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<https://sitesantafe.org/education/distance-learning/>

https://www.santafenm.gov/summer_youth_program

1.) How to make Foam Stamps:

Have you ever wanted to make a work of art with a repeating shape or pattern? You could go through the process of drawing the shape over and over again. Or you could use a stamp to save yourself time and energy! Stamps can use ink or paint to quickly cover a large area with one shape multiple times. In this lesson you will learn how to make your own stamp using adhesive foam sheets and materials around your house.



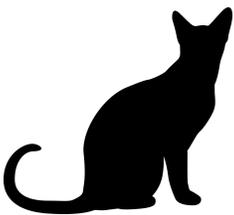
What you will need:

- Adhesive foam sheets
- Scissors
- A pen or pencil
- A sturdy material (a small wood block, multiple sheets of cardboard, etc.)
- (Optional) Elmer's Glue, Glue Sticks, or Hot Glue
- (Optional) Tape

Step #1: Designing your stamp

Whatever shape you decide, keep it simple. It's important that there are no parts of your design that are very thin or small. Because you are going to use your stamp over and over again, thin lines or shapes will wear down over time and could rip or come apart.

Imagine the two cats below are designs for a stamp. The design on the right is of a cat which has no inside area. This gives the look of an "outline". The design on the left is of a cat which is full inside. This gives the look of a "silhouette". The stamp on the right is more likely to break over time because the line that makes that cat is so thin that the foam adhesive is likely to tear, or peel off from the base.

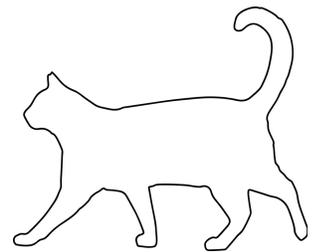


Tips for numbers and letters:

If you make a design with words, letters, or numbers, you will have to flip the image around before you make a stamp of it.

Here is an image of a sculpture called "Free Stamp" by Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen. If you look at the left part of the sculpture (which would normally be the bottom of a stamp), the word FREE looks kind of wrong. That's because the word is actually a mirror image of the word FREE. It is made that way so that when the stamp is applied to a surface, other people will be able to read it. This is true of letters and also true of numbers.

There is an easy solution to this problem if you want your stamp to make a word. Instead of drawing the word on the foam side of the foam sheet, draw the word on the adhesive paper side of the foam sheet.



This may require you to use a marker instead of a pen or pencil. Once you cut it out and use it as a stamp it will automatically make a mirror image of the word you wrote.

Step #2: Drawing your stamp

Now that you have decided what your stamp is going to be, it's time to draw it. If you are going to make a stamp that has letters, numbers, or words, draw it on the adhesive side of the foam sheet.

If you are going to make a stamp that looks like any other kind of shape you can draw it directly onto the foam side of the foam sheet. Take your time drawing the shapes you want to become a stamp. Don't worry about making the wrong mark or the drawing not "looking good." Once you have your stamp made it won't matter if there lines are not drawn in the right places on the foam parts.

Be sure that whatever kind of stamp you design, you make the stamp small enough so that you can comfortably hold it in your hands. You may want to consider drawing two of each shape you design. That way you can have the option to stack two pieces of foam on top of each other to make a stronger stamp which can stamp more times than a single foam layer.



Step #3: Cutting the stamp out

Now that you have drawn your shapes, letters, or numbers, it's time to cut them out. This is the part of the activity that you should be the most careful with. Take your time cutting the foam and be sure to slow down around any corners or delicate areas.

Step #4: Making the stamp base

Now that you have the foam cut out, it's time to make your base. For this part of the activity you'll have to be creative with what you have around the house. Some homes may have a small piece of scrap wood that is flat and smooth, and doesn't have nails, screws, or splinters.

If you don't have access to a small piece of wood you could use cardboard or heavy paper. A great example would be the cardboard from a box of cereal. It is a little heavier and would work great. Be sure that if you are using recycled food materials, that you clean them thoroughly first.

If you are using cardboard or heavy paper, cut multiple sheets that are the same size and either glue or tape them together. This will make a rectangle or square that is strong and sturdy. The stronger and less flexible the base, the better. The base of your stamp should be about a half inch larger (on each side) than the cutout shapes of your foam.



Step #5: Putting the stamp together

Now that you have a base and the shapes that will become your stamp it's time to combine the two.

Peel the adhesive paper from the back of the foam sheets and press the sticky side of the foam onto the base. Be sure to push down all the areas of the foam so all the parts stick nicely.

