

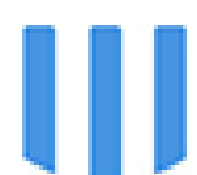


Walkers Art Club

PRINTING WITH POTATOES



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In this Packet

In this lesson, you will learn printing technique using commonly found kitchen items.

Ms. McDougall has prepared this lesson using the shape of a Monstera leaf, but you can choose another shape if you prefer.

Required Materials: Potatoes, a spoon, a kitchen knife (must be used under supervision), metal cookie cutters, paper towel, a sponge (cut down to about half the size of the potato).

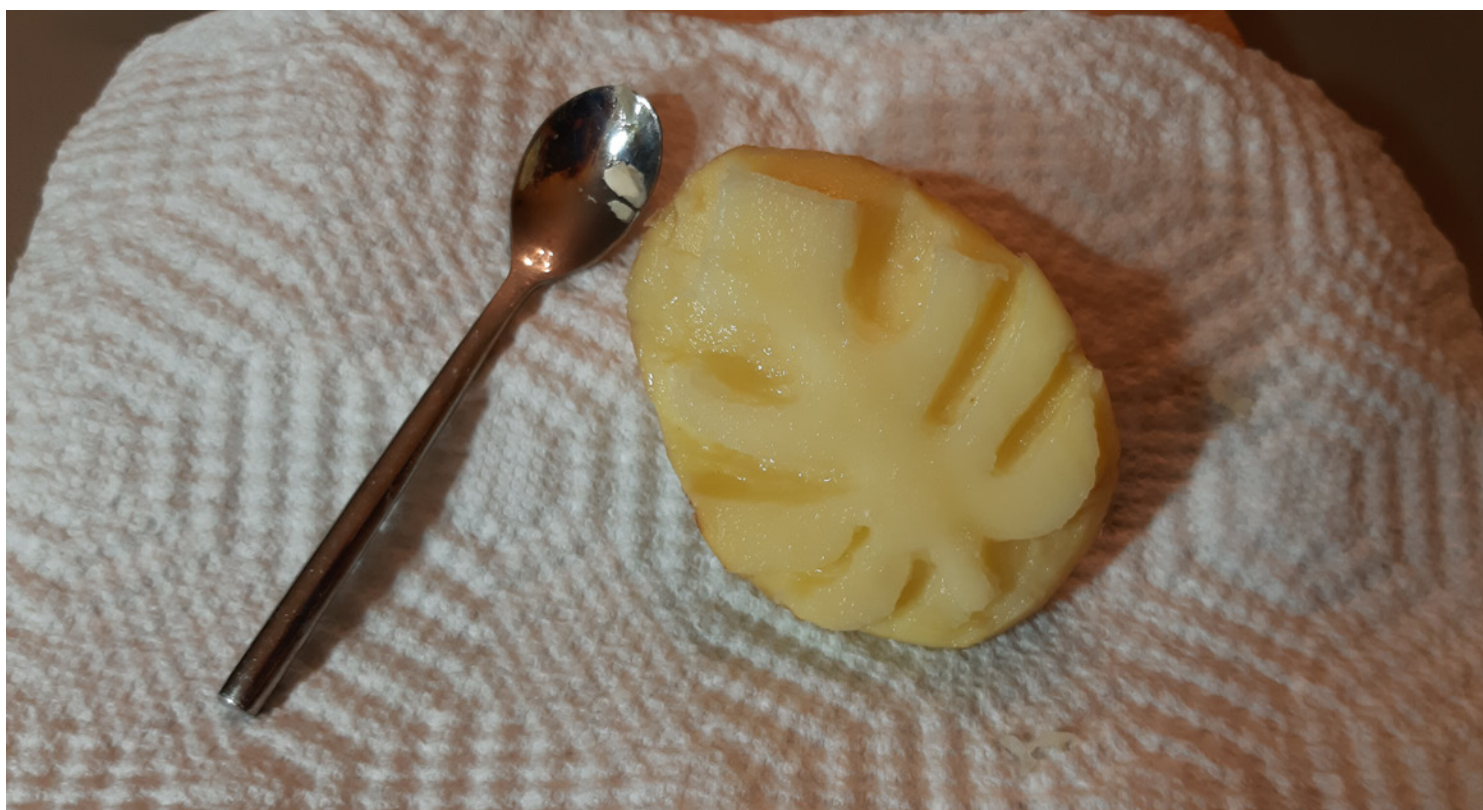


Potato Printing: Getting Started

Printing is the process of applying colour to paper, fabric or other materials in patterns, designs or text. Printing can be done using stamps, machines and technology, but we can achieve a similar outcome using something as simple as potatoes!



Cut your potato in half. Leave it face down on a sheet of paper towel until you are ready to use it, so the towel absorbs the moisture. Use a pencil to draw your design on the face of the potato, then, using the spoon, carefully scrape away the potato from the areas that you don't want to print.



Alternatively, you can use a metal cookie cutter. Press it into the face of the potato and while it is still pressed in, scrape away the excess potato that you don't need.

Pour the paint you want to use into a shallow dish or the lid of a plastic container. Using the sponge, pat the paint onto the surface of your potato. Now you're ready to print!



Potato Printing: Printing Process

I started by printing on paper.

Press the potato firmly down onto the paper surface and hold it in position. Do not push it because that often causes the potato to move which can make the print smudge.



That's it! I filled a few pages of my sketch book, then I found some cloth so I printed onto that in mixes of two colours of acrylic paint (which is okay to use on fabric).





Finally, I made mine into a bag for my art supplies. I had lots of fun doing it and now have a great bag to use!



Enjoy, and send photos your finished art pieces to education@nationalgallery.org.ky.