



## Art Masterpiece

2nd Grade

### Core knowledge Topics:

**Lesson:** Mother and Child by Pablo Picasso (1881-1973)

**About the Artist:** Pablo Picasso was born in 1881 in Spain. He loved art from the time he was a very young child. His father, who was an art teacher, encouraged Pablo and helped him paint his first exhibit on oils when he was only 8 years old. Not only did Picasso paint with oils, but he also worked with charcoal for sketching and clay for sculpting and ceramics. Most artists find one style they like and continue with it. Not Picasso, Picasso changed his style many times. He painted traditionally one day and could move to a more modern look the next day.

**Mother and Child:** Is a painting he created using a more traditional style. The mother and child look real, their features are human and placed on their faces like our own features. If you look closely, you can see the different lines Picasso used to create shapes and textures in this painting. You can also see the “imaginary” line flowing from the mother’s head to the child’s head down to her feet.

When Picasso was a young man, he started a more modern looking style called Cubism. Cubist artists tried to show all sides of an object in one picture, and they painted on a flat surface using shapes like squares, triangles and rectangles. Picasso painted many portraits in the Cubism style. A portrait is a painting or sketch of someone using details to create a strong likeness to the person. Let’s examine a few of the Cubism portraits Picasso created. Notice that their faces often have both a view from the front and a view from the side, called a profile, both in the same painting. Although these portraits may have features that do resemble the real person in the portrait, they are not as detailed and do not show the person as clearly as a traditional portrait does.

**Element of Line:** When artists create a piece of art, they must make choices about how they will use the elements of art in their work like a chef makes choices about creating a recipe for cooking. Some of the choices artists make include:

1. **Color and color value:** what colors will the painting have and how light or dark will they be?
2. **Texture:** will the painting be smooth or rough?
3. **Space:** how much blank space will surround the object in the painting?
4. **Shape:** what shapes like squares, circles and triangles will the artist use to create the painting?
5. **Form:** what forms like cubes, pyramids and cones will the artist use to create the painting?

The elements of form and shape are made by connecting lines together. Lines can also be used to create texture or how something feels. For example, smooth-looking things like feathers are made with fine lines or rough-looking things like straw or bark are made with thick lines. Some of the different lines used by artists are:

Vertical (top to bottom), Horizontal (side to side), Diagonal, Straight, Curved, Dotted, Zig Zag and Wavy

**Our Project:** Now we will each create our own portrait of your teacher. Remember to use shapes and forms like squares, cubes, triangles and pyramids if you choose to use the Cubist style. Also, try to show both the front view and the side view (profile) view of your teacher in your portrait. Have fun and let your enthusiastic creativity shine through on your teacher's portrait!

