

MAKE YOUR MARK WITH: BLOCK PRINTING

Use low-fi materials to make a big impression with this simple step by step guide to making your own reusable print blocks!

Materials:

- pencil
- scissors or a craft knife
- craft foam or textured materials
- double sided tape or all purpose glue
- water based printing ink or paint
- printing roller
- scrap oddments of wood or thick card
- cutting mat
- inking up tray

You might not have everything on this list, can you think of alternatives from around your home?



Step 1

Choosing your symbols

Consider the word home. What does it mean to you? Is it a place to feel safe perhaps? A place to feel loved? Can you draw and design symbols that represent the word home? These symbols will be used as the designs for our printing blocks. Look at our examples below.



Step 2

Making your blocks

Cut your craft foam to the size of your block and draw one of your symbols on to the foam with a pencil. Cover the back with double sided tape, leaving the backing on for this stage, and cut out your shape. If you are using glue, cut your symbol out first. Stick your symbol to the block.



What other
materials can
you use?

Step 3

Getting messy with ink

Onto an ink tray, roller out a pea sized blob of printing ink or paint. Apply an even coat of ink to your symbol on your block.



Step 4

Creating your picture

Press your block with the inked up symbol facing down onto a piece of paper and apply even pressure. Lift up and admire your printed design!

Look out on Wed 15 April for a video showing you how to use your brand new printing skills to make a block printed mini paper den!