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Fruit and Vegetable Stamp

Use various fruits and vegetables to print a repeating pattern inspired by the textiles of the women in the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The women of the WPA created many works focusing on repeating patterns on textiles. These were used for tapestry hangings and could be used for clothes as well. These works were usually inspired by nature, animals, and everyday scenes.



Milwaukee WPA Handicraft Project

Untitled, WPA Handicraft Project

Number 1170, ca. 1940

Color wood block on cotton

33 1/2 x 38 1/2 inches

Racine Art Museum, Works Progress Administration, Federal Arts Project

Photography: Jon Bolton

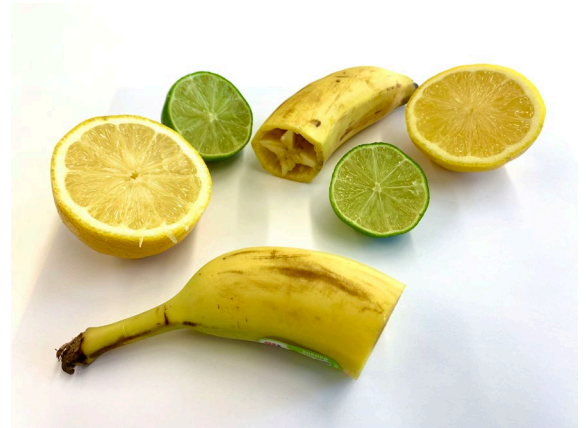


Supplies

- Paper
- Paint
- Old fruits and/or vegetables
- Knife
- An adult to help cut
- Optional: Paint brush

Instructions

1. Cut the fruits/vegetables in half. Some foods like bananas, potatoes, and carrots can be cut into special designs—give it a try!
2. Dip the cut fruits/vegetables into paint.
3. Gently press the fruits/vegetables on the paper to leave a printed design.
4. Repeat your pattern until your paper is filled.



Optional: Go in with a paint brush to touch up and add additional designs!

