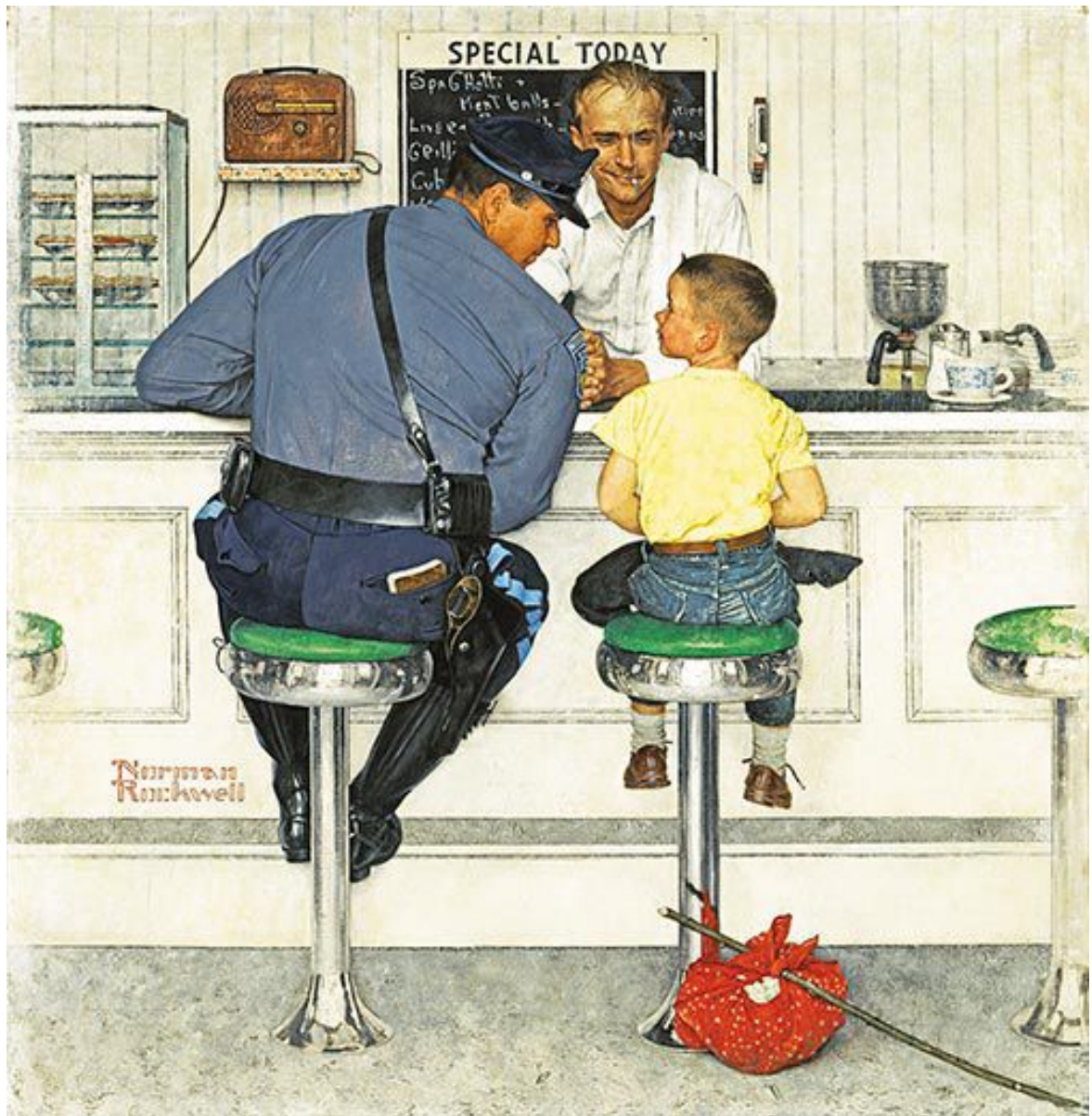


Norman Rockwell, *The Runaway*, 1958
Realism – painting



Key Facts:

Artist: Norman Rockwell, 1895-1978

Art period/style: American Realism; illustration

Key characteristics of that period: Naturalistic and realistic depictions of everyday life

Techniques: Oil painting

Some Background: Norman Rockwell is well known for his paintings of everyday American life. He created over 300 illustrations for the cover of the popular magazine the Saturday Evening Post. He often added an element of humor to his paintings. His paintings always told a story and reflected American culture. His work contrasted the dominating styles of abstraction in the artworld around him.

