

# Block Print: Simple Objects

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## Materials

Speedball Block Printing Ink  
Brayer  
Construction paper or Kraft paper  
Pad of disposable palette paper

## Goal

The art activity of stamping and printing can be used as a tactile experience to reinforce counting, math, shapes, letters, and spelling.

## Procedure

Almost anything can be printed using a brayer and printmaking ink. To stamp a texture, object or design is easy and rewarding.

Try:

- dice or dominoes for counting or math
- foam letters for alphabets and spelling
- cardboard for shapes and colors

Tape a piece of disposable palette paper to the table. Squeeze a blob of block printing ink onto the surface. Use the brayer to roll out the blob into a compact rectangle so as to ink the roller evenly.

Roll the ink onto the object. Noticed how the recessed areas do not accept ink while raised areas accept and hold the ink. Once the surface is well coated with ink, transfer it by stamping it onto construction paper.

Repeat the process to create a pattern or design.

## Alternatives

Stamps from soft die can be used to enhance math learning.

- Stamp the quantity showing on the dice.
- Stamp a shape that has as many sides as the number on the dice.

Simple letter stamps can lead to designer projects for higher grade levels.

- Use letter stamps to create an interesting pattern that might look nice for fabric or stationery.
- Letter stamps can be the start for a cartoon drawing.
- Letter stamps can be the start for visual journal pages.