Depending on the material you made your base out of, you may find that the foam doesn't stick well. That is the perfect time to use school glue, glue sticks, or hot glue to carefully stick down the parts that didn't stay. If you use glue be sure to wait for it to fully dry before moving on to the next step.

Step #6: Enjoying your stamp!

Now you have your own stamp and you can try using it for art and decoration! If you have an ink pad at home, that is the best material to use your stamp with. If you don't have an ink pad you can use paint. Be sure to set up your paint carefully. You will need a surface that is large enough for your stamp to press down into the paint. You could use an old cardboard sheet with plastic wrapped over the top of it. Or you could use an old tupperware lid or box.

You may want to thin your paint first, by adding a small amount of water and mixing it with the paint. This will prevent the paint from being too heavy or goopy. Be sure to gently wipe off your stamp with water if you use paint. You can also gently wipe down your stamp if you use ink, but it isn't necessary.

Have fun and get creative!

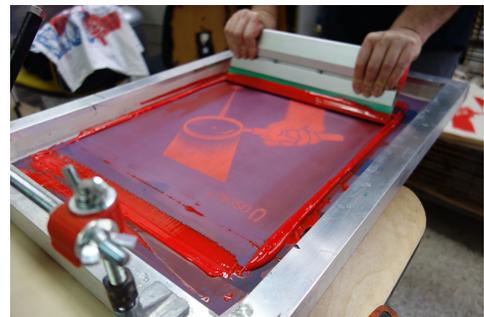
2.) What is Printmaking?

Printmaking is a form of art in which the artist creates prints. Before the invention of technology like copiers and printers, one of the easiest ways to make multiple copies of an image was through printmaking.

Sometimes the work goes through a press. A press is an instrument that can be small or large.

It has a metal cylinder that sits above a rectangle "bed". Paper is put up against something that has an image with ink. Those two parts together are put on the rectangle "bed" of the press. Then the print is made by rolling the paper and ink parts through the center where the metal cylinder presses down on the paper and ink.

There are a lot of different ways that an artist can create a print. **Screen printing** pushes ink through a screen made of many tiny fibers.





Lithography creates an image on a flat stone or sheet of metal which holds the ink where the drawing was made on the stone or metal.

This is an image of a lithography stone. The stone later gets covered in ink and the paper goes on top of the stone.



In **woodblock printing**, a piece of wood is carved away and the parts that are not carved hold the ink and show the image.

What is Monoprinting:

Monoprinting is different from most other types of printmaking because of one thing. Monoprinting means making a print that is unique and one of a kind. Any printmaking technique can be used to make a monoprint, but not every print is a monoprint.

If an artist makes a screen for screen printing, they can use the same screen over and over to make as many of the same print as they want. If they made 10 identical screen prints that would be an edition of 10 screen prints.

If that same artist takes one of the prints they made in screen printing, and prints something new onto only one of the prints, then it is a monoprint. Then that artist would have an edition of 9 screen prints and a separate monoprint that is not part of the series of 9. An **edition** is when a printmaker makes any set number of identical prints.

How to Monoprint:

Monoprinting can be done in all kinds of ways with a variety of materials. One way to monoprint would be to take a flat sheet of glass or plexiglass or plastic material and paint directly on the surface. Once you have created an image you are happy with you can press a piece of paper onto the surface to move the paint image onto the paper forever.

You could also cover the entire sheet of plexiglass, plastic, or glass with paint first. Then you could use a paper towel, old rag, q-tip, or tissue paper to wipe away parts of the paint. Below is an example of a monoprint made by putting paint on a sheet of tin foil and then wiping away with a q-tip. Once the image on tin foil is pressed into paper, it becomes a print.



You can also monoprint with objects.

Try taking a leaf, twig, feather, flower, or other flat object and covering it in paint. Then press the object into a piece of paper to transfer its image!



You could also cut out pieces of cardboard from an old food box or package. Make different shapes and apply them in the same way by covering them in paint and then pressing them into paper.

Monoprinting is about being creative and adding new images on top of old. After printing one image, try waiting for the paint and paper to fully dry. Then, later, come up with a new image to add on top of the image you already made.

Notes on staying clean:

Wear disposable gloves if you have them! Monoprinting can be a messy activity. Be sure to work carefully and protect the surfaces you work on. Don't work on nice tables, carpets, or in any areas where food is made like the kitchen counter. Always have spare paper towels on hand when working with paint.

When you are pressing the paint surface to the paper, it is a good idea to use extra paper towels on the outside of each. This will help with extra paint spilling out.

Don't use more paint than you need. Acrylic paint can have a small amount of water added to it and mixed together so that it runs more and it can cover more area than normal.



