# Self Portrait Art Kit

1. **Suggested Materials**: blank white paper (i.e. computer paper), pencil, eraser, black construction paper, liquid glue, and a set of soft pastels. Optional: substitute black marker and colored pencil for younger artists, omitting the black paper, liquid glue, and soft pastels.
   A list for online purchase is available at
   https://www.dickblick.com/lists/wishlist/R3R46UHXLHMOY/publicview/

2. Watch "Art with Mati and Dada – Amedeo Modigliani" (available free on YouTube.com)

3. Follow the instructions on the "Modigliani Self Portrait Tutorial" worksheet to create a sketch of yourself in the style of the artist, Amedeo Modigliani. Do this sketch with pencil on blank white scratch paper (i.e. computer paper)

4. Read the page about "Amedeo Modigliani's Portraits" together.

5. For the younger artist (age 6 and younger), have them outline their portrait drawing with black marker, erase extra pencil lines, and then color it in with colored pencil.

6. For the older (age 7+) or more advanced artist: use a standard pencil to re-draw the portrait on a sheet of black construction paper, making sure to enlarge the drawing so that it fills the new, larger drawing space (optional: fold the black paper into 8 equal parts as was done on the white paper, to create the guide lines for drawing). Use the liquid glue to trace over the pencil lines and allow to dry overnight. This will create barriers along the outline of the portrait. Once the glue is completely dry, use the soft pastels to fill in the shapes created inside the glue lines. To create an accurate skin color, multiple pastels will need to be mixed, so it is suggested to experiment on the white sketch paper before creating the skin color on the black paper. Continue to fill the shapes with color, leaving only small spaces black, until the Modigliani-style portrait is complete.

Modigliani-Style Portrait Tutorial
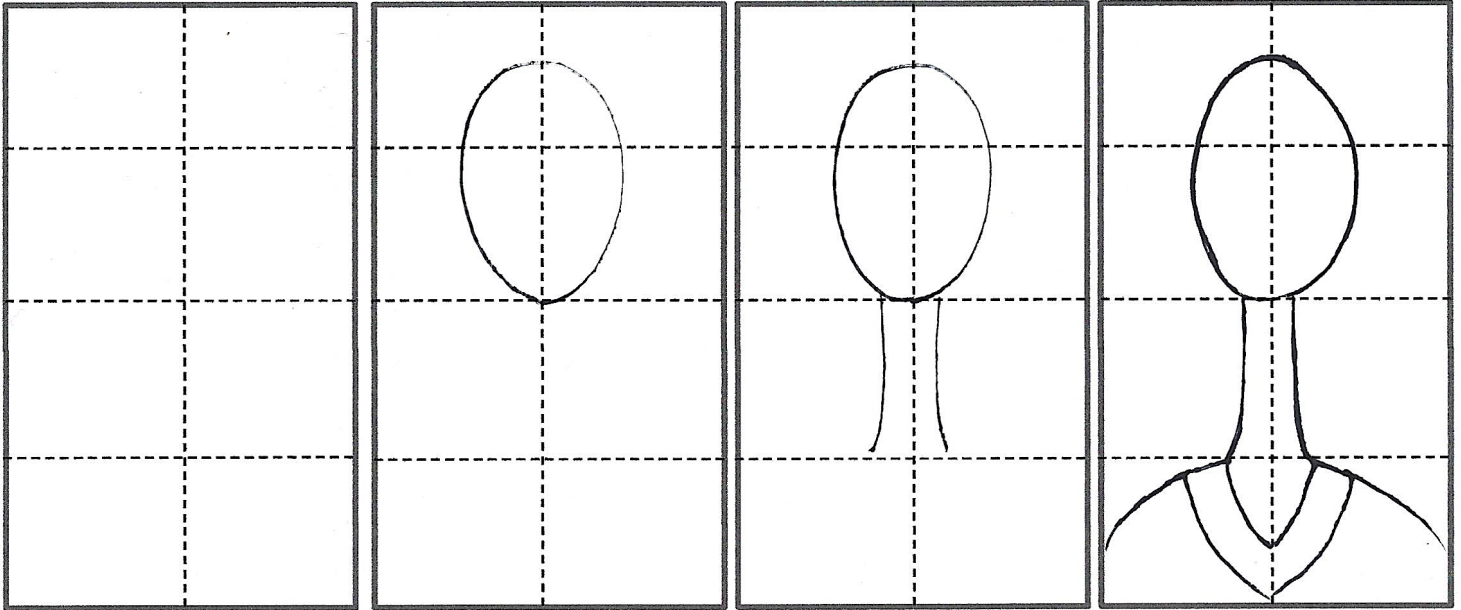
1. Take out a piece of blank white paper, like computer paper. Fold your paper in half vertically, and fold it in quarters horizontally.

