

FOIL ART

Create beautiful artwork using printing foils

Curriculum topics:

- Creative Expression
- Arts & Crafts

Subject: Art

Grade range: K – 8

Who we are:

Resource Area for Teaching (RAFT) helps educators transform the learning experience by inspiring joy through hands-on learning.

For more ideas visit
<https://raft.net/resources-2/>



Explore an art technique where everyone – both children and adults – can be successful. The color pulled from new or used printing foils can create striking patterns for making cards, bookmarks, and other art projects.



Materials required

- Printing foil, different colors
- Adhesive-backed cardstock or paper (x1)
- Scissors, not included
- Optional: Stencils, cutout shapes, glitter, baby powder

Set-Up

- 1 Cut the adhesive-backed cardstock or paper into any desired shape.
- 2 Cut the foil sheets as needed into rectangular strips approximately 2" x 4" or equivalent to size of adhesive-backed surface. Size can vary if using multiple colors.

To do and notice

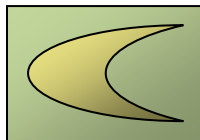
- 1 Pull off the adhesive backing and leave the sticky side facing upward.
- 2 Create blank areas without color in the design by covering the selected sticky area of cardstock or paper with the plastic or paper backing.
- 3 There are two ways to pull color from the foil. For both methods, **the shiny side of the foil must be facing upward**. The dull side of the foil is placed in contact with the adhesive.
- 4 **Making a solid color:** press the dull side of the foil on the sticky surface to be colored and then rub a finger back and forth on the foil. Lift or peel away the foil film to reveal the shiny foil now transferred to the adhesive.
Making a mottled effect: lightly touch the dull side of the foil to the sticky surface.
- 5 Repeat with other colors of foil to create interesting designs! Fill up the entire surface of the adhesive until the surface is no longer sticky, otherwise projects may stick together.
- 6 Optional: Spread glitter (or baby powder) on the design and then shake off any excess. It will adhere to any missed spots of stickiness and ensure the project will not stick to anything else.

Foiling Methods:

Printed template of designs: Photocopy onto a transparency, cut, and use as a stencil.

Stencil: Make your own stencil or a stencil from a manufacturer.

Cut out a shape or frame out of the peel-away backing paper or a different piece of cardstock. Place the cutout shape or frame onto the adhesive surface and foil the front of the cardstock. You can put a colored background around, in between, or inside the cutout shape. If using the peel-away backing paper, remove it after foiling, then apply additional foil to color in the spaces that the shapes have left behind.



Content Standards:

CA Visual Arts

Generate & conceptualize artistic ideas and work:

[K.VA:Cr1.1](#)

[2.VA:Cr1.1](#)

[6.VA:Cr1.1](#)

Organize & develop artistic ideas and work:

[3.VA:Cr2.1](#)

[5.VA:Cr2.1](#)

[8.VA:Cr2.1](#)

Develop & refine artistic techniques and work for presentation:

[PK.VA:Pr5](#)

Learn more

- Make a greeting card by covering the front of the card with a square of double-stick adhesive paper.
 - Cut shapes out of the peel-away backing on the back of the adhesive.
 - Place a few of these shapes directly on the card.
 - Foil the front of the card.
 - Peel off the backing and apply additional foil to the space that the shapes have left behind.
- Make a decorative pin using a glue gun and foil.
 - Make a shallow glue pile that is about 1 inch by 1 inch on the **dull** side of the foil.
 - After the glue pile is cooled, peel it up and use scissors to cut a shape out of the glue.
 - Finish with gluing a safety pin to the back of the shape.
- Use Foil Art to make decorative tangrams for an interesting way to learn geometry and symmetry!

Visit <https://raft.net/resources-2/> to view the following related activities!

Foiled Stencil Cards
Glitter Frames and Cards
RAFTY Repousse
Repousse Ornaments
Stencil Embossing

Resources

See these websites for more information on the following topics:

- Types of printing foils - <https://bit.ly/2UyrzD1>
- Foil-stamping printing process – <https://bit.ly/33Jkfs7>
- Easy embossing for kids - <https://bit.ly/2xji0UG>