The Five Core Habits:

Practice the *Five Core Habits of Grammar* with art - NAMES (found on pgs. 18-19 in the Foundation Guide). Part of teaching is learning to ask a student good questions. This is a great activity for looking at art! Plus, you get to sneak in a little art history and technique along with.

5 CORE HABITS



NAMING

1. What do you call this?
2. Where does this name come from?
3. Are there any other names for this?



ATTENDING

1. What are the parts of this?
2. Where do you usually see this?
3. What makes this special?



MEMORIZING

1. What would help you memorize this? An acronym, a song, a chant, a picture, etc.
2. What did you already know about this?



EXPRESSING

1. Could you draw a picture of this or write a song about it? Could you act it out?
2. How does this make you feel?



STORYTELLING

1. Can you tell me a story about this?
2. Can I tell you a story about this?

N names (name things specifically)

A attending (look and listen carefully. Also- taste, smell, touch. Compare things.)

M memorizing (soak up facts and ideas. Memorize facts and relations of things to recall, connect, and expand new ideas to older ones from past memorizations.)

E expressing (express ideas creatively- reciting, drawing, singing, dancing)

S storytelling (hear and tell stories)

This helps us grasp the basic elements, vocabulary, and rules of any subject, and helps us progress more quickly toward comprehension and creativity in future studies.

Using the image on the first page, go through these questions:

N – Names:

- Name the artist, era/art style, and technique
- What can you find? Name the things you see
- How many people are there?
- Who are the people? What are they doing?
- What do you see?
- What colors do you see?
- What objects are in the painting? What do these objects tell us?

A – Attending

- What do the people in the painting see? Hear? Smell? Taste? Feel/touch?
- What emotions might the people be feeling?
- Does the image give you any emotions?
- How is color used?
- What is happening in the painting?
- Notice how the people are dressed. What does this tell you about them?
- What do you imagine them talking about? (The title at the top might help)

M – Memorize

Memorize the artist, time period, and facts about the artwork/technique.

E – Express

Express your thoughts and ideas about the art.

You can also express by trying the technique on your own. There many ideas for doing a Normal Rockwell art study. I have put together 4 simple ideas.

#1: Create your own portrait for the cover of the Saturday Evening Post magazine. See the examples for inspiration (pages 9-11). Then you can print out the coloring sheet on the next page (page 4) and have the students create their own cover. The goal is to be realistic, possibly add humor, and create an image that tells a story.

#2: The students can color the coloring page of his famous *Triple Self-Portrait* found on the page 5. This would be simpler for your younger students. Be sure to show him the original on page 8.

