

# Artist Ted

by Andrea Beaty and Pascal Lemaitre

Take a boring white wall, some ketchup and mustard, and a little bear with a lot of imagination, and watch out — it's time for Artist Ted to make an entrance!

*Bold illustrations outlined in ink and colored digitally combine with a generous trim size to make this an accessible book for group read-alouds. Whether or not young children are already familiar with this resourceful bear's happily guileless approach to trying out various occupations, they will chuckle at his latest over-the-top caper.*

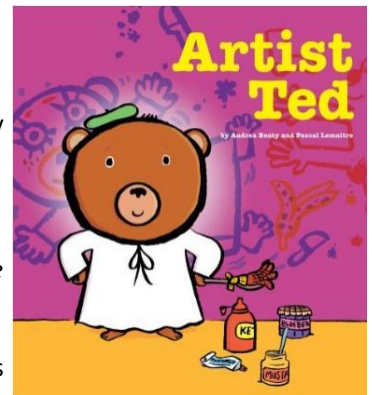
— School Library Journal

*Readers should find Ted's unflagging confidence contagious.*

—Publisher's Weekly

*Ted's back, bursting with enthusiasm, this time throwing himself into the role of painter. Oblivious but funny and full of gusto...*

—Kirkus Reviews



## Fun Across the Curriculum

### Math and Science and Creative Arts

**Color Me Surprised:** Ted calls his masterpiece “Green,” even though there’s no green in it. Or is there? The three basic colors (colors which can’t be created by mixing other colors) are **red**, **yellow**, and **blue**. Predict what will happen when you mix these combinations of paint colors: *yellow and blue*, *red and blue*, *red and yellow*. How can you make the shades lighter? How can you make them darker? **Challenge:** What colors should you use to make *pink*? *Lilac*? *Brown*?

**Improvise!** When Ted doesn’t have paint, he uses ketchup, mustard, and blueberry jam to color his world. Many artists still use plants and minerals to create colors they use in their work. With a grownup, cook the following foods to make your own natural dyes: *beets*, *carrots*, *tea*, *berries*. Use the liquids as water color paint or to dye white cotton or yarn. Look around your yard or playground for other natural items that you can use to create colors. **Hint:** *Leaves*, *dirt*, *flowers*, *weeds*.

**Think!** Pierre is a different kind of artist, an *escape artist*. What characteristics do chimpanzees have that make them good escapers?

**Problem-Solve!** When Ted needs a paintbrush, he makes one out of string. How many different ways besides “swiping” can you use a paintbrush to put color on a page? **Hint:** *smear*, *dab*, *flick*, *drip*, *spatter*, *pour*, *etc.* **Challenge:** Artists use many other tools to apply color. Try: kitchen tools, toy cars, plastic animals, sponges, popsicle sticks, cotton balls, cotton swabs, marbles, \_\_\_\_\_!



### Language Arts

**Word Study:** Ted needs to **spiff up** his room with color when it starts feeling blah. What does *spiff up* mean? What are some other things you can spiff up? Maybe your desk? Pick a spot in your bedroom that you want to spiff up, and think of ways you can make it more exciting. Think of color, toys, arrangements, etc. Make a plan with a drawing and labels. Ask a grownup to help you complete your plan!

**Writers’ Workshop:** Ted thinks bright colors will make his room and school more exciting. How do certain colors make you feel? Pick a color and write a poem and/or draw a picture about how that color makes you feel. Think about color on the walls, on your clothes, on your plate. Share your picture and poem with a friend. See if you both have the same feelings about that color.

### Social Skills

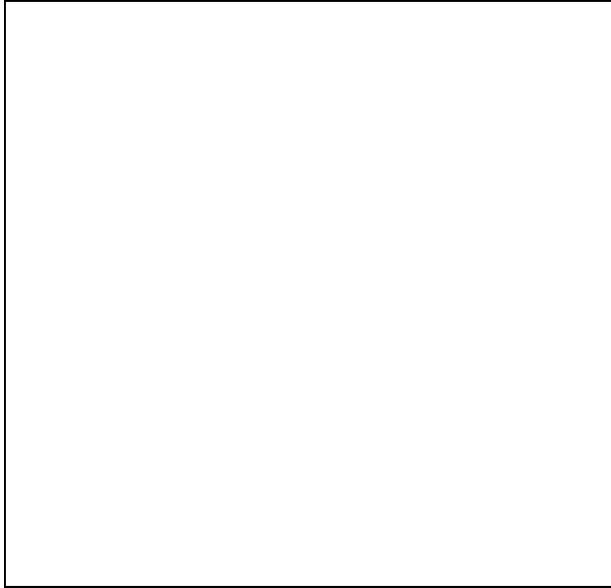
**Help:** When Ted realizes Pierre doesn’t feel welcome, he uses a sign to make him feel more so. What are some other things you can do to make a new student feel welcome?

