

Ames Public Library @HOME Activities for Teens

Scratch Art

Scratch art is a form of direct engraving where the artist scratches off dark ink to reveal a white or colored layer beneath. Scratchboard refers to both a fine-art medium, and an illustrative technique using sharp knives and tools for engraving into a thin layer of white China clay that is coated with dark, often black India ink. There is also foil paper covered with black ink that, when scratched, exposes the shiny surface beneath. Scratchboard can be used to yield highly detailed, precise and evenly textured artwork.

Books and Media:

Title	Author	Call Number:
<i>Art Lab for Kids: 52 Creative Adventures in Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Paper, and Mixed Media-For Budding Artists of All Ages</i>	Schwake, Susan	J 702.8 SCH
<i>The Jumbo Book of Art</i>	Luxbacher, Irene	J 701 LUX
<i>Play, Make, Create, a Process-Art Handbook</i>	Coenraads, Raymond	J PC 745.5 CHE 2019

Websites:

URL
https://www.pbs.org/parents/crafts-and-experiments/make-your-own-scratch-art-paper
https://scratchboardsociety.org/

Vocabulary

Printing – Printing is the process of makes copies from an original image with ink. Printing can be done in many formats and using a variety of methods.

Intaglio printmaking – In this process of printmaking, the designs are cut or incised on to surface of a metal plate. When printing ink is applied to the surface, the incised lines or sunken areas hold the ink. Examples of intaglio printing process are engraving and etching.

Relief printing – Here the design that is to be printed stand out above the main surface.

Woodcuts, vegetable prints are all examples of relief printing.

Woodblock printing – Here, the images and text are carved on a wood block. Ink is applied to the surface and then pressed on paper, cloth or other medium to make an impression or print. Block printing can also be done with designs cut in vegetables or other firm material.

Engraving – In engraving, the designs and text to be printed are cut as grooves into a metal plate (usually copper). The ink is applied to the whole ‘engraved’ surface and then wiped leaving the ink only in the grooves. The engraved plate is placed into a press with moistened sheets of paper. When pressure is applied the paper will pick up the ink from the grooves making a print.

Etching – Etching also uses a metal plate, but here the plate is covered with a layer of waxy ground that is resistant to acid. The designs are drawn on the waxy ground, and when completed, the whole plate is then exposed to a chemical substance, usually an acid. The acid cuts into the metal where it is unprotected by the wax and designs are “etched” into the surface of the plate. The plate is inked and printed.

Scratch cards take-away kit

The kit contains-

Two premade scratch art sheets, one wooden stylus

To make your own– you'll need:

- White or colored card stock
- Crayons
- Black tempera paint or India ink
- Small roller brush or paintbrush
- Painters' tape
- Wooden stylus (wooden chopsticks, toothpicks, and skewers also work)

Directions:

Cover your work surface with old newspapers, as this project can be messy.

Use the tape to cover the edges of the card, making a ½" border on all sides.

Cover the entire cardstock with fun designs using crayons. Make sure to cover all spots of the cardstock.

Paint over the cardstock covering the crayon drawing from edge to edge.

Let the paint dry completely.

Carefully peel away the painter's tape.

Scratch designs or pictures on the scratch card with the wooden stylus.