

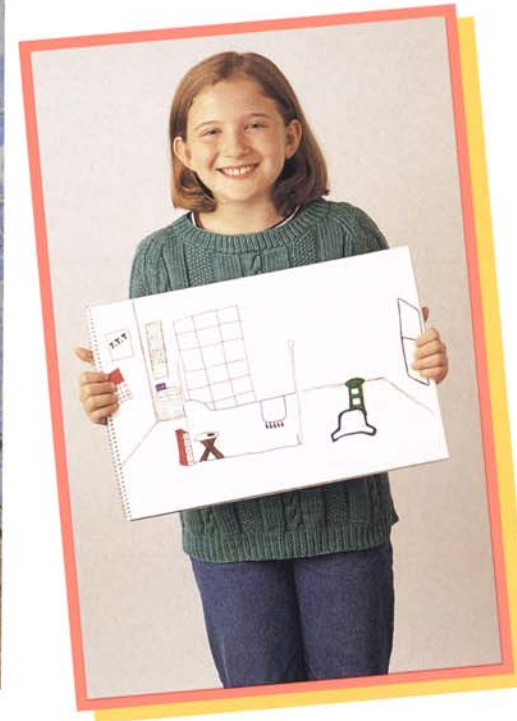


Vincent van Gogh (Dutch, 1853–1890),  
*The Bedroom*, 1889; *Self-Portrait*, 1886/87.

Vincent van Gogh found beauty in unexpected places and things, such as peasant life, a simple chair, or even an old pair of boots. This picture shows van Gogh's bedroom during the time he lived in Arles in southern France. In the work, he tried to express the sense of joy and peace he felt while living there. The room is simply furnished, except for van Gogh's own paintings hanging on the walls. How do the objects and colors in this scene make you feel?



Now take a look at the artist's portrait of himself. Does this painting communicate a different mood? Van Gogh was famous for using color and energetic brush strokes to express his feelings.



Think about your bedroom. What does it say about you? How does the room make you feel? How is it decorated? Now paint a bedroom scene that will tell others something about yourself.

**Materials:** Paper

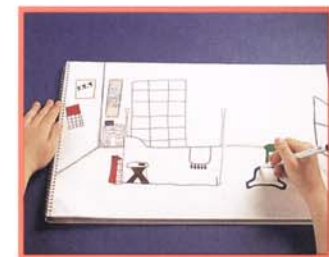
**Tools:** Colored pencils, crayons, markers, and/or watercolor paints; paintbrushes



**1** Draw lines to represent the ceiling, floor, and walls of your bedroom.



**2** Draw the main pieces of furniture and objects that are important to you. You might include, for example, your toys and books.



**3** Color in your drawing using pencils, crayons, markers, and/or watercolor paints.