

Printmaking with Textures

“Art is a means of expression that must be understood by everybody, everywhere. It grows out of the earth, the textures of our lives, and our experience.”

-Rufino Tamayo



Rufino Tamayo; Publisher: Taller de Gráfica Mexicana, Mexico City, Paisaje con luna, 1977, Color Mixografia print, Gift of Edith and Norman Garmezy P.98.26.16 Art © Tamayo Heirs / Mexico / Licensed by VAGA at Artists Rights Society (ARS), NY

Rufino Tamayo was one of the most famous Mexican artists of the 20th century. He lived much of his life in Mexico City, but also travelled and lived in cities like New York and Paris.

He created many kinds of art including painting, sculpting, and printmaking. He even helped develop a new kind of printmaking called “Mixography,” which creates many textures making the print almost looks painted! He also loved using few but intense colors, and simple shapes in his artworks.

Questions:

- How do you feel looking at his artwork “Paisaje con luna” (landscape with moon) above?
- What colors, shapes and textures do you notice?

Now let's create a textured print using various recycled items from home and an ink pad!

Materials

- Paper (and/or cardboard to print on)
- Adhesive foam sheet (or regular foam sheet can work with glue stick)
- Scissors
- Cardboard (to attach your foam stamp to)
- Recycled items with various textures (cardboard, styrofoam, bubble wrap, rubber band, etc.)
- Ink pad (or sponge and food dye)



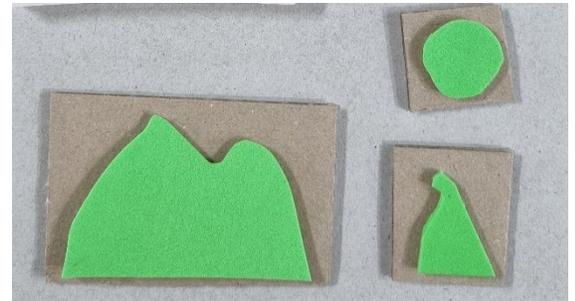
Instructions

This is an open-ended activity to explore textures and printmaking with what you find at home!

Step 1. Make Your Foam Stamps

Draw and cut out several shapes using the foam sheet (*not too big since you want the stamp to be able to fit in the ink pad later*)

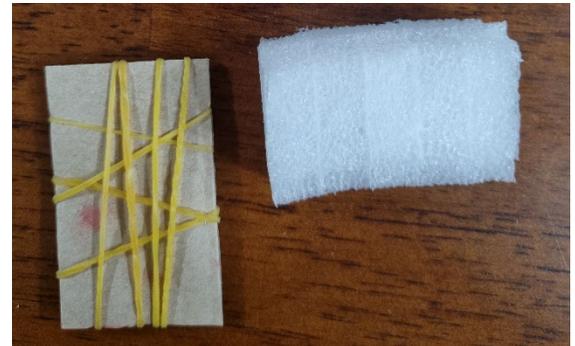
Stick the cut foam sheet onto cardboard so you have an easier time using your stamp



Step 2. Make Your Texture Stamps

Experiment and create stamps out of your recycled items.

You can try cutting different shapes, wrapping rubber bands onto cardboard, the possibilities are limitless!



Step 3. Start Testing Your Stamps

You can practice first using some scrap paper or cardboard to see how your new stamps work. You will also notice how using different kinds of paper or cardboard to print on will have a different look.

Make sure you rub the stamp well over the ink pad so that the entire stamp gets covered in ink.



Step 4. Make Your Print

Lay out the paper or cardboard you will print on in front of you. And start stamping using your various stamps. Add some words if you'd like!

