

Picking your own symbols

This week's exercise is to think about which symbols you might like to use in your self-portrait and to make some studies of them. Symbols are objects or animals that can provide visual clues or messages in art.

We want you to pick a symbol that tells us about what has connected you to the outside world during your time in lockdown.

Don't worry if you haven't picked your symbol yet. Go back to the first session with Dr Jodie Walshe and have a look at your mind-map or at your postcard.

You might choose a conventional symbol such as a rainbow. Equally you might pick a symbol that is unique to you, like your pet or something really obscure! This project is about you, so there are no incorrect responses.

Make some really detailed studies of your chosen symbol or symbols.

These will all be really useful for your ideas board. Try several different objects before you decide which to use in your final piece. You could experiment with lighting or background colour for effect.

If your symbol is tricky to draw you could try taking a photo and using a drawing grid app. You can work in whatever medium you like; it is a great idea to experiment at this stage.

If you would like your picture to be in the next video send me a photo by the end the school day on Thursday.

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