

Simple Block Printing Steps

Activity Goals & Steps

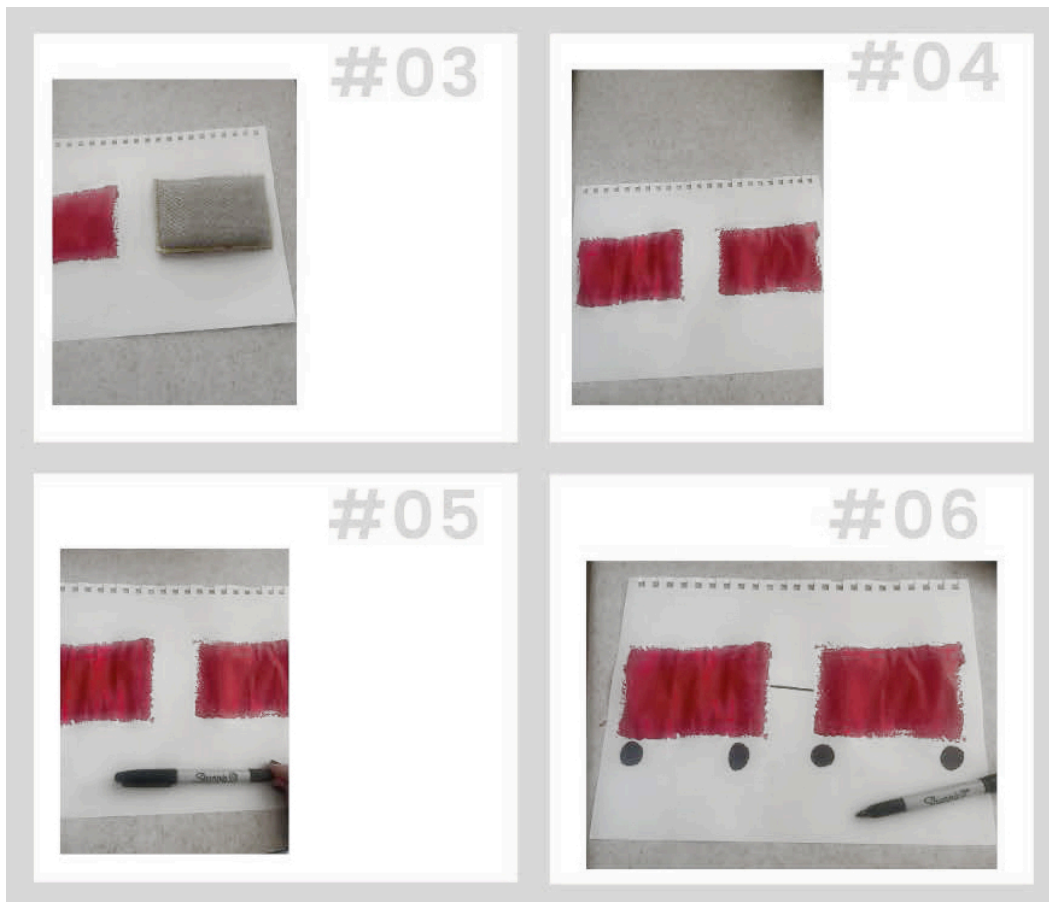
The goal of this relief printmaking project is for students to be introduced to simple block printing by inking a sponge, block, or other rectangular object and pressing it onto the paper with their hands to transfer the the shape and textures.

Print Blocks	Inking	Embellishing
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rectangular sponges• Rectangular blocks of styrofoam• Styrofoam sheets• Rectangular cardboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water-based relief printing inks or tempura paint (variety of colors)• Rollers (rubber brayers or foam)• Inking plate (tray or area to roll ink on)• 12 x 18 heavy weight paper (for printing on)• Scrap papers (to keep clean)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pencils (graphite & colored)• Erasers

SIMPLE BLOCK PRINTING WITH SPONGE

- Gather materials and roll out water-based ink or tempera paint on a tray or plate.
- Using inked up roller, apply to sponge surface or stamp sponge directly on ink in tray (if evenly rolled out)
- Flip inked sponge (ink-side down) onto paper and press whole area with hands to transfer shape and texture to paper.
- Lift sponge off paper and repeat as desired.
- Clean sponge, roller, and inking tray or plate with basic dish soap.
- Let print dry before embellishing with drawing.





*example shows drawing in wheels with a sharpie marker. Wheels could also be printed using small circular objects as blocks such as milk jug caps, etc.

EMBELLISHING

- After the prints are complete, students can be draw to further elaborate/embellish their train artwork.
 - Example 1: Students could **draw** circus designs on train boxcars.
 - Example 2: Students could **draw** in an elaborate background within a setting.
 - Example 3: Students could **decorate** their train box cars with patterns &/or signage.
 - Example 4: Students could **draw** a passenger train with people in the train cars.