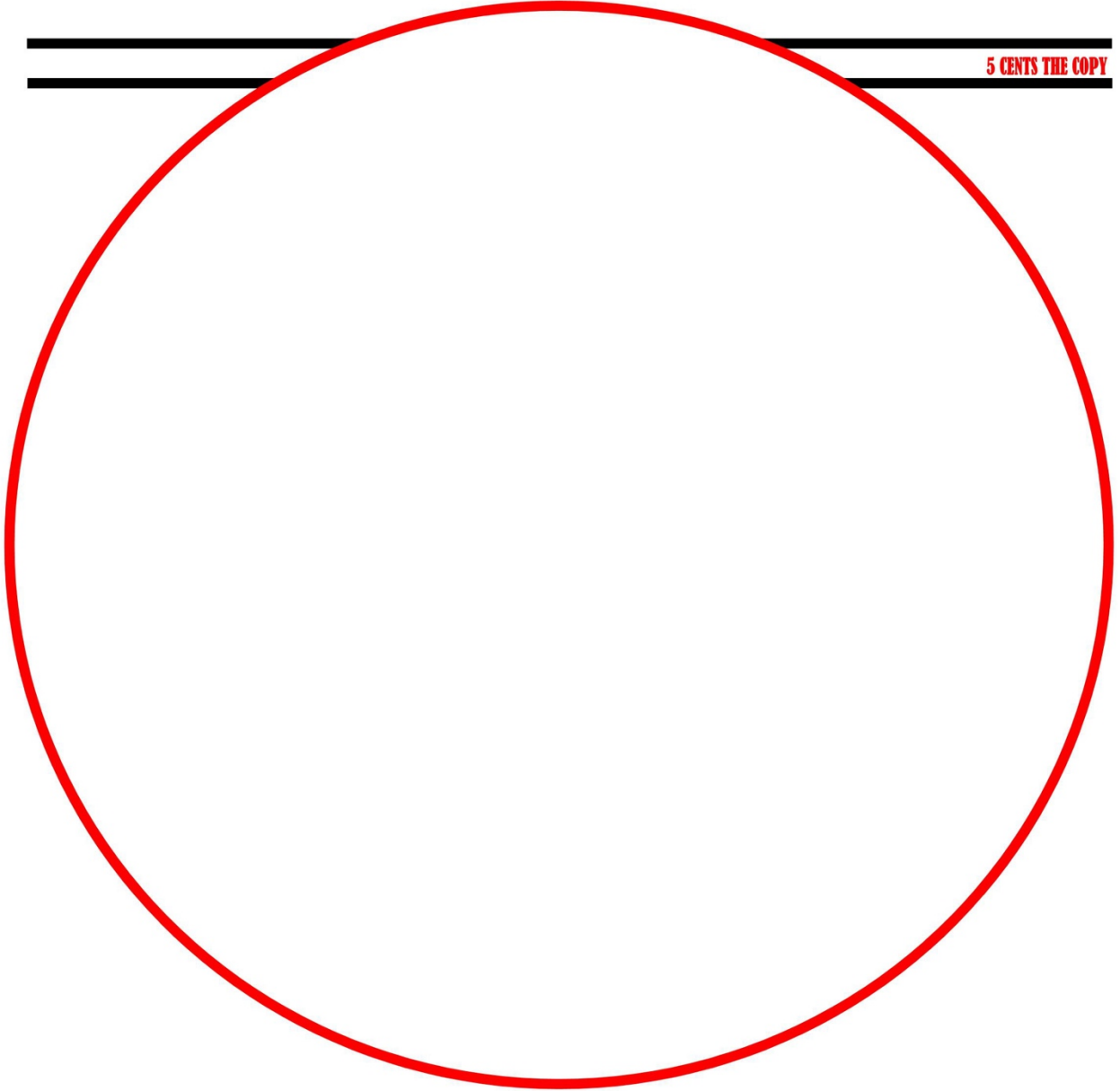
#3: Create your own version of Normal Rockwell’s *Triple Self-Portrait*. For this project you will need to take a picture of each student. Then, print out their pictures to collage onto their drawing. The photograph will be their reflection in the mirror. Once their picture is glued onto the paper, they can draw the mirror, the backside of themselves holding the mirror, and a background.

