FRIDA KAHLO

Frida Kahlo was a **Mexican** painter, known for mixing traditional Mexican folk art with surrealism. **Surrealism** is a form of painting that is **inspired by dreams**.

When Frida was young, she was enrolled in a prestigious school where she was studying medicine. While there, she was in a terrible trolley **accident that broke nearly all of her bones**.

She **healed** and was able to walk again, but the pain remained. She **devoted herself to painting**, which was what she loved to do.

At a young age she **married** the already famous painter **Diego Rivera**. His work was usually large painted murals that depicted the struggle of the working class in Mexico.

Frida's paintings, however, were much more **personal**.



Self-Portrait with Thorn Necklace and Hummingbird, 1940

The Wounded Deer, 1946

In 1946 Frida Kahlo had an operation on her spine in New York. She was hoping this surgery would free her from the severe back pain but it failed. This painting expressed her disappointment towards the operation. After she went back to Mexico, she suffered both the physical pain and emotional depression. In this painting she depicted herself as a young stag with her own head crowned with antlers. This young stag is pierced by arrows and bleeding. At the lower-left corner, the artist wrote down the word "Carma", which means "destiny" or "fate".

She painted many **self-portraits**, mainly because a lot of the time she was confined to her bed. She endured many operations on her spine.

She valued the **traditional Mexican** way of life.

Many of Frida's paintings have symbols in them that are native to Mexico.

Most of Frida Kahlo's work was about **her identity and where she was from**. She created many paintings about it, but also did a lot of writing.

On this page, write a paragraph about where you are from.

Then sketch a picture to go along with it.
