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Artists' Books *Bound in Art*

Educational Resources

Activity 3 – Artwork Printmaking

Painting, drawing or collage can be used if printmaking is not available. Students can make their own prints using the materials listed here and by following the instructions below:

Monoprint Option

Materials:

Mirror (optional)
Sheets of paper or newspaper
Paint
Glycerine (optional)
Sponge
Water
Paper towels
Container

1. Students can paint an image on a mirror or directly on their desk.
2. They will place a piece of paper directly on top of the image and press down on it to transfer the image to the paper.
3. After removing the paper, students will have a monoprint.
4. Students may also use newspaper and wet or crumpled paper to create original effects.
5. The paint dries quickly, so students have only about 1 minute to paint the image. They can add glycerine to keep the paint wet longer.
6. To cut down on waste, students should use paint sparingly and keep the pieces of paper small.
7. Students will need sponges, a container filled with water and paper towels nearby to clean each print off the mirror or table before making the next one.

Linoleum Printmaking Option

Materials:

Linoleum

Pencil

Popsicle stick

Carving tools

Brayers

Wooden guards (to prevent accidents)

Plexiglas (or clean, washable surface)

Paper (various colours)

Printing ink

1. Students will draw a design on paper, pressing hard with the pencil.
2. They will then transfer the design to the linoleum by placing the paper face down on the linoleum and using something like a popsicle stick to impress the design onto the linoleum.
3. When students remove the paper, the impression of the design will be left on the linoleum, which they can draw in for a darker impression.
4. Students will use carving tools to cut away everything that is not black.
Note: Thick lines are easier to carve. Students should use the wooden guards to keep sharp surfaces away from their body and hands while carving.
5. Roll the brayer over the ink to spread the ink evenly onto the roller.
6. Use the brayer to roll the ink onto the surface of the linoleum until it is evenly coated.
7. Put a piece of paper on the paint-covered linoleum.
8. Rub the back of the paper, applying even pressure over the entire sheet.
9. Carefully take the paper off and place the linoleum somewhere where it can dry.

Other Printmaking Options

- Instead of using linoleum, students can cut rubber into specific designs and glue them onto something hard to make large rubber stamps.
- Instead of ink, students can use acrylic or tempera paint applied with a paintbrush.
- Carving tools can be made from anything-plastic forks, toothpicks, old utensils, etc.

NOTE: Please see the Activity Resources section for more resources on printmaking.