

## "Roman" Portrait Busts



**Target Group:** Grade 10

**Goal (Terminal Objective):** Students will create portrait sculptures in the manner of the ancient Romans.

**Objective:** Each student will design and build a sculpture of one of his classmates.

### **National Standards:**

Visual Arts Grades 9-12 Content Standard 1: Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

Visual Arts Grades 9-12 Content Standard 3: Choosing and evaluating a range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas

Visual Arts Grades 9-12 Content Standard 4: Understanding the visual arts in relation to history and cultures

Visual Arts Grades 9-12 Content Standard 5: Reflecting upon and assessing the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others

**Purpose:** Students will use realistically rendered features to express likenesses of their subjects. Students will view and examine works of Roman sculptors. Students will create a sculptural product.

**New Vocabulary:** Three-dimensional, portrait, realism, form, texture, sculpture

**Materials:**



#22-2003 Sculpt-It! White Re-sealable Tub



#56-6012 Natural Hair Rainbow Brush Assortment



#22-8812 128 oz. Gallon Acrylic Gloss & Varnish

**Time:** This lesson may be modified to last from one to five hours, depending upon size and complexity expectations.

**Introduction and Motivation (Set):** Students will view exemplars of portrait sculptures by the ancient Romans. Teacher will elicit responses from students about the kind of attitude, feeling or personality conveyed by the exemplar designs. The teacher will direct student attention to the use of *realism*, detail, form, and texture, as well as the individuality expressed in each example.

**Instruction:** Teacher presents and discusses exemplars. Teacher organizes the classroom to facilitate students' easy, orderly access to materials.

**Activities:**

**(1) Guided Practice:**

1. Students reflect upon images provided by teacher.
2. Students create thumbnail sketches for sculpture designs.
3. Students draw three views in pencil for final sculpture on 9" X 12" paper.
4. Students model sculpture and features with Sargent Sculpt-It according to drawn design. Add textures and additional materials to sculpture.



5. Allow formed sculpture to dry.
6. Students may sand the surface with sandpaper, or smooth surface by rubbing with a damp finger.
7. Coat the finished sculpture with a coat of Sargent Acrylic Gloss Medium.



8. Clean up with soap and water.

**(2) Independent Practice and Check for Understanding:**

Teacher encourages students to pose for each other to help in visualizing multiple views. Teacher approves students' pencil drawings that demonstrate the use of correct proportion and attention to detail.

Teacher circulates among the working students visually recording (checklist) students demonstrating understanding of objectives, asking direct questions when understanding isn't observable, and asking peers to critique each other.

Teacher helps and reinforces students as they work.

**(3) Closure:** Students display their work.

**Evaluation:** Use teacher or class critiques to evaluate particularly strong works and strong qualities within works.

Level One -- The finished sculpture clearly and consistently resembles the subject. The student successfully recorded physical characteristics and expresses personality of the subject. Proportions are accurate. The details are interesting and clear. The student used materials appropriately to create the desired visual effect. Craftsmanship is excellent.

Level Two -- The finished sculpture resembles the subject. The student successfully

recorded physical characteristics of the subject. Proportions are close to accurate. The details are interesting. The student used materials appropriately. Craftsmanship is good.

Level Three -- The finished sculpture resembles a human head, but a likeness is not apparent. The representation of physical characteristics is not accurate. Proportions are not accurate. Details are inaccurate or missing. The student used materials appropriately. Craftsmanship is variable.

Level Four -- The finished sculpture does not effectively represent a human head realistically. Proportions are not accurate. Details are absent. The student used materials inappropriately. Craftsmanship is poor.

**Extension:** This project can be extended to focus on any subject. The students in the class can work together to create a large collaborative work in which each student makes a character, *eg.* People in our school, community, art class, the Presidents, rock stars, etc.

**Resources:**

<http://traumwerk.stanford.edu/archaeolog/britdecenial1.jpg>

[http://www.beloit.edu/~classics/Trojan%20War%20Site/Miscellaneous/Bust\\_of\\_Homer\(Hellenistic\\_Roman\\_Copy\).jpg](http://www.beloit.edu/~classics/Trojan%20War%20Site/Miscellaneous/Bust_of_Homer(Hellenistic_Roman_Copy).jpg)

<http://oncampus.richmond.edu/academics/classics/students/dave/ROMAN/CaesarBust.gif>

[http://www.cofc.edu/~classics/faculty\\_2.jpg](http://www.cofc.edu/~classics/faculty_2.jpg)

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