

FRIDA KAHLO

AT THE BUS

life and art

Frida Kahlo was born in Mexico in 1907. As a child she contracted polio which caused one leg to be skinnier than the other, but this did not stop her enjoying an adventurous childhood. Later, in 1925 Kahlo suffered injuries to her back and pelvis in a bus crash. Because of these physical problems, she experienced a great deal of pain throughout her life. Kahlo first started painting when recovering from her accident in bed. Although she found some success in her lifetime, it was after her death that her reputation really grew.

book

Frida Kahlo
by Isabel Sanchez
Vegara and
Eng Gee Fan
in the series Little
People, Big Dreams



quote

"Feet what do I
need you for
when I have
wings to fly?"

did you know?



Kahlo had many pets including monkeys, dogs, birds and a fawn



She was born and died in the same house, which is now a museum

further research



In Mexico, day of the dead is celebrated on 2nd November








Frida Kahlo's husband, Diego Rivera, was also a famous artist in Mexico



Rembrandt was another artist who was famous for creating many self portraits

questions

-  How might the pain that Kahlo experienced in her life contributed to her becoming a great artist?
-  Kahlo is well known for creating many self portraits. why do you think she might have chosen this subject matter for her artwork?
-  Do you think Kahlo was brave to show her feelings in her artwork? Why do you think she chose to do this?
-  As well as painting, Kahlo kept a diary. Do you ever take time to write about what is happening in your life? How does it make you feel?
-  What do you think the bright colours in Kahlo's paintings show about her personality?

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make

Frida Kahlo loved the beautiful flowers of Mexico and was famous for her strong sense of style. She wore flowers on her clothes and in her hair.

Create your own brightly coloured tissue paper flowers to add to a headband or to a cardboard picture frame.



materials

squares of tissue paper
in various colours
pipe cleaners
glue sticks
pva glue
stapler
long strips of card



The Dahlia is the national flower of Mexico and it comes in many beautiful colours

how to

- 1 Start by placing three sheets of the same colour square tissue paper on top of each other. Make sure they line up.
- 2 Keeping the tissue sheets together, accordion fold them so the creases are just over one centimetre wide.
- 3 Staple the accordion folded strip in the middle and use scissors to shape each end - this can be a curve, a point, or tassels.
- 4 You can fold a pipe cleaner around where you have stapled to create a stem at this point. Now tease out the tissue paper to create the flower.
- 5 Use PVA, a glue stick or the pipe cleaner to attach the flower to your frame or headband... then make more!

You can choose what you put in your picture frame. Will it be a pet? Your favourite kind of animal? A family member? A selfie?

variations

- Try mixing different coloured tissue papers together.
- Look at simple origami flower instructions.
- Try experimenting with different materials such as fabric or cellophane