

Monoprinting with Washable Markers

Monoprinting is a simple printmaking process during which a single print is pulled from a plate by transferring ink directly from an uncarved printing plate to paper. The name monoprinting comes from the idea that one (mono) unique image will be printed. This differs from other printing processes where a carved block is printed and can be re-inked multiple times for a series of prints with the same basic image.

Everyone learns in this colorful, magical experience for young children. It is a fun and simple way to introduce young children to the principles of printmaking using safe products and creating little mess.



Grade Levels 5-8

Note: instructions and materials based on a class of 25 students. Adjust as needed.

Process

1. Give each student one Flexi-cut plate. Draw a design onto the plate. Instruct the students that anything they draw will be backwards on the print. Demonstrate by writing your name and then pulling a print.
2. Dampen the drawing paper with a slightly moist sponge. The paper should not drip or have water sitting on it.
3. Gently place the damp sheet on top of the marker design. Use a circular motion with a palm to rub the paper and transfer the marker ink (a soft rubber brayer works well also). This method results in a clearer image than pressing the block onto the paper.
4. Pull the paper off the plate easily by starting with a corner in one fluid motion.
5. Allow the print to dry. Lightly dab glue on each corner and place on the construction sheet. Try placing it unevenly on the paper.
6. Wash the Flexi-cut with water. Re-use.

Options

- Finger Paint Monoprint: Fingerpaint onto a cookie sheet or acrylic sheet. Gently place dry drawing paper on top of the wet finger paint. Press and pull off.

Materials

[Blick White Sulphite Drawing Paper](#) 80-lb (10209-1043) 100-sheet package of 9" x 12", need one sheet per student

[Blick Construction Paper](#) (11409-1006) 50-sheet package of 12" x 18" , one sheet per student

[Blick Flexi-Cut Printing Plates](#) (40406-1006) package of twelve 6" x 9" plates, need one per student

[Creativity Street® Washable Markers](#) Thin (21278-2089) and Broad (21278-4089), share one 8-color set each size between four students

[Cellulose Sponge](#) 7-1/2" x 4-1/4" (32901-0000), need two per class

[Blick Multi Purpose Glue Stick White](#) 1.27-oz (23872-1032) package of twelve sticks, need one stick per student

Options, continued

- Stamping: Place printing block on top of web paper. Press and lift off.
- After the first print dries, repeat printing another design over the original monoprint.
- Draw on top of the finished print with a black marker to outline shapes

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National Standards

Content Standard #1 — Understanding and applying media, techniques and processes.

K-4 Students use art materials and tools in a safe and responsible manner

5-8 Students select media, techniques and processes; analyze what makes them effective or not effective in communicating ideas; and reflect upon the effectiveness of their choices