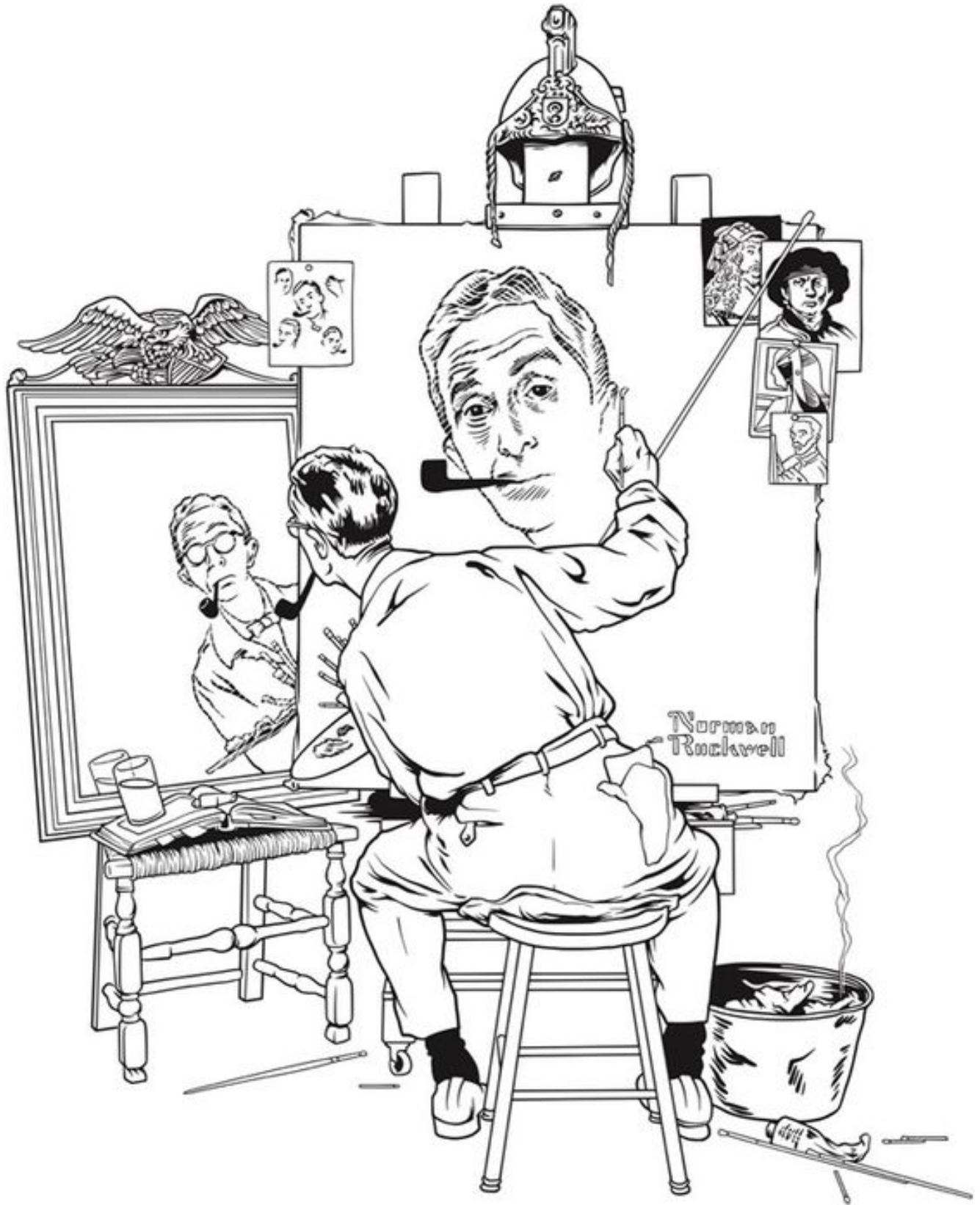


THE SATURDAY EVENING
POST

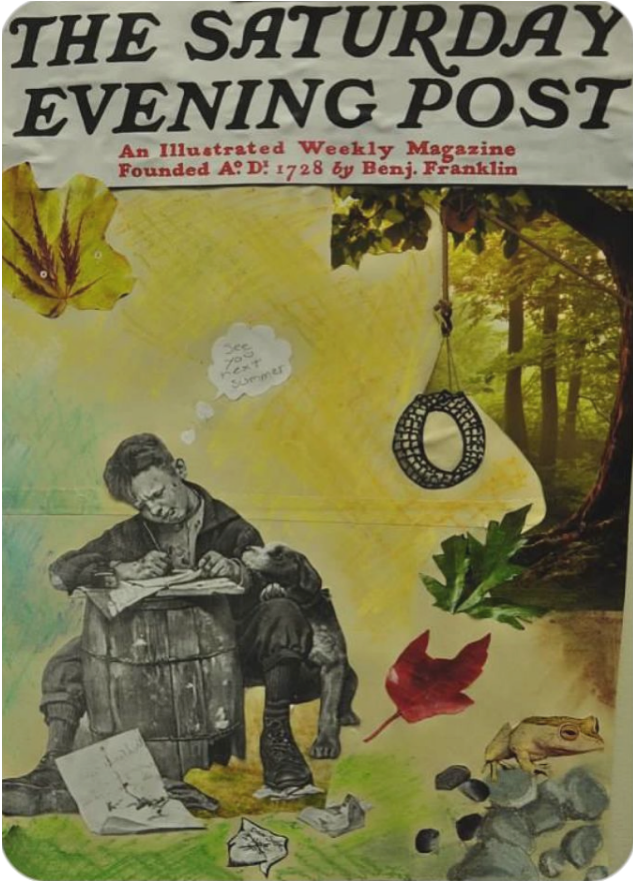
An Illustrated Weekly Magazine
Founded in AD 1728 by Benjamin Franklin

