

# Imagination Drawings

## Inspired by Artist Horace Pippin

### Artist Info:

Horace Pippin was an African-American self-taught artist. He was born around 1888 and loved to draw and illustrate his spelling words in school. His family couldn't afford art materials but at age 10 he won a box of crayons in a magazine drawing contest. From then on he started coloring and eventually painting with oil.

Pippin injured his right hand badly in the war but painted using his good left hand to guide his right hand. His first painting took his three years to finish.

Pippin would often like to paint memories from his childhood and his painting are famous for having a little touch of red in it. He painted what he recalled, saw, and knew and uses a bit of his imagination as well.

### Art Activity

Draw your own self-portrait of you painting a scene on canvas just like the photo below (bottom left). Try to think of a memory and use that as your pretend canvas painting. Be sure to include a splash of red in your drawing!

- Get paper, colored pencils or crayons, and a pencil
- Use your pencil to lightly sketch. You can sketch the canvas and your scene on canvas, after that then sketch you sitting in front of the canvas in a chair and details of the room you are drawing in. This is a bit like a picture within a picture.
- Once you have your sketch, go over it with your colored pencil and crayons and starting coloring away. Remember to try and include something red in the painting just like Horace Pippin did!

*"Pictures just come to my mind...and I tell my heart to go ahead." – Horace Pippin*



Recommend Reading- A Splash of Red- The Life and Art of Horace Pippin by Jen Byrant.