A portrait is a painting or a photograph of a person. For hundreds of years Kings and Queens have had portraits painted or taken for their Coronation. In their portraits they are shown with special clothes and objects.

Did you know?
The Queen’s Coronation lasted for almost 3 hours!

The Coronation of Elizabeth II took place on 2 June 1953, Cecil Beaton was asked to take The Queen’s portrait.
Beaton attended the ceremony at Westminster Abbey and made sketches. He then took The Queen’s portrait in Buckingham Palace against a painted backdrop of Westminster Abbey.

Look at the Coronation portrait of The Queen. Can you see the crown, orb and sceptre?
Coronation portraits

Look at the Coronation portraits of George IV, Victoria and The Queen. Draw your own Coronation portrait of The Queen.

Remember to include in your portrait:
- The crown, orb and sceptre
- A red robe embroidered with leaves
- A background of Westminster Abbey
- A white dress embroidered with flowers

If you had your portrait painted or taken what background would you have, what clothes would you wear and what objects would you hold?