

Styrofoam Relief Print

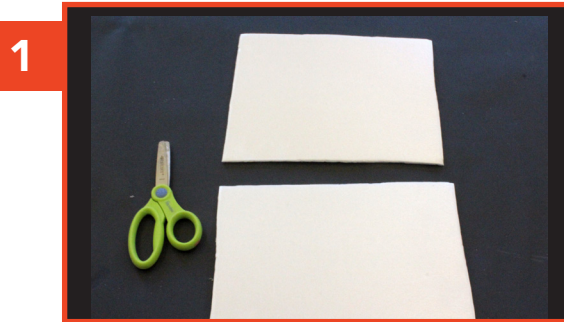
Let's make a relief print!

Relief printing is a kind of printing in which the surface of a block of wood, linoleum, or some other material is carved so that an image can be printed from it. Ink or paint is added to the uncarved areas, and then the whole block or plate is pressed onto paper. Since the image transfers from the block or plate to the paper in reverse, all numbers and letters must be carved backwards.

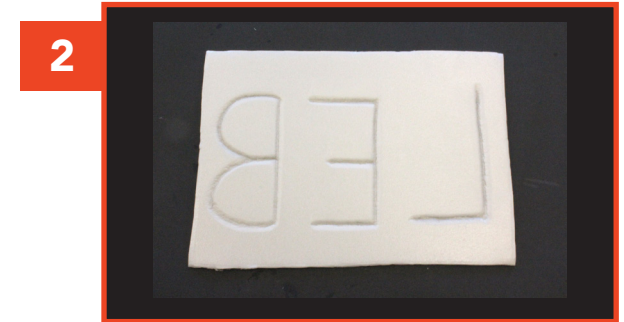
Did you know that you probably have all the tools you need to make a relief print at home? Ask an adult to help you.

Materials

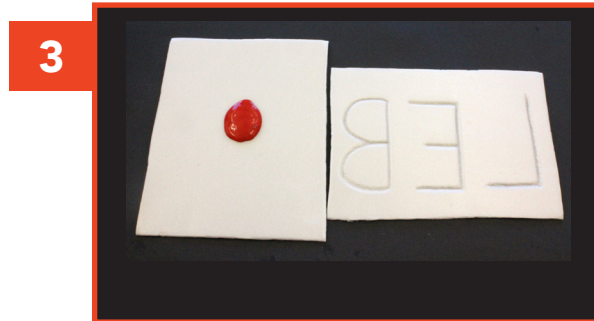
Styrofoam plate
Scissors
Pencil or pen
Paint (one color)
Paintbrush
Piece of white paper



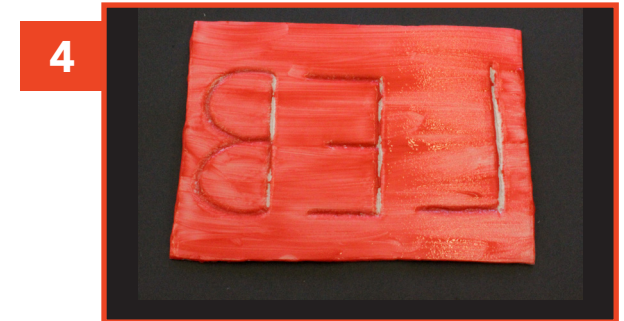
1 Use scissors to cut a rectangle out of a styrofoam plate. This will be your "printing plate."



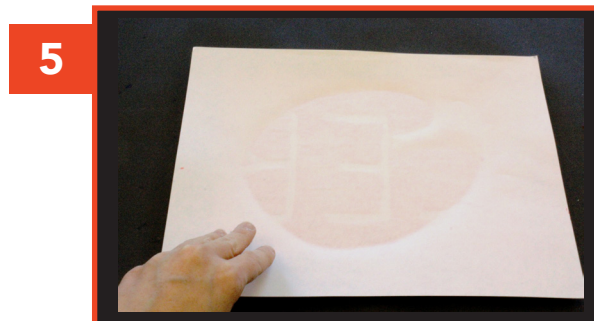
2 Using a pen or pencil, write your initials by carving an indentation into the surface of your printing plate. Make sure to write the letters backwards!



3 Place a small dot of paint onto a scrap piece of paper or Styrofoam.



4 Apply a small amount of paint to the printing plate in a thin coat. Be careful not to get paint into the carved recesses made by your initials.



5 Lay the piece of paper on top of your printing plate. Gently rub your hand over paper to smooth it across the full surface of the printing plate.



6 Gently lift the paper and turn it over to view the relief print you just created!