#3.) Make your own Natural Dyes!

When your fruits and vegetables are beginning to go bad and they're not going to be safe to eat, what do you do with them? Do you throw them out? What about if instead of putting them in the trash, next time you try making a natural dye! You can use spinach, orange peels, lemon rinds, even extra leaves from a cabbage head. Fruits, vegetables, and flowers have been used for years to alter the color of clothing. You can try all kinds of materials from produce and spices to seeds to grass!



How to get certain colors

- Orange: carrots, gold lichen, yellow onion skins
- Brown: dandelion roots, oak bark, walnut hulls, tea, coffee, acorns
- Pink: berries, cherries, red and pink roses, avocado skins and seeds (really!)
- Blue: indigo, red cabbage, elderberries, red mulberries, blueberries, purple grapes
- Red-brown: pomegranates, beets, bamboo, hibiscus (reddish color flowers)
- Grey-black: Blackberries, walnut hulls, iris root
- Red-purple: red sumac berries, basil leaves, daylilies, pokeweed berries, huckleberries
- Green: artichokes, sorrel roots, spinach, peppermint leaves, snapdragons, lilacs, grass, nettles, plantain, peach leaves
- Yellow: bay leaves, marigolds, sunflower petals, dandelion flowers, paprika, turmeric, celery leaves

1. What You'll Need:

- Something to make a dye with (vegetable, vegetable leaves, etc.)
- Something to dye (an old cloth or white shirt). It is best if the material is stain free and washed and cleaned the day before dyeing.
- A medium size pot or saucepan
- A separate, but equally sized bowl
- A strainer
- Water
- Salt
- Vinegar
- An iron
- Rubber bands (optional)

Directions:

1. Gather leftover bits of fruits and vegetables to use for making the dyes. If you're using a fruit or vegetable, you'll want to try to have one chopped cup of each item to create a saturated dye. Blueberries, blackberries, and red cabbage create lovely blues. Raspberries and beets create red shades. Orange and lemon peels make light yellow or ochre dye. Spinach creates a nice green, and yellow onion skins simmer into orange. You can also experiment with other items to see what colors you can create.
2. Add the chopped ingredient to a small saucepan or pot and cover with twice as much water as the fruit or vegetable. Place over medium heat, and bring to a simmer for one hour.
3. Turn off the heat, and let water come to room temperature. Strain the liquid into glass containers.
4. Before you're ready to submerge your fabric into the colored dye you'll need to make a fixative so the color stays in the fabric and doesn't fade much over time. The type of fixative you create will depend on the type of material you boiled to make a dye. If your dye is made from fruit, simmer the fabric in 1/4 cup salt and 4 cups water. For vegetable dyes, simmer your fabric in 1 cup vinegar and 4 cups water.
5. Once you've mixed the fixative, and the mixture is simmering, submerge your fabric in the fixative for one hour.
6. Now that your fabric has been simmered in fixative and your dye is ready you can submerged the fabric into the dye. Simmer the fabric in the dye for about an hour.
7. Once the fabric is ready, remove it from the dye and rinse it out with cold water. After it has dried out you can use an iron to flatten the cloth and eliminate wrinkles.

Notes on Safety:

- So long as you are using edible natural fruits and vegetables there are no worries about using home cooking pots and pans. If you decide to collect twigs or grass or other inedible materials you should check with the adults of the house about using an old or “throwaway” pot or pan. (One which is not used regularly for cooking)
- If you have access to gloves you should use them when handling the dyes as the dye can color your skin and clothes.
- Be careful when handling any hot, simmering, or boiling materials as you can burn yourself if you come into contact with the hot water, fixative, or dye.
- Synthetic or inorganic materials should be avoided as a choice for a material to make a dye. The boiling process could release potentially harmful vapours into the air. As long as you are using any of the above listed materials you don't have to worry about this.

Notes on design

If you have access to rubber bands you can try using them to create tie-dye effects by rubber-banding areas to create different sections of the fabric. Try using multiple dyes on a single piece of fabric to create cool and beautiful effects.



#4.) What is Frottage Drawing?

In art there are many different ways to create things. You can paint, draw, sculpt, collect, arrange, photograph, print, record, and much more. Each of these areas of art uses different methods to create marks and make things look different. These different ways to make art look interesting are called techniques.

In drawing there is a technique known as Frottage. Frottage is a french word that means “rubbing”. This technique was developed by Max Ernst in 1925. To make a rubbing or Frottage drawing, is very simple. All you need is something that has texture, a piece of paper, and a pencil.

