ART ACTIVITY

ABSTRACT COLLAGRAPHER PRINTS

Explore different found materials to create collagraph prints bursting with shape and texture! This activity is inspired by the layers of texture found in Studio Artist, Maria Frati’s work (Studio 217). Collagraph printmaking is a technique of collaging the plate with different raised materials and printing it to create a unique textured design.

Age/Grade  K–12

Materials

- Cardboard for collaging and backing
- Textured Materials
- Hot glue or school glue
- Scissors
- Paper
- Acrylic paint
- Foam brushes or sponge
- Rolling pin

Activity Ideas

Textured Exploration (K–5) // Challenge yourself to use 10 different textures on your plate from both indoors and outdoors. What happens when you glue rice to your plate and print it? What designs do different leaves or flowers make when printed? The possibilities are endless!

Collaged Compositions (6–12) // Collagraphs don’t always have to be abstract! You can create a self-portrait or landscape composition using different textures to represent values and features. View our Printmaking Pinterest Board for ideas and examples!

Resources

Check out our Printmaking Board on Pinterest for more printmaking fun and inspiration!

Get a close up look at the texture in Artspace Studio Artist, Maria Frati’s wood carvings in this video on her work and process.
**ABSTRACT**

**COLLAGRAPH PRINTS**

Artmaking Directions

1. Cut shapes out of various textured materials and arrange on a piece of cardboard.

2. When you like your composition, glue down the shapes and textures on the cardboard to create your printing plate.

3. Add additional texture or details with glue.

4. Once the glue is dry, use a sponge brush to apply a generous coat of paint over the entire plate.

5. Place paper on top of the plate and rub gently with your hand - be careful not to move the paper once it's on the plate.

6. Use a rolling pin to apply even pressure over the surface and transfer the paint. You can also put a heavy book on top of your paper and push down.

7. Gently lift a corner of the page and slowly pull paper off of the plate.

8. Allow the paper to dry.

9. Play with layering and flipping the plate to create more prints.