



GRADES: 3-5

RELIEF PRINTING

Rolling on the River

SUPPLIES

- Speedball Speedy-Carve™ blocks, 4" x 6"
- Akua Intaglio® or Speedball Water-Soluble Block Printing Inks (*Recommend Speedball Water-Soluble Block Printing Ink Retarder if working in dry environment*)
- Speedball Linoleum Handles and Cutters
- Speedball Bench Hooks for stabilizing blocks and for inking stations
- Speedball Soft Rubber Brayers (*1"– 4" sizes recommended*)
- Speedball Baren
- Speedball Mulberry Paper, 9" x 12"
- Bienfang® Bristol Board Paper (*pre-cut to 4"x 6" size*)
- Tracing paper or graphite
- Pencils for sketching and transferring image to block
- Optional: 24" x 25 yard Bienfang® #18 Brushmaster Poster Paper Rolls for printing collaborative "river"
- Soapy water for cleanup

LESSON

Students learn rivers are sources of drinking water, habitats for people, plants, insects, fish and animals, important for recreation, manufacturing, agriculture, energy and transportation. Students will create an edition of (3) prints or an optional collaborative print using imagery representing habitat, recreation, commerce and transportation. Students will write an artist statement and exhibit their work.

GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR LEARNING:

- How can we create art to represent our knowledge of a local river?
- How can we use printmaking to communicate knowledge of our river?
- Where and how can we display our work?
- Why is craftsmanship and caring for our tools important?

NATIONAL VISUAL ART STANDARDS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

VACr1.1.4a-6a	VAPr5.1.4a-6a
VACr1.2.4a-6a	VARE7.1.4a-6a
VACr2.1.4a-6a	VARE7.2.4a-6a
VACr2.2.4a-6a	VACn10.1.4a-6a
VACr2.3.4a-6a	VACn11.1.4a-6a
VACr3.1.4a-6a	



Visual Art/ Printmaking Process

SESSION 1

1. Students will be divided into small groups representing aspects of a river: clean water and recreation, wildlife and habitat, commerce and industry.
2. Students will work in small groups to brainstorm images that reflect aspects of their group.
 - Group 1, Wildlife: insects, fish
 - Group 2, Recreation: swimming, boating, fishing
 - Group 3, Commerce and Industry: manufacturing, energy, farming
3. Groups share ideas with the class.
4. Students will develop their image on paper sized to their block.

SESSION 2

1. Teacher will demonstrate the process of drawing a negative/positive image on 4" x 6" paper reminding students that the image will print in reverse.
2. Students will sketch a drawing of their chosen image to fill the size of their paper.
3. Students will share their drawing with their group and receive feedback.
4. Students will refine their drawing.

VOCABULARY

Printmaking

Relief

Brayer

Baren

Negative

Positive

Multiples

Craftsmanship

Collaboration

Exhibition

SESSION 3

1. Students will identify the negative and positive areas of their print by using a dark marker.
2. Students will transfer their drawing to the block using tracing paper or by covering the backside of the drawing with graphite and trace image.

SESSION 4

1. Teacher will demonstrate the proper use of the linoleum carving tools, how to change cutters, and store them inside the handle, emphasizing safety (e.g. always cut away from yourself, etc.). Speedball Bench Hook is recommended for use when carving.
2. Students will carve their block.
3. Students will clean area of carvings and return cutters to handle.



SESSION 5

1. Teacher will demonstrate the technique for rolling out ink and application to the block.
2. Teacher will demonstrate printing process by using a baren to transfer the ink. (If optional paper river will be printed, teacher will demonstrate how to print block using it as a stamp.)
3. Students will select ink colors and roll out ink on the bench hook.
4. Students will ink their block to create a small edition of (3) prints.
5. Students will clean brayers, blocks and inking stations.



SESSION 6

1. Students collaborate on the creation of a class artist statement.
2. Students brainstorm on venues for exhibiting their prints.
3. Students display their prints.

TEACHING RESOURCES:

- Local watershed or water treatment facility guest
- State or local river groups guest
- State or local tourism agency guest
- To learn more about Block Printing with Speedball products, visit our SpeedballArt YouTube Channel