Max Ernst:

Max Ernst was a surrealist artist. Surrealism is the word for a type of art that was created in the early 1900's after World War I. The art is known for looking strange and unusual. The art resembles things that you might see in everyday life but they are made to look unreal, imaginary, or like fantasy.

This is a work by Max Ernst called “Teenage Lighting”.

He made this work by taking paper, laying it over the top of different materials and rubbing pencil or charcoal on the paper to show the object hidden underneath. By making a rubbing of four leaves and what looks like a dandelion, Max Ernst created the image of a dragonfly.

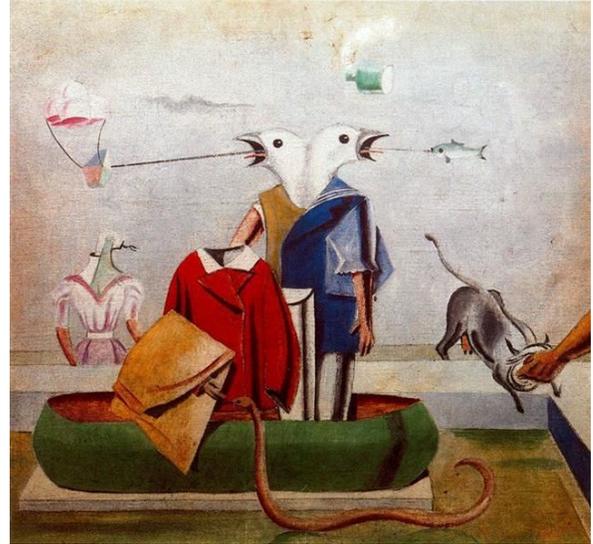
Max Ernst never went to school for art professionally. He never received formal training and yet he was still a successful and famous artist.



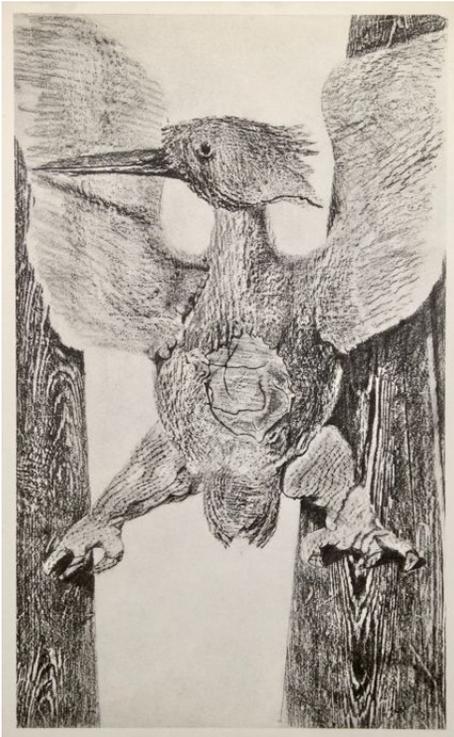
Examples of Surrealism by Max Ernst:



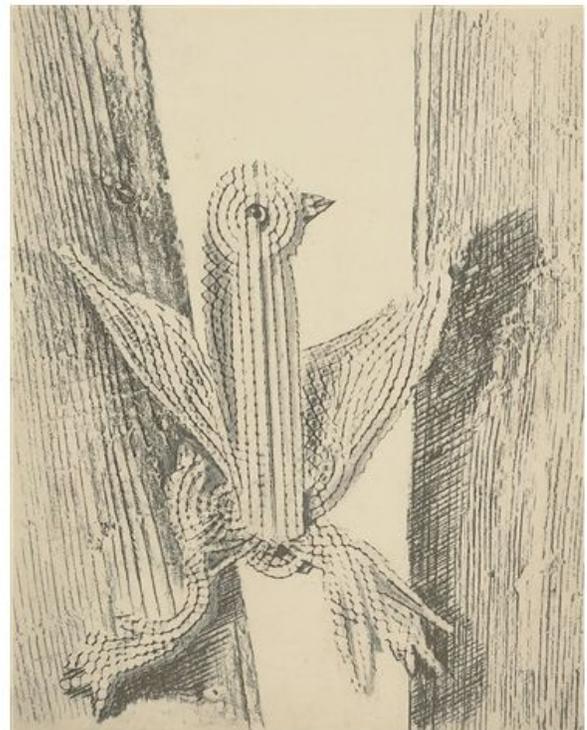
“Ubu Imperator”



“Birds also Birds, Fish Snake and Scarecrow”



“The origin of the clock”



“The origin of the pendulum”

How to make your own Frottage:

Frottage is very easy to make. All you need is a piece of paper, a flat object with texture OR a surface with texture, and something to draw with.

