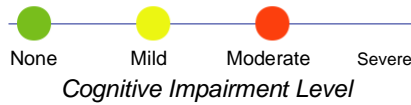


Art Activity

Foam Tray Printmaking



Summary:

Residents draw/incise images into the foam tray and apply paint to create art prints.

Objectives:

- Promote creative expression
- Facilitate sense of accomplishment




Supplies:

- Foam meat trays or large foam plates with the edges cut off (1 tray or plate per image)
- Acrylic paint
- Foam brush
- Sturdy drawing paper/watercolor paper
- Dull pencil (1 for each resident)
- Paper plates to hold paint
- Paint brayer (rubber paint roller)

Room Set Up:

- Seat residents at tables to work.
- Play soft, instrumental music:

 *Music, TV & Film > Jukebox*



Facilitating the Activity

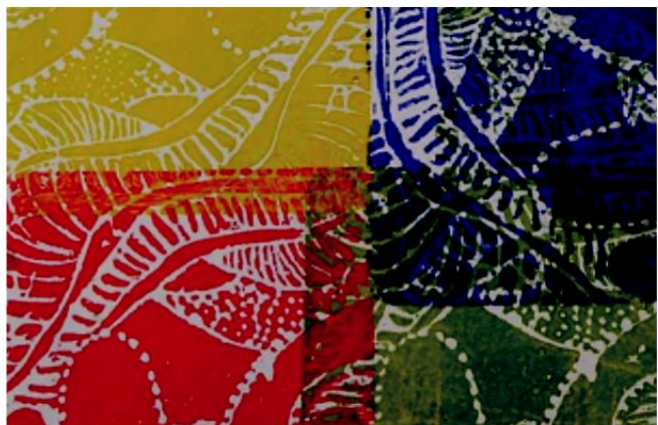
Procedure

1. Introduce the activity:

Say:

“Welcome! Today we are going to use these foam trays and pencils to create some amazing prints. The process of printmaking has historic roots dating back centuries — Ben Franklin printed leaves on colonial currency to deter counterfeiting. Leonardo da Vinci printed a sage leaf in his manuscript Codice Atlantico. In 1557, Italian alchemist Alexius Pedemontanus gave detailed instructions for printing leaves in his Book of Secrets suggesting ‘In this way you may make gallant things to adorn your chamber.’ I’m excited to see this process come alive. Let’s get started!”

2. Take your pencil and create any type of design on your tray surface—make sure to press firmly into the tray to create an indentation—the deeper the lines, the better the results. Don’t push through the foam.
3. Squeeze a little paint onto your paper plate and load the brush or roll the brayer in the paint to load it with paint.
4. Carefully roll the brayer over your design surface. Using dark paint will enable you to see right away how good your design looks! If you didn’t make the lines deep enough, you can see if you need to try again with a new foam sheet or rework your lines.
5. Place your paper on top of your painted image and press—rub with a spoon or extra brayers to make sure paint is applied evenly to the paper.
6. Slowly lift to reveal your design.



Processing

Invite residents to share their work. Offer positive feedback for all efforts. Thank residents for participating.