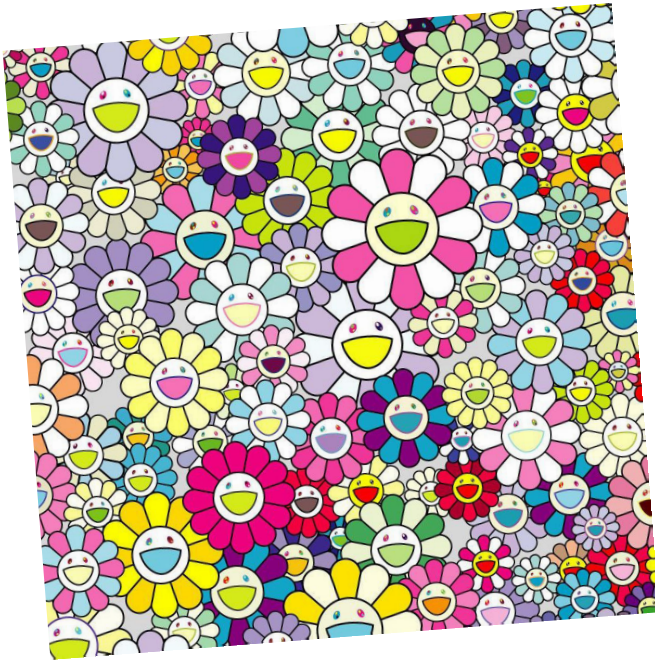


Takashi Murakami



Born in Japan in 1962, Murakami's art references both Japanese traditional and popular culture. Well known for using bright colours and smiling flower motifs, he has gone on to be involved with fashion design, art fairs and supporting younger artists.

For this activity you will need:
2 x Plain paper, pencil, black pen, water colour paints, paint brush and a pot of water.

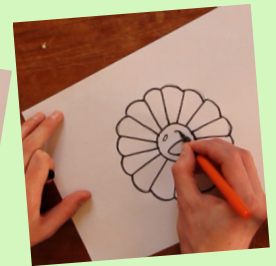
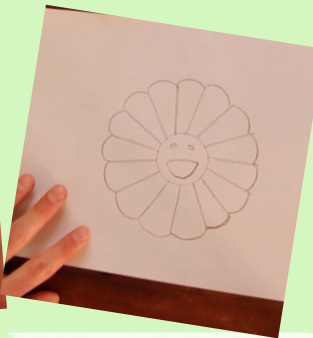
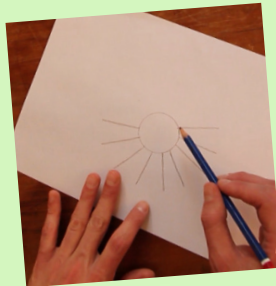
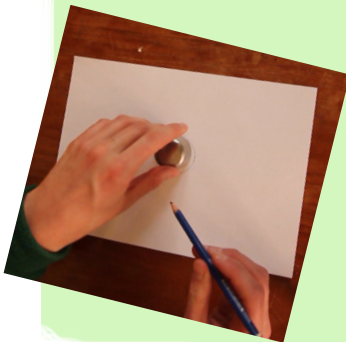
①

Let's begin by creating that iconic smiling flower! We're going to use this one to trace around.

→ With a pencil start by drawing a circle, use something to draw around it helps. Then carefully draw the petals and the face as well.

→ Don't worry if this takes a few tries! When you're happy with one, draw over your pencil lines with a black pen.

→ If you have a few on your page, you could cut just this one out to avoid confusion.



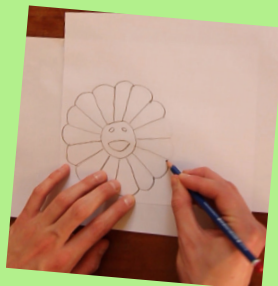
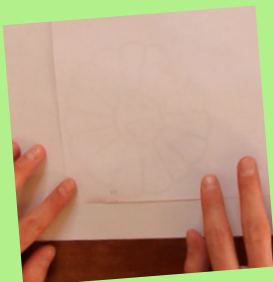
②

Now to start tracing, place the drawing you just did underneath your second piece of paper.

→ Use a pencil to trace over the drawing you just did.

→ Now move the drawing underneath to another position and trace over it again, stop when you've filled up your page!

→ If you want a challenge, try having a flower behind another. Remember not to draw over the one you've already drawn.



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Now to add colour, see if you can make each smiling flower different...

→ One flower at a time, start to paint carefully inside each shape you've drawn.

→ Remember to use different colours next to each other.

→ Think about how the petals could make a pattern like red then blue, then red then blue and so on.



Final Outcome:



+ Using the same techniques, here's what else you could make:



If you like Takashi Murakami, you might also like:



Eduardo Paolozzi



Jean-Michel Basquiat



We have loved seeing all the amazing art you have been making, so keep sharing!

Send us a picture of what you make to:
creative.charlesdickens@gmail.com

Keep up the great work!