

Create Your Mark

Time: 7 minutes

Suggested Materials:

- Foam paper (or any type of thicker paper)
- Scrap paper
- Scissors
- Pencils
- Ink Pads
- Glue sticks

Instructions:

1. Grab a piece of foam paper (or any kind of thick paper).
2. Sketch out your initials or a simple symbol with a pencil.
 - a. If you are drawing letters, make sure they are bubble letters.
3. Remember to make your letters or symbol backwards so it reflects the right way when stamped onto paper.
4. Cut it out and glue it on a piece of cardstock or regular scrap paper.
5. Put inked on your stamp.
6. Make a collage of different kinds of stamps that you've made or decorate something with your stamp!

Background:

- Moveable type was used to produce newspapers from printers like Benjamin Franklin. This is just one example of relief printing.
 - You would have to individually place letters and make sure they were placed the right way when creating words or phrases.
- Relief printing: The images or words you create is the raised part of a printing block.
 - The ink would be placed on the raised part of the stamp.
- This is one type of printing Benjamin Franklin would have used in his printing career.
 - Printer is just one of the many jobs Franklin held. He was also a statesman, diplomat, and natural philosopher (a scientist today).

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Make Your Own Stamp!

1. Grab a piece of foam paper.
2. Sketch out your initials or a simple symbol with a pencil.
3. Remember to make your letters or symbol backwards so it reflects the right way.



4. Cut it out and glue it on a piece of cardstock.
5. Put ink on your stamp.
6. Stamp a piece of paper at the table to see if it came out the right way.
7. Add your stamp to the collage in the middle of the room.

What Does the Alphabet Look Like Backwards?

ABCDEF

FGHIJK

LMIJOP

QRSTU

VWXYZ

Example: IJA = ALI