Printmaking is the process of making art on a material with ink or paint. With this project, you will create a block (like a stamp) and print with it to create a repeat pattern on a drawstring bag. Before you begin, brainstorm ideas and see what kind of design or image you like the most. Keep in mind that it will be printed multiple times to make a pattern. TIP: If you keep two sides of your design solid, it will help to align your prints and make your design more dynamic.

IMPORTANT: Fabric ink is permanent and will stain. Use a smock and be careful!

1. Design a 3” stamp. Keep in mind that it will print backwards. Draw your design on the paper side of your foam sheet.

2. Cut it out with scissors. Remove the paper from foam sheet and place the foam on the wood square. Press down firmly to make sure it’s stuck to the square.

3. Apply the fabric ink to the foam with the brush. Make sure there aren’t any globs of ink stuck in the corners of the foam.

4. Once the foam is fully covered with ink, make a couple of test prints on paper to practice. You will need to reapply ink every time you print.

5. Once you feel comfortable, you can print on the fabric. If you line up your squares, you can fit 12 prints onto one side of your bag. You can rotate your stamp too! Make sure the cardboard sheet is inside the bag, under your printing, so the ink doesn’t soak through.

6. Once you are finished printing, allow the bag to dry for 24 hours. If you plan to wash your bag, iron your print once it’s dry.

For more information please go to youthfiberart.org.
Fabric ink is permanent and will stain. Use a smock and be careful! Ink is non-toxic, non-flammable, water based, and contains no solvents. If ink gets on skin, wash with warm soapy water. Intended for ages 9 and up.

©2019 • Textile Center • All Rights Reserved