Step #1.) First you'll want to pick an object or surface. These are some great example objects and surfaces to get you thinking about what you can draw:

- Leaves
- Feathers
- Twigs
- Seashells
- Stone or Tile flooring
- Wood flooring
- Stucco walls
- Coins
- The bottom of a shoe
- The texture of a carpet

These are just ideas but you can try almost anything! It's easiest to make a good Frottage if the object or surface that you choose is mostly flat but not too flat. Things like bicycles or pineapples have so many edges and parts that it's hard for the paper to lay flat on top and the paper may rip when you draw on it. But something too flat like a box of cereal and there won't be any texture when you make the drawing.

Step #2.) Lay the paper over the object.

It's easiest if you find something smaller than the paper to make a Frottage drawing. That way you can lay the object on a table and then lay the paper on top of the object. Take your time to move the object under the paper where you want your drawing to be on the page.

Step #3.) Choose what you want to draw with.

There are many different materials you can use to make a Frottage but there are two that work really well. The first is pencil and the second is crayon. Both of these are softer than a pen or marker. That softness helps the drawing to show more of the small parts of the texture or object that you put under the paper.

Step #4.) Time to draw!

Once you have all your parts it is time to draw. You may want to use tape to hold down your paper so that it doesn't move as you work.

When you are rubbing the crayon or pencil over the textured object or surface, it's good to go slow and gentle. You can always draw more on top later if the drawing is too light. But it's hard to go backward and make a strong or dark drawing of texture lighter.

Try moving the objects around in different ways to look like something strange or unusual! You can also draw back into your drawing without doing Frottage. After drawing a texture, look at your drawing and see if it looks like anything else.

A bug? A bird? A dog? A person? A face? It's your art! The drawing does not have to be made entirely of textures. Add in any colors or shapes you think would look good!

#5.) Postcard Project:

Have you ever received a letter in the mail? What about a postcard? Postcards are a great way to share both a picture and a message. They are a special gift that lets someone know that you're thinking about them and that they are important to you.



Postcards are available around the world and show anything from pictures of places, to designs and art, to funny or historic images. Postcards are nice and small so you can hold them easily in your hands, pin them on your wall or refrigerator, or tuck them away in a journal or notebook.

Postcards are about more than looks though! It matters what you write on the back of the postcard!

Some people like to write about what they were doing that day when they got the postcard. Some people like to write about the person they're writing to, and how they are thinking about them and care about them.

Some people write jokes on the back or tell a very short story!

You can write whatever you want on a postcard because it's a chance to tell someone that you're thinking about them.



Make your postcard:

Using the postcard included in your supplies kit, design something on the front. It's up to you if you want your postcard to look funny, beautiful, cool, serious, bright, dark, happy, or whatever! A postcard can be of a person, place, thing, or something else entirely! It's just like making a painting or drawing so the creativity is totally up to you.

If you're having trouble coming up with what your postcard should look like, here are some ideas you could try. It's easier to pick one question to answer, but you can pick more if you want!

- What does your favorite place look like?
- What is a place you would like to go to?
- What is your favorite activity?
- What is an activity you would like to learn?
- What is your favorite meal?
- What is your favorite story?
- What does your favorite animal look like?

Writing your postcard:

Now that you have a postcard with a picture on the front it's time to write on the back. The area on the left of the back of the postcard is where you write. You can write about anything you want on your postcard!

But if you're having trouble coming up with what to write here are some ideas.

- What did you do today?
- What did you do yesterday?
- What is something you're looking forward to doing?
- What is something you miss doing that you haven't done in a while?
- What is something you really want to tell me?
- What is something you think everyone should know?

You could also ask questions on the back of the postcard. That way the person you are sending it to could think about the questions you ask them.

Sending the postcard:

Now that you've made a front to your postcard and written in the back, it's time to decide if you want to send your postcard out. If you have friends or family you love but they are living far away this is a perfect thing to send to them to remind them that you care about them. They will be so excited to receive it in the mail! If your friends and family all live close by you could still surprise them with a postcard in the mail anyway!

But maybe there is someone else you think would like a postcard. Because of the pandemic, many elderly people are at the most risk. They have to stay inside more than most other people and they can be really bored or lonely from it.

<https://lovefortheelderly.org/> is a great website that has a mission to send letters through the mail to elderly people who are in need of a little love. They have some guidelines for their letters which you can find here: <https://lovefortheelderly.org/letters>

Now that a lot of people in the world are having a tough time, it's important to care for each other and share the love that we have. When your postcard is ready to mail, talk to your parents about sending it out. Whoever gets it will be so happy you sent it!