



DALLAS ARBORETUM
Education

Garden STEAM at Home
Matisse Prints du Soleil:
Connections



WE GROW MINDS, TOO.



OBJECTIVE:

STUDENTS WILL CREATE A MATISSE INSPIRED PRINT USING THE SUN TO DIFFUSE COLOR ON THEIR PRINT.

SOURCE

DickBlick.com

BACKGROUND

Dick Blick's Matisse Prints du Soleil lesson plan explores heliographic prints, a method that uses sunlight to dry portions of the print more quickly, thus allowing other colors, blocked by cut out shapes to flow into those areas. This is a scientific process known as diffusion.

This exciting, and often surprising, method of creating art can be used to highlight many different areas of science learning, so we invite you to explore our ideas below!

TAKE IT FURTHER

1. Vocabulary: Use a word list for a specific topic as the starting point. Ask students to cut out an object that represents each word for use in the print (e.g. predator, prey, producer, consumer). Then, encourage students to write or share out their learning using the finished art piece.
2. Life Cycle: Assemble a complete life cycle using cut out objects in the print.
3. Regular and repeating patterns: Illustrate one or multiple regular and repeating patterns including seasons, moon phases, shadows, and tides through your Matisse-inspired art print.
4. Food chain/Food web: Demonstrate a complete food chain or food web in your print.
5. Structure and Function: Create cut outs that demonstrate an adaptation. Then, when your art print has dried, add additional illustrations and words/sentences to demonstrate your understanding of the structure and its function.

DIGITAL RESOURCES

Dick Blick Matisse Prints du Soleil Lesson Plan:

<https://www.dickblick.com/lesson-plans/matisse-prints-du-soleil/>

Matisse Paper Cut Outs Feature:

http://www.henri-matisse.net/cut_outs.html

Tate Modern Matisse Feature:

<https://www.tate.org.uk/kids/explore/who-is/who-henri-matisse>