Let’s explore light prints!

There are many ways to explore the photographic process without using a camera. Some artists create photographs called cyanotypes by placing objects on special paper that changes color when exposed to sunlight.

Did you know that you can produce your very own sunlight print using construction paper and found objects? All you’ll need is bright light from a lamp or the sun’s rays! Ask an adult to help you find at least five flat objects from your house or from nature.

**Materials**
- 5 small objects
- 1 sheet of dark construction paper
- tape
- a bright lamp (if sunlight unavailable)

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Gather the objects you found around your house or from nature.

Practice arranging your objects on the construction paper to create an interesting composition.

Once you have decided on the arrangement, attach a rolled piece of tape to each object. Press the objects firmly to the paper to secure them in place.

Carry your composition outside to a dry, sunny area, or put it under a bright lamp that is turned on for a long time each day. You may want to ask a grown-up to help you find the best spot.

Let the light do its work. After a few days, take a peek under one of the objects. Do you see a print? If not, allow it to sit in position longer.

If you see that it has left a print, your work is done, and you may remove all of the objects. You have made a terrific light print!