5 CENTS THE COPY





#4: Have the students create a collage to make their own cover for the Saturday Evening Post. For this you will need magazines, scissors, glue, and oil pastels. Have the students look through magazines to find images to tell a story. Then they can glue them all down along with the title up top. And to finish it off, they can add some colors and blending with oil pastels. You can print out the header on the following page.



Here are headers to print and cut out for the collage project.



**THE SATURDAY
EVENING POST**
An Illustrated Weekly Magazine
Founded A° D! 1728 by Benj. Franklin

**THE SATURDAY
EVENING POST**
An Illustrated Weekly Magazine
Founded A° D! 1728 by Benj. Franklin

Here are a few more examples of his paintings:



Triple Self-Portrait, 1960



Before the Shot/At the Doctor, 1958

The Saturday Evening
POST

May 23, 1953 — 15¢

**HUMPHREY—THE MAN IKE TRUSTS
WITH THE CASH**

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop

**Case History of a Maniac Who Was
TURNED LOOSE TO KILL**





New Glasses, 1956



THE SATURDAY EVENING POST



Gifford Pinchot—Henry C. Rowland—Harrison Rhodes—Lawrence Perry Octavus Roy Cohen—Mary Brecht Pulver—E. G. Lowry—Frederick Collins

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST



THE EMPIRE BUILDERS—By Mary Roberts Rinehart



The Saturday Evening
POST
August 22, 1953 — 15¢

A Farewell Report to the Nation
By GENERAL OMAR N. BRADLEY
An Eyewitness Account
of the German Revolt:
"I LED A RIOT AGAINST THE REDS!"



THE SATURDAY
EVENING POST

S – Story telling

Tell the story about this work of art.

Refer to image on first page.

Norman Rockwell's painting *The Runaway* is a classic example of his style. It was also on the cover for the Saturday Evening Post. It is painted realistically and is loaded with details. And as always, it tells a story and makes the viewer ask questions.

No details were overlooked by Rockwell: stools, counter-top, coffee pot, cup, sugar dispenser... even the radio mounted on its shelf on the wall. Television was very new when this was painted, so radio was how people stayed up on current events.

The only character whose entire face we can see is the man in white behind the counter. He looks amused at the situation unfolding before him. Is the man in white also the cook? I hope not: he is smoking a cigarette. That would not be allowed today, but this was painted during the 1950's.

The largest character is, of course, the policeman. He is the blue uniformed authority figure in this painting. In addition to clothing part of his uniform, Rockwell spares no detail on his accessories. We see his pistol, his handcuff pouch and his citation book. The cop looks less amused than the man in white. He is affecting a professional demeanor toward the situation.

Sitting high off the floor on top of his green topped stool is the runaway himself. Is he engaged in a staring contest with the cop? He has apparently just left home. His clothes are still neatly tied inside his red bandana and fastened to his stick. The jeans and t-shirt he is wearing still look neat and fairly clean. He is not wearing his jacket; it is laying in his lap.

Did the boy bring money to buy lunch with? The man behind the counter has his hands clasped and seems to be waiting for an order. Spaghetti and meatballs is the "SPECIAL TODAY." I'm sure the homemade pies in the display on the left are also delicious.

Will the policeman make the boy return home? Will he feed the boy first?
And will the boy eat again just as soon as he walks in the door at home?
Has his mother even realized that the boy had run away?

(<http://www.best-norman-rockwell-art.com/1958-the-runaway.html>)