



Bendigo Art Gallery Kids Create

Make a Fruit Face

Portraits with Kids (5-12)



Rob McHaffie is an Australian artist who lives with his family in Castlemaine, Victoria. He creates fun and imaginative portraits, often inspired by his loved ones and community. Some of his work is also inspired by Giuseppe Arcimboldo, an Italian artist from the 1500s. Arcimboldo was famous for making faces out of fruits, vegetables, flowers, and even books. McHaffie does something similar, using everyday items to make creative and interesting faces in his art.



What does influence mean?

In art, “influence” means being inspired by another artist’s work to create your own unique piece, without directly copying it.

How do you think McHaffie’s work has been influenced by Arcimboldo’s?

Rob McHaffie, *We are family*. Bendigo Art Gallery 2024. Photo: Leon Shoots.

Giuseppe Arcimboldo, *Rudolf II of Habsburg as Vertumnus*, 1590. Skokloster Castle collection, Sweden.

Rob McHaffie, *Casual Guy* (detail) 2014. Stonnington Council Collection.

Create your own!

To make your own fruit face, start by deciding on a face shape. Then, pick different fruits or objects to use for each part of the face. You could draw or cut out a banana for the mouth, grapes for the eyes, and a pineapple for the hair - anything you like! Arrange your items on paper to create your face, and when you're happy with how it looks, you can glue the items down, or draw and colour them in. Add any extra details, like a background or accessories, to finish your portrait!

