

Relief Printing with Found Objects

Name: _____ Date: _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

Students will use found household objects to create a repeated relief print pattern.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- vegetables (like a halved bell pepper, potato) or found objects with texture (a sponge, bottle cap, leaf, bubble wrap)
- paint
- paper
- paper towel

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Gather 3 different found objects with interesting textures or shapes (a vegetable slice, sponge, bottle cap, leaf, etc.).
2. Dip or brush paint evenly onto the raised surface of each object, testing on scrap paper first to see how each one prints.
3. Choose your favorite object and use it to print a deliberate repeating pattern across a full sheet of paper (in rows, alternating, or in a border).
4. Add a second object's prints layered or interspersed among the first to create a more complex 2-object pattern design.

QUESTIONS

1. Which found object produced the most interesting print texture, and why do you think it worked well?
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2. Describe the repeating pattern you created with your favorite object.
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3. How did combining two different objects change the look of your final pattern compared to using just one?
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4. This technique is called 'relief printing.' What does 'relief' mean in this context?
