

COURT IN CLAY

Art Lesson: Gargoyles



ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

- To study photographs and images of famous tennis players' faces.
- To create a clay representation of a player's face.

- Look at some examples of gargoyles on interactive whiteboards or computers (Google Images – 'Gargoyles' is useful).
- Choose a photograph of a famous tennis player's face, either from Google Images 'tennis players' or from magazines / newspapers. Try to find a feature that could be caricatured e.g. long nose, bushy eyebrows, big earrings, unusual hairstyle.
- Using a grapefruit-sized piece of clay, flatten the ball into an oval about 3cm thick.
- Pull the clay from the oval to portray facial features, over-emphasising the chosen feature!
- When completed, leave clay to dry then paint faces using acrylic paint.
- Once paint is well and truly dry, brush a layer of PVA glue over entire face to give varnished look.



HELPFUL HINTS:

- 1 The more over the top you are, the better!
- 2 If you need to add more clay onto the face you will need to blend it on with a small amount of water.
- 3 Using clay tools can add more detail and interest.
- 4 If you want to hang the finished portrait it helps to half embed a paper clip in the top back of the face.
- 5 Mounting the faces together on card produces a portrait gallery!

EQUIPMENT

- Photographs of Tennis Players.
- Air drying clay.
- Clay boards.
- Clay tools or a selection of pencils, toothbrushes, glue sticks, etc.