

Create#19 // A Village Harvest

by Jacqui Campbell

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Rethinking the vegetable print; a simple printing technique using fruit and vegetables from the garden or left over from the weekly shop.



You will need

- Fruit or vegetables
- A sharp, non-serrated knife
- Chopping board
- Plastic knife (or a lino cutting tool)
- Paper & ink stamp pads



A Village Harvest

I really enjoy looking closely at things; for me, printing is a way of directly recording what I experience.

I'm using apples—but you can use just about any fruit or vegetables that you have to hand. They can be cut in many different ways, so try out a few patterns first—I used a cookie cutter to cut circles.

Activity

To make a multi layered print, start with a cut apple. Press the surface onto a light coloured stamp pad and then press the inked surface onto a piece of paper. Print plenty of times.

Put a magazine under your paper, to make the work surface more flexible.

Use a lino cutting tool or plastic knife to cut a simple pattern or make marks in the printing surface of your apple. Always cut away from your body and keep your supporting hand behind the cutting edge.

Use a cloth to wipe away excess moisture; the starch mixes nicely with ink.

Print on top of your previous prints in a darker colour.

Exploration

- Play around with repeating patterns, layers and colours
- Try some different tools for carving
- How might you make spots?
- If you don't re-ink your stamp, the prints will get fainter. In printmaking we call this 'ghosting' and it can be a beautiful effect.



1. Try out a few patterns first—here, I used a cookie cutter



2. Or cut into the apple. Always cut away from your body



3. Ink up and press the UNCARVED piece of apple on to the paper



4. Now, carve a pattern into the apple, and ink it up in different colours



5. Experiment with patterns, using different tools



6. Play around with colours and repeat patterns



7. My favourite is the tiny star stamp, cut from the core



8. I discover something new every time

What will you do with your prints, apart from enjoy their vibrancy?

They'd be great for jam and chutney labels and how about printing your own gift wrap?

Don't forget to send us photos of your prints so that we can share them with everyone on our blog site.

- Email mdf@suffolkartlink.org.uk
- Text to 07857 002974

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CONTACT

For more information on any of these activities, or if you would like to receive our activity packs in the post, please contact Carrie or Candida:

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