

# About Face

**Principle:** Balance and Symmetry

**Concept:** A design can be balanced asymmetrically or symmetrically

**Objective:** Students will use formal balance in creating a finished design of a face.

**Supplies:**

- ✓ One 9"x12" inch piece of white drawing paper per student
- ✓ Watercolor pencils
- ✓ Watercolor paintbrushes and water tubs
- ✓ Paper towels
- ✓ Images of faces  
(See multicultural images in the third grade art folder.)
- ✓ Glue sticks

**Pre-Class Prep:** Select 30 faces from the art folder and cut them in half vertically. The art committee will print faces. There is a disk for printing multicultural faces in the yellow cabinet in art room.

**Set-up:**

- Place paper, water, towels, brushes and watercolor pencils on tables.

**Prints:**

**Samples:** See Third Grade Art Folder

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**Lesson:** Discuss the balance of symmetry in faces. Also talk about beautiful flaws that make an individual unique. Discuss the rainbow of colors and styles that people around the world come in.

Have students choose an image of a face. Paste either half on a piece of white paper.

Using the saved half, draw the missing half, sketching from the part cut off. Notice how faces are arranged in a formal or symmetrical fashion. Make sure the students press down using watercolor pencils to ensure dark, bright colors. Show them how to brush water on top of their colored areas to create a watercolor effect. They can blend colors using the brush and a little water. Too much water will rip the paper! They can use dry pencils on top of wet areas for adding details. Use the paper towels to blot excess water.

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## Instructions for Instructors

**Vocabulary:**

**Symmetry** – The same on both sides of a line or axis  
**Asymmetry** – Disproportion between two parts

**Multicultural** - Of or relating to a social or educational theory that encourages interest in many cultures within a society rather than in only a mainstream culture.