

Symbolic Printmaking

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

Students will design a print that visually represents an aspect of their personal identity.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- a foam sheet or eraser
- carving tool or dull pencil
- ink pad or paint
- paper
- colored pencils

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Brainstorm on scratch paper 3 symbols that represent something important about you (a hobby, a value, a place, a favorite thing) and sketch simple versions of each.
2. Choose your favorite symbol and simplify it into bold, clean lines suitable for carving.
3. Carve your chosen symbol into a foam sheet or eraser, then stamp it at least 3 times onto paper, experimenting with placement (centered, repeated, or scattered).
4. Use colored pencils to add color or background details around your best print, and write your name and the symbol's meaning in small text at the bottom.

QUESTIONS

1. What symbol did you choose to represent yourself, and what does it mean to you?

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2. Why did you simplify your symbol design before carving it?

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3. How did you arrange your 3+ stamped impressions (centered, repeated, scattered), and why did you choose that layout?
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4. How does using a personal symbol in printmaking connect art to identity and storytelling?
