



# Stamping with Found Objects

This exploration is designed for all ages, but young children may need assistance from an adult.



When found objects are dipped into paint and stamped onto paper or cloth, they can be used to create amazing works of art full of repetition and pattern. Look for examples of repetition and pattern in some of your favorite picture books, then go collecting and experiment with the objects you find!

## Places to look for interesting objects:

- |         |          |
|---------|----------|
| kitchen | bathroom |
| outside | garage   |
| office  | playroom |

## TIPS:

- Turn a kitchen sponge or piece of upholstery foam into a reusable stamp pad. Use a piece of rolled duct tape to attach it to a small plastic plate or tray.
- Homemade stamp pads can be reused! Simply seal in a plastic bag to use the next day. For later use, air dry stamp pads before storing. Re-activate with a spritz of water and some fresh paint.



## MATERIALS USED IN THE STUDIO

- White, heavy-stock paper of various sizes
- Washable black tempera paint
- Various found objects
- Homemade stamp pads

### BE SAFE!

Avoid collecting sharp or very small objects when working with young children.

## EXPLORE

- **Prepare** your stamp pad by filling the sponge with tempera paint. If using a plate or tray, spread enough paint to just cover the bottom.
- **Press** objects into the stamp pad or dip them into the paint and then press them onto your printing surface.
- **Experiment** with how you stamp your objects. What do you notice? Describe the marks you've made.
- **Repeat and rotate** stamps or alternate between objects to create patterns. How many patterns can you create using just one or two objects? How many different ways can you stamp the same object?



## WHAT MORE CAN YOU MAKE?

Look at the textures and patterns your objects make when they mark the paper. What do they remind you of? Can you use your stamps to tell a story? On what other surfaces can you stamp? **Collaborate with a friend; it's fun to work together!**

