

# STAMP OF APPROVAL



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## Contact Information

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## Grades

K-5

## Objectives

Students will be able to extend their knowledge of solid waste reduction by creating useful items from otherwise waste material.

## Method

Students will create stamp forms from rubber and wood discards and print with them on scrap paper.

## Materials

Tire inner tubes (from sides of highway or used tire lot), small wood blocks or small containers with flat lids (one per student), rubber cement, stamp pad or printers ink and brayer, scrap paper to print on, scissors, small hole punch

## Vocabulary

Reduce, reuse, waste

## Procedure

1. Before class, cut pieces of scrap paper to fit the surfaces of the wood blocks or flat-topped containers onto which students will be mounting their stamps.
2. Give each student wood blocks that they will be using for the rubber stamps, and several scrap papers. Have them make several sketches on the scrap papers of what they would like to put on their stamps. Remind the students that everything will be reversed when printed.
3. Transfer their designs to the rubber and cut them out, using on piece of rubber for as many stamps as possible (conservation). Even the tiniest scraps make good designs: flying birds, snakes, etc.
4. Mount the rubber cutouts on the wood blocks or containers with rubber cement. For best results, apply rubber cement to both the rubber and the wood. Use two coats of rubber cement. When the first coat is dry, apply a second. When the second coat is "tacky," apply rubber to wood. Hold firmly in place or weight down until dry. (Note: pine blocks absorb rubber cement. Try wood glue instead.)
5. Using scrap paper, practice making prints from the new stamp.
6. Use the stamps to create notecards using scrap paper or recycled paper.
7. Create a scene combining prints and other media, such as crayons, colored pencils, and watercolors.