

Tell Me About Your Art!

Dear Fourth Grade Families:

Today we created a
SYMBOL OF YOURSELF
 that could stand for a personality trait.

Looking: We looked at Fay Jones' *Reading Aloud* and Pablo Picasso's *Harlequin and Mirror* and saw that the artists used objects to reveal the personality traits of the **character**.

Talking: We brainstormed for words that identify personality traits and key objects that might represent those types of personality: curious/keyhole or magnifying glass; talkative/cell phone; energetic/tennis shoes; brash/slamming door; judgmental/gavel; insecure/blanket; goofy/funny hat, etc.

Making: We drew the object we chose to represent our personality and simplified its shape by just drawing its **contour**. We also created an **open composition** by extending the object off the edge of the paper. Then we looked at all the space around the object (negative space) and activated it by drawing the same pattern or mark direction with oil pastels throughout the **negative space**. We wrote about and presented our symbols as **metaphors** for self.

Art at Home

Together:

You could talk to each other about the personality traits you think represent each other.
 It's always good to accentuate the positive.

Questions to ask:

Why does an artist add a symbol to a painting or work of art?
 How can a picture tell you even more than words?

**A visual symbol related to
 attributes of self can provide insight about the individual.**