2. Draw an oval shape, centered on the vertical fold, which takes up the top two quarters of the paper.

3. Draw a thin neck from the bottom of the oval to the folded lines on the bottom quarter of your paper.

4. Draw a v-shape at the bottom of your neck, add a collar and shoulders in the bottom quarter of your paper.
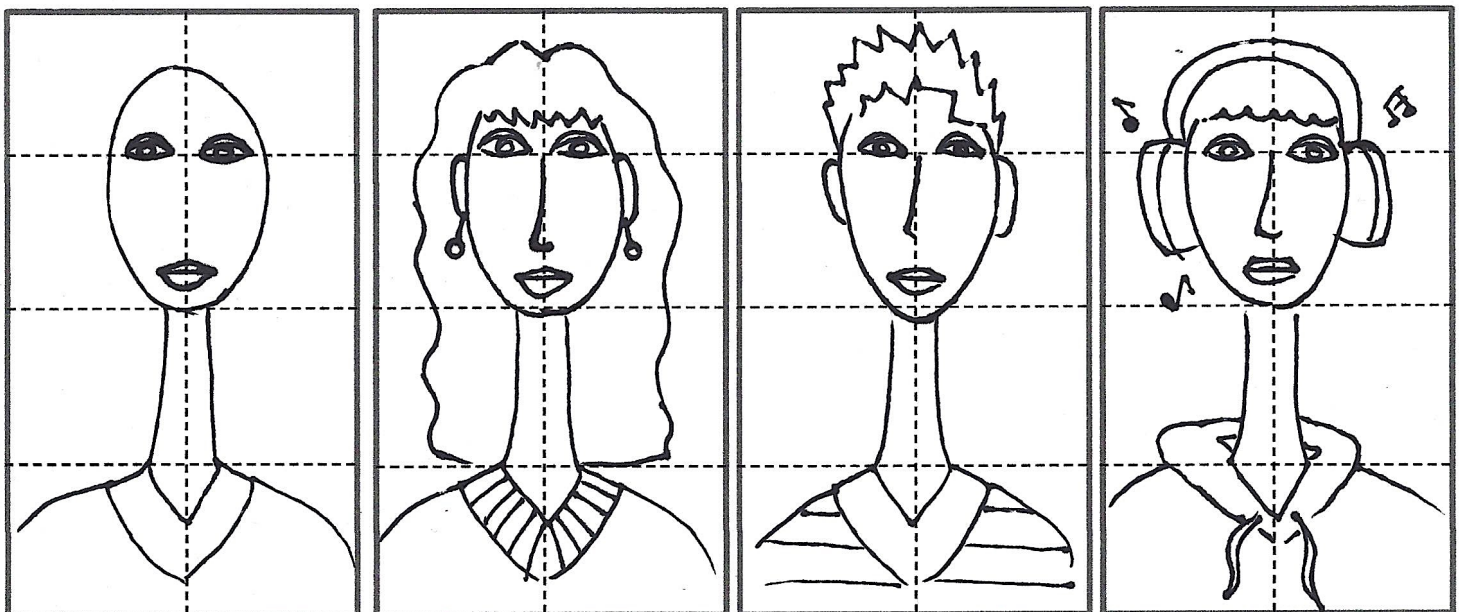
5. Draw the eyes on the top folded line, centered across the middle. Draw an elongated nose and then a mouth at the bottom of the oval. Draw the ears just below the eyeline. Add hair and erase the top part of the oval. Look in a mirror and draw extra details to make your portrait look like you!

Amedeo Modigliani's Portraits

Modigliani was born in 1884 and suffered health issues from a young age. He is known to have drawn and painted since he was a child and grew up in Italy, where he studied the art of antiquity and the Renaissance. As a young adult he moved to Paris, and worked at a furious pace. He was constantly sketching, making as many as a hundred drawings a day. However, many of his works were lost or destroyed or left behind in his frequent changes of address, or given to girlfriends who did not keep them.

Throughout his life, Amedeo Modigliani was plagued by poor health.

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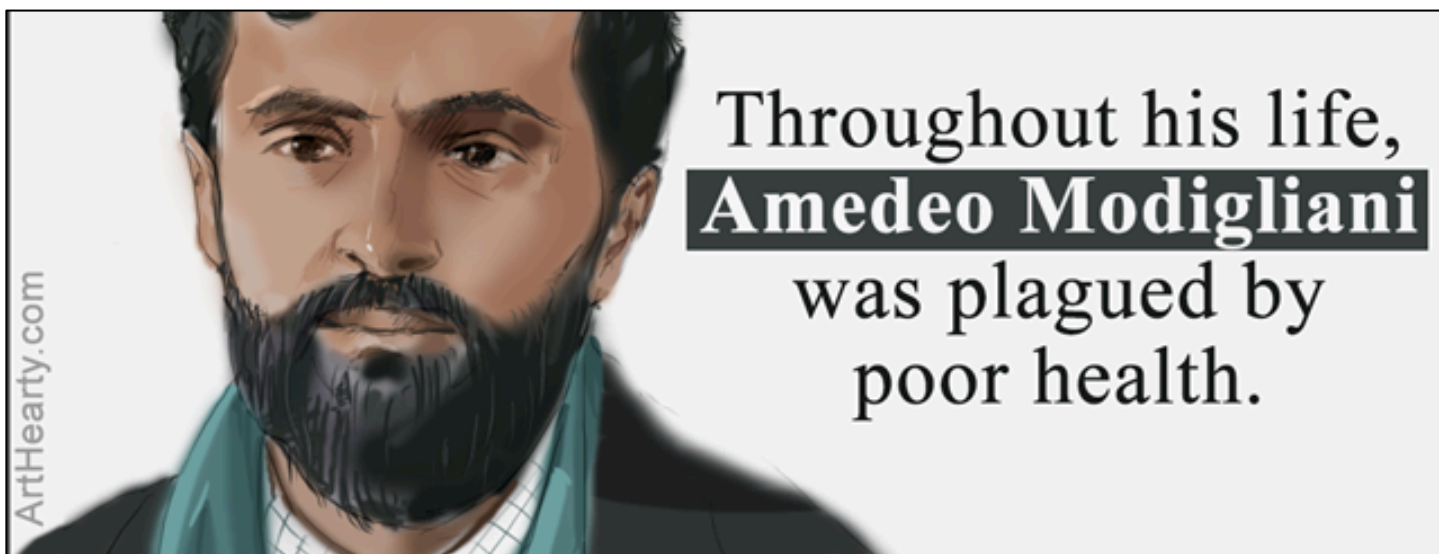
Modigliani's work includes paintings and drawings. From 1909 to 1914 he devoted himself mainly to sculpture. His main subject was portraits and full figures, both in the images and in the sculptures.

Look at his paintings below. How can you see the influence of his sculpture work? What is unique about the portraits he paints (look at the necks, the face shape, the eyes, and the use of color)?