

Art Cart
Styrofoam Printmaking on Postcards



Example of a styrofoam print created by Art Cart instructor Megan Jain

Styrofoam Printmaking on Postcards

Included Materials

- postcard paper
- washable tempera paint cakes
- styrofoam
- a paintbrush
- water cup
- paper
- pencil
- a stamp

Instructions

1. Start out by preparing your work station! Fill your cup with water and lay out your materials.
2. Use your thin piece of paper and your pencil to draw your idea for your print. Think about the person you would like to send your postcard to. What are some of their favorite things?
3. Take the back of your paintbrush and press it into your styrofoam to draw your lines. You can try using your pencil for this as well to make thinner lines.
4. Swirl your wet paintbrush around in your tempera paint. Make sure that the paint is thick as you paint it over your styrofoam. It can be tricky to figure out the right consistency for the paint, so watch the video if you need help!
5. Once you have finished your painting, you can make your first print! Set your postcard on top of a piece of paper so that you don't get paint on your table. Center your styrofoam above the front of your postcard. Press your painted styrofoam firmly onto your paper. Use the palm of your hand to push your print into place. Slowly peel your styrofoam off to reveal your beautiful artwork!
6. After your print dries, write a letter on the back for the person you are sending it to. Put on your stamp and send your postcard off into the world!

Try This!

Try making more than one of your prints by using other paper you have at home.

Paint on top of or underneath your print with your paintbrush.

Use other materials you have at home to make imprints in your styrofoam.