

Potato Prints!

Create shapes and stamp patterns using an everyday potato as your inspiration!
The stamps you carve can be used to create unique cards and decorate gift wrap and bookmarks.

Materials

Potatoes (large oval-shaped potatoes are best)
Kitchen knife
Water-based paint
Paintbrush
Plate or surface to pour out paint
Pencil or marker
Paper (nice paper for printing, newsprint or scratch paper for practice)

Instructions

1. Cut the potatoes in half. Draw the desired shape onto the surface of the potato using a pencil or marker. Cut around this shape with a kitchen knife, leaving the design so it is raised on the flat surface of the potato. (Ask a grown-up for help with the knife!)
2. Pour a little paint onto a plate and using the paintbrush, paint an even surface of paint on the carved shape.
3. Practice stamping onto newsprint or scratch paper a couple of times.
4. Stamp a pattern, rotating the stamps to vary the shapes and changing the color if you wish. The potato can be washed between paint colors.
5. Let your printed creations dry. Try creating cards, bookmarks, or giftwrap for a special friend or family member.

Go Further

What other fruits and vegetables could you use to make artwork?

How can the shape of these inspire different kinds of patterns?

Take a photo and share it with us! Tag us on Instagram @bcmkids #bcmandyou

