

Press Printing KS1

Age: 5-7 Group size: 4 per adult

Duration: 20 mins



Preparation time: 30 mins

Resources

- Rigid piece of plastic, large glazed tile or old placemat with a shiny surface
- Printing ink (watercolour)
- 2 Rubber rollers
- Newspapers
- Catalogue/magazines/phone book
- Sugar paper or cartridge paper



Press printing is often done using polystyrene sheets which can be cut into different shapes. You can also draw a design on them with a felt tip and then indent it with a blunt pencil. The method given here can be more effective for younger children.

Preparation

For 4 children to work at a time you will need to cover a table with newspapers, and have 1 placemat or square of rigid plastic per child, 1 catalogue or magazine per pair and 2 rollers per pair. You will also need a tube of printing ink. Printing ink is a thick consistency and this activity will not work well with ordinary paint. The table should be arranged in 2 halves, the messy side where the inking of the plate will take place and the clean side where the printing will be done. On the messy side you should have the table well covered in paper and then use have a whole newspaper open and placed centrally with the placemat or plastic placed on the left hand page. There should also be a roller and mark making equipment. On the other side of the table place the paper which will be printed on and a catalogue or magazine, the thicker the better. Open the catalogue at the first page.



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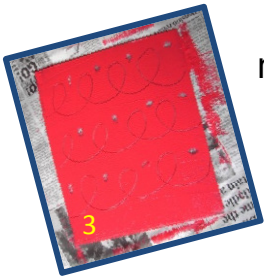
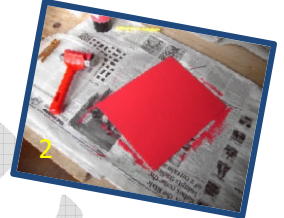
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It is a good idea to demonstrate in front of all the children first and have a few examples ready to inspire them.

Technique

1. Squeeze about some ink onto the centre of the plastic or place mat - the same amount as a squeeze of toothpaste.
2. Use the roller to spread the ink all over the tile evenly.
3. Use the mark making equipment to decorate the tile. You can make combs etc out of strong cardboard as well as using the ends of paintbrushes, cotton reels, kitchen whisks etc.



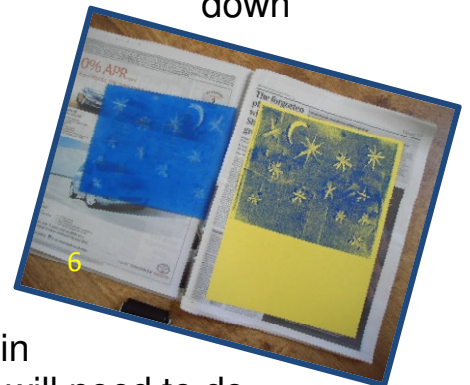
4. Once the child has completed their design they move to the printing side of the table and take a piece of paper, writing their name on it. Place the paper onto the first page of the catalogue so that the bulk provides a pressure pad to print on.



5. Place the tile onto the paper carefully so that it doesn't slide. Close the top page to form a sandwich and roll all over the shape of the tile pressing very hard.



6. Open the catalogue and peel the tile off carefully, revealing the printed paper underneath.



A rolling production line can be achieved with children moving around the table. Watching the child in front of them will give them a better idea of what they will need to do. As soon as one child has finished with their tile, simply apply a little more



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ink and roll over with the messy roller to smooth out the ink ready for the next child. When the print has been made on the other side of the table, just turn over the catalogue a couple of pages ready for the next child, keeping the working area clean.

Golden Time

