

WHERE DOES ART BELONG?

FAMILY LEARNING ACTIVITY

GOAL: Explore the process of stencil making and its connection to where art is viewed.

MATERIALS:

- Construction paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Tape

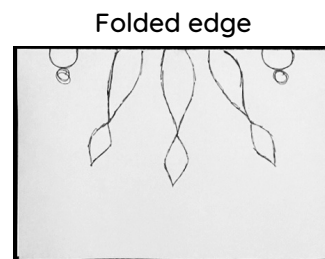
Optional materials for stenciling:

- Markers
- Colored pencils
- Paint and paintbrush
- Mud
- Spray bottle
- Chalk

STEPS: 1. Fold your paper in half.



2. With your pencil, draw a simple design or pattern on the paper. You will be cutting out this design, so drawing simple shapes will be easiest. Draw your shapes on the edge of your paper so it's easier to cut.



3. Cut out your design through both sides of your folded paper.
If you need help, ask an adult to assist you with an Exacto knife or sharp-edged tool.

4. Unfold your paper, and you'll have your final stencil design!

QUICK TIP:

For shapes that are in the middle of your paper, cut a small slit in the center of the shape to start out your cut.

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WHERE DO YOU DISPLAY YOUR ART?



Finished artwork

5. Explore where you could put your stenciled image. Do you want to use it outside on a wall or sidewalk? On a shirt? On another piece of paper? Pick a location with an adult.

You can use a stencil multiple times if you are careful not to rip the paper.

6. Tape the sides of your stencil onto the surface you want your stencil to appear on.

7. Apply your material over the entire stencil.

8. Remove your paper stencil and tape and admire your design!

DISCUSSION:

- Where did you choose to put your stencil and why?
- Who can see your stenciled design in this location?
- If you put your stenciled design in a museum, how would that impact who gets to see it?
- What's the difference between using a permanent material (e.g., paint) versus a temporary material (e.g., mud)?

FUN FACT!



Mud stenciling is a form of street art that is non-toxic and environmentally friendly! **Artist Jesse Graves** has put up a number of mud stencils all around Milwaukee. Mud washes away in the rain, so his designs don't stay up forever.



FOR MORE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS, INFORMATION, AND IDEAS, VISIT:

More about Jesse Graves: <https://jessegraves.wordpress.com>

For step-by-step instruction: <https://youtu.be/VyFGggJckdl>