Make Your Own Pop Art

Pop artist Andy Warhol was famous for his bright, vibrantly colored portraits of celebrities like Marilyn Monroe, Elizabeth Taylor, and Elvis Presley. Andy Warhol liked using complementary colors—colors that lie directly across from each other on the color wheel such as red and green or orange and blue—to make his paintings really pop.

Explore the art of Andy Warhol with your child by making your own self-portrait in Warhol's trademark style. It's easy with a black and white photo printout and a few bright colors of paint! This is a great way to introduce him to the color wheel and complementary colors while learning about this ground-breaking American artist.

What You Need:

- Digital camera
- Printer
- White paper
- Watercolor paint
- Paintbrushes
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue

What You Do:

1. Look at examples of Andy Warhol's art online with your child, such as his famous *Marilyn*. Take a look at each version of Marilyn Monroe and the different color combinations he used. Talk about the complementary colors and how they really pop when placed next to each other!
2. Take a picture of your child's head and shoulders with the digital camera. Print out 4, 4" x 5" copies of the portrait in black and white on a single sheet of white paper.
3. Now it’s time to add some complementary colors! Using watercolor paints, have him paint over the black and white portraits, using a different pair of complementary colors for each one.
4. Once the paintings are dry, have him cut out each portrait and paste them onto a sheet of black construction paper.

Love Andy Warhol and his unique brand of art? Try making Andy Warhol-inspired prints next!

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