

to go! Faith Ringgold

Faith Ringgold (Born in 1930 in Harlem, New York City) is best known for her painted story quilts. She was greatly influenced by the fabric she worked with at home with her mother, a fashion designer, and uses fabric in many of her artworks. The images you see in her work are actually scenes from her childhood. Family is very important to her. This is where she draws her inspiration!

In her painting, “Soul Food,” she shows a family eating dinner together. What do you and your family like to eat when you have a family dinner? What is each person’s favorite food? Where does each person sit? In this project, you can make your own family dinner portrait!

Materials: Two sheets of 8 ½” x 11” white paper (or one white and one colored paper), markers or crayons, pencil, fabric scraps or colorful scraps of paper, glue, scissors, ruler or straight edge

Directions:

- Using a fabric scrap or scrap of colored paper, cut out a rectangle about 6” x 4” long. Glue this horizontally (the long way) to the center of one of the 8” x 11” papers. This is your dining table!
- Using the white paper, cut out rectangles about 2” x 3” long.
- Using one white rectangle each, draw a picture of each person in the family. Color with crayons or markers.
- Talk about where each person usually sits at the table. Cut him or her out and glue each person to his or her place.
- Using the remaining paper, ask each person to draw his or her favorite foods. Cut them out and glue them to the table.
- Using the fabric scraps or colored paper, cut out small squares for the border (about 1” x 1”). Then take turns selecting squares and gluing them around the edge of the paper.
- Decorate the background with markers or crayons.



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