:**

Who was Mahatma Ghandi? What do you already know about Ghandi? Where was he from? Show Brain Pop video about Gandhi.

[https://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/famoushistoricalfigures/mahatmagandhi/](https://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/famoushistoricalfigures/mahatmagandhi/)

Now that we know more about Ghandi and how important he was to the world as a voice for civil disobedience, peace and an important figure in civil rights for his people, how did his work change the future? Your lives personally? Have you ever felt like you were unjustly treated? Did you take the light of peace?

**Art Production:**

Using rulers begin drawing a border. Inside the border, use the beautiful colors and patterns found in the book. Use colored pencils. Sketch a self-portrait and teach how to create foreshortening and distortion by drawing arm reaching up to a metaphorical light. Draw a light that you are reaching for. This will serve as the metaphor for reaching for peace during times of anger, creating stability in chaos, all that Mahatma Ghandi strove for his entire life.

**Vocabulary:**

**Pattern:** a repeated surface decoration.

**Emphasis:** the principle of design that stresses one area in an art work over another are.

**Distortion:** a deviation from normal or expected proportions.

**Foreshortening:** distort in order to convey the illusion of three-dimensional space.