









Make a Masterpiece

Subtractive Paint Prints with visual supports

What you need:

- A smooth surface – a tray, cookie sheet, place mat, upside-down pie plate, piece of cardboard wrapped in tin foil, or taped-off section of tabletop.
- Paint
- Cotton swabs
- A paint roller – a brayer is a special tool meant for printmaking, but you can also use a paint roller or a stiff, foam craft brush
- Sheets of paper – copy paper works just fine, but thicker drawing paper is best

1.		Roll a thin, even coat of paint on your surface.
2.		Use a cotton swab to draw a design in the paint. The cotton swab will “erase” the paint as you go.
3.		Lay a sheet of paper on top of your design.

4.		Rub the entire surface of the paper gently and evenly.
5.		Peel off the paper to reveal your print!
6.		<p>Notice and discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is your print exactly the same as your original design? • What do you think caused any differences you see? • What would you like to try doing differently for your next print?

More things to try:

- Try making a second print by repeating steps 3-5. What do you notice happens to your design as you create more prints?
- Experiment with using more than one color of paint. What happens to the colors when you make your print?
- Try writing your name or other words in your design and making a print. What happened to the letters? Can you create a print that you can read?
- After you roll an even layer of paint on your surface, you can try adding texture by dabbing it with a balled up piece of fabric or a plastic bag. Then follow steps 2-5 to pull a print. Do you like how the textured background looks on your print?
- What do you think would happen if you draw a design on your paper with marker before you use it to make a print? Can you combine your marker drawing with your print to create one whole picture?