### Dramatic Play

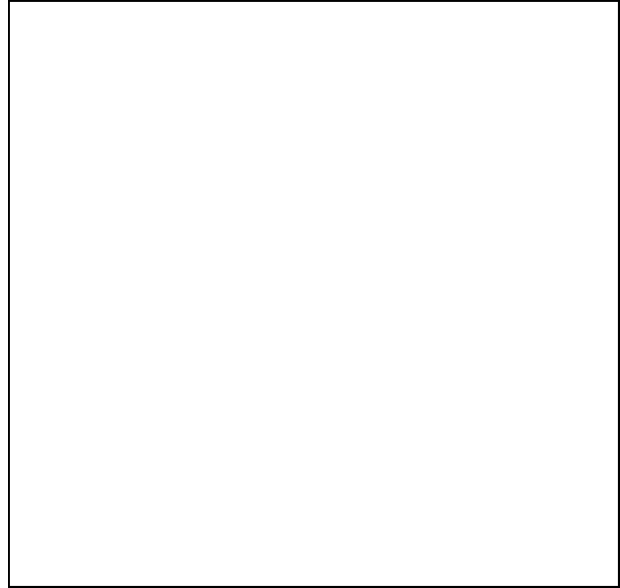
**Artists At Work!** Set up a classroom museum for all the kinds of art the students in your group create: paintings, drawings, sculpture (with clay or blocks or Legos!), etc. Invite other classrooms to visit your gallery. Explain how you created the work and what it means to you.

# Self-Portrait of a Young Artiste

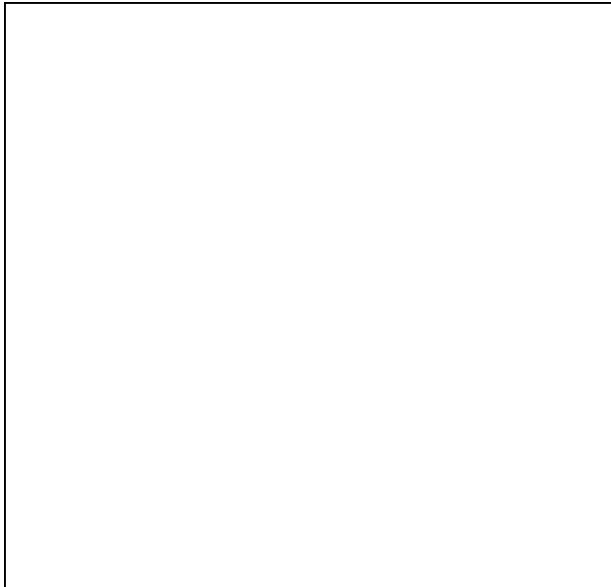
A self-portrait doesn't just show what an artist looks like. It also showcases the artist's favorite *media* (materials) and *techniques*. Draw four different self-portraits. You can use different paper if you need more room, or try different papers: brown paper bags, newspaper scraps. Which self-portrait looks most like you? Which self-portrait is your favorite? Why?



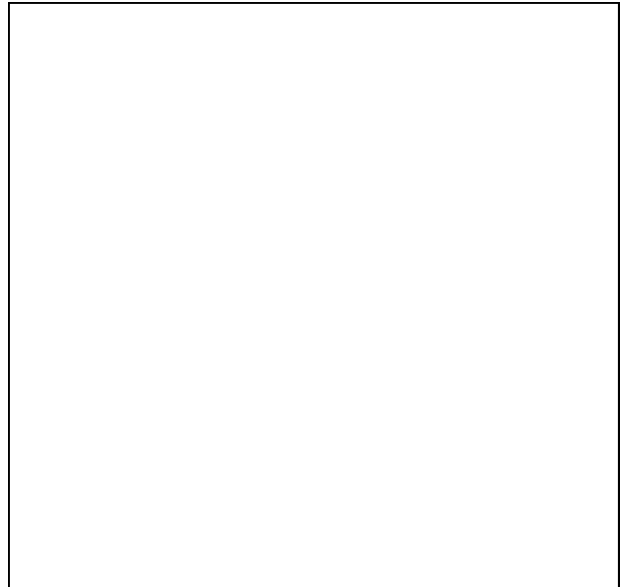
Crayons



Pencil



Paint



Paint and ink