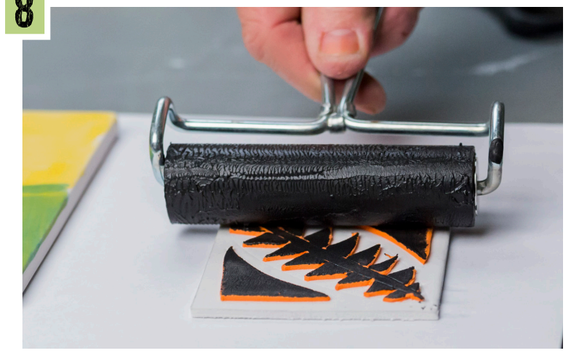
7

ROLL OUT VELVET 'INK': Take your prepared Velvet 'ink' and place a small glob on a flat surface. Roll out 'ink' so brayer is completely covered.

8



INK YOUR 'PRINTING PLATE': Roll the 'inked' brayer onto your printing plate.

9

PRINT YOUR TILE: Place you plate face down and press firmly to transfer your design to the tile. Lift up carefully to avoid smearing. Alternate printing plates for the positive/negative design.

10

ADD CLEAR GLAZE: When the tile is completely dry, sponge or brush on one to two coats of LG-10 Clear Transparent glaze (creates a shiny surface) and fire to Cone 05.

GLOSSARY

Bisque: Unglazed ceramic after the first firing.

Glaze Fire: To heat glaze materials at a temperature high enough to melt and form a glassy surface coating when cooled.

Printing Plate: Substrate on which an image is engraved or cut into. The image is transferred to ceramic using Velvet 'ink'.

Velvet Wash: To water down the Velvet underglaze and use it as a water color.

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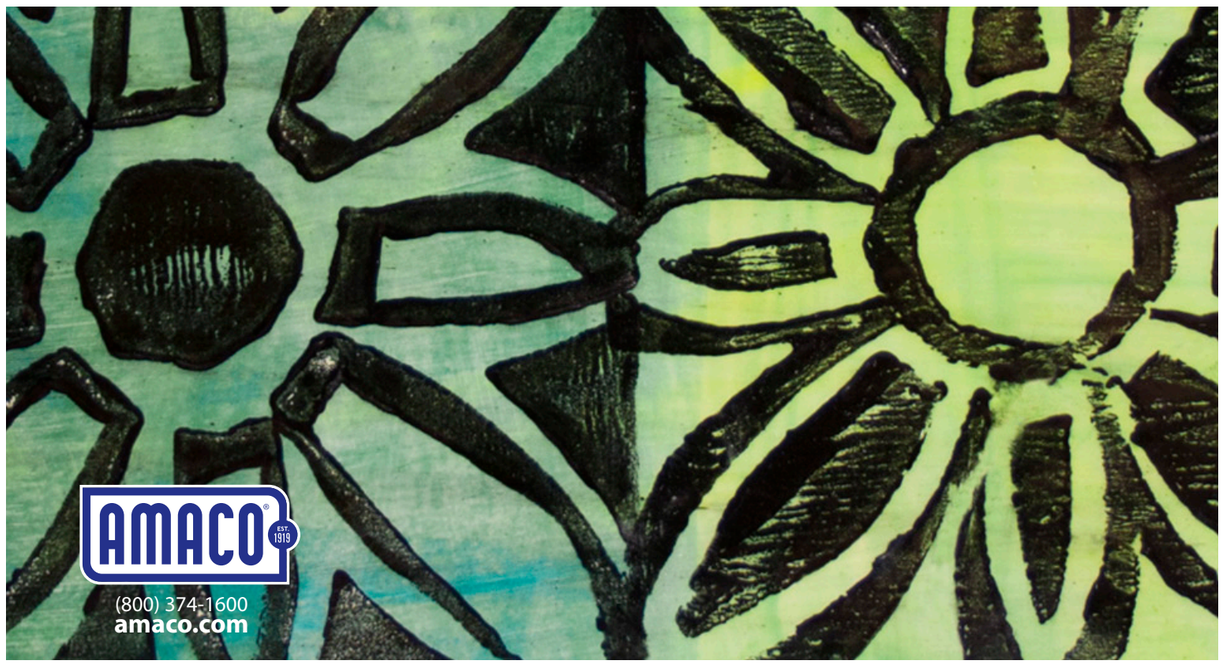
POSITIVE NEGATIVE PRINTING
with underglazes



MAKING PRINTING INK from Velvets

POUR INTO SHALLOW CONTAINER: Select a wide shallow container and pour in your black Velvet underglaze. Leave uncovered for a few days or weeks depending upon the climate and humidity.

LET SIT UNTIL THICK: Stir periodically so a skin doesn't form on the surface. Let sit until the consistency of block printing ink. It will be approximately half the volume of original amount.

STORE IN AN AIR-TIGHT JAR: . Once the Velvet underglaze is thick, it is ready to use or store in a jar with a tight fitting lid.

Lesson Plan Goals and Objectives

- Draw a design that transfers well as a positive and negative.
- Study various printing methods and how they may transfer to ceramics.
- Learn how to make "printing ink" from underglaze.
- Learn how to use underglazes as a wash.
- Learn how to ink a "printing plate" and apply to a tile.
- This lesson is suitable for grades K-12.

National Visual Art and Core Standards

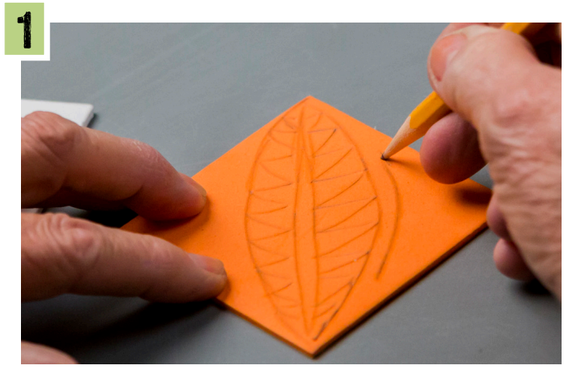
- Apply media, techniques, and processes of ceramics.
- Students know and compare various printing methods in various eras and cultures.
- Students analyze what makes a good positive and negative design.

Tools & Materials

- AMACO® 6" x 6" Bisque Tiles (11333L)
- AMACO® Velvet Underglazes:
  V-361 Jet Black (for "printing ink")
  Various Colors (for the watercolor wash)
- AMACO® Low Fire Glaze: LG-10 Clear Transparent (#39143R)
- X-Acto Knife or Scissors
- Brayer
- 3mm Craft Foam Sheet (two 3" x 3" squares per student)
- 2mm Sticky-Back Craft Foam Sheet
  (one 3" x 3" square per student)
- Masking Tape
- Drawing Materials

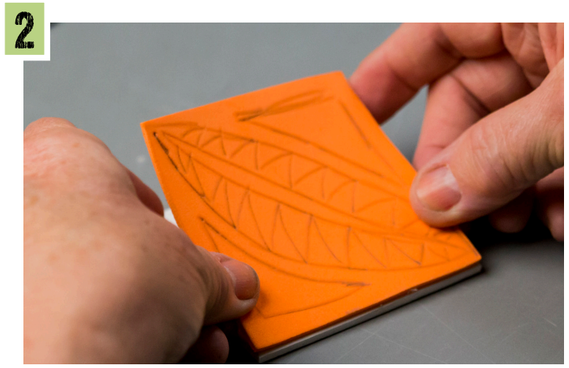
PROJECT STEPS

1



DRAW YOUR DESIGN: Draw your design onto the sticky backed craft foam sheet using your pencil, pen or sharpie marker.

2



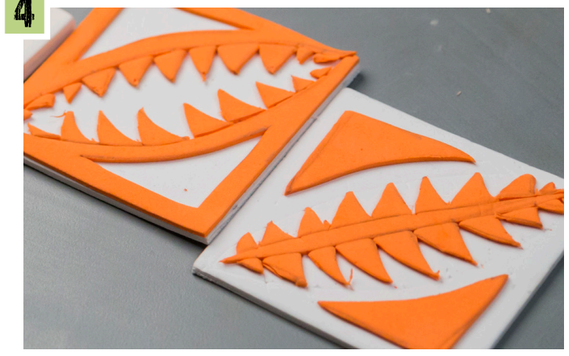
PEEL AND STICK: Peel the backing off the sheet foam and stick it to one of the thicker craft foam sheets.

NOTE: For younger students, they will need to cut out their design with scissors before sticking to the thicker craft foam.

3

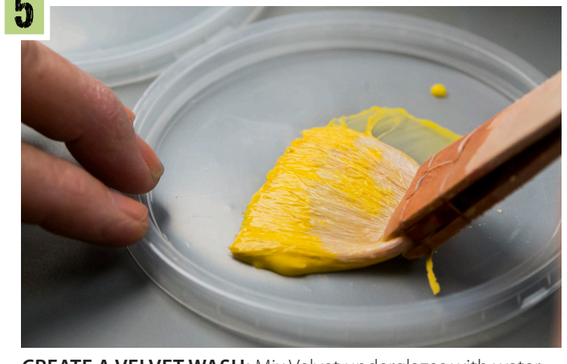
CUT ON THE LINE: Use an X-Acto knife to cut on the lines, cutting through the top layer of the craft foam but not the bottom one.

4



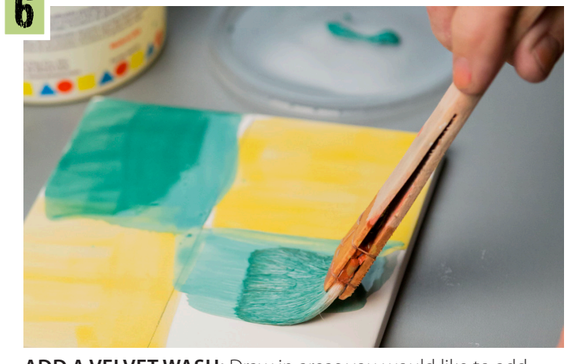
CREATE YOUR PRINTING PLATES: Remove some of the shapes and press them firmly to the second white foam sheet to create your positive and negative design.

5



CREATE A VELVET WASH: Mix Velvet underglazes with water to create a wash. It should be the consistency of water colors.

6



ADD A VELVET WASH: Draw in areas you would like to add color (pencil marks will burn off during firing). