

## “Quilt Prints”



**Objective:** Students will create quilt square prints using reduction printmaking.

### Materials

- Pencils, Rulers and Drawing Paper
- E-Z Cut Linoleum (4"x4" squares)
- Linoleum Cutting Tools
- Printing Ink and Brayers
- 12"x12" Construction Paper
- Newspaper

### Motivation

- Quilts have played an important role throughout history. One role is their use as communication during slavery. Discuss the connection between quilts and the Underground Railroad with students. For a local connection, discuss the history of quilts in your city or town.
- Introduce important vocabulary.

### Step 1: Design and Grid

Students draw their quilt designs on 4"x4" paper then transfer those designs to linoleum by redrawing or using charcoal. They label each section of the design 1 through 4 and make note of which side is the top with an arrow pointing up on the back. Next, each student gets a piece of 12"x12" construction paper and use a pencil to lightly divide it into 9 equal squares of 4"x4".

### Step 2: Demo and Carve Section 1

Demo the reduction printing method. Students use the linoleum cutting tools to carve out section #1. Once finished, they use a brayer to apply the lightest color of printing ink to the linoleum. Then, they print in the top left square of their final 12"x12" paper. They repeat the printing process in each of the 8 remaining sections on the final paper. Finally, students wash and dry the linoleum squares.

### Step 3: Carve and Print Remaining Sections

Students then carve out section 2, use the next darkest color of ink and print in each of the 9 squares on their final paper. When finished, students again wash and dry the linoleum.

Students carve out section 3 and repeat the printing process with the darkest color of ink, then wash the linoleum for a final time.

**Tip:** Because the ink needs time to dry, students will only be able to print one color per day. If students finish printing, they should begin carving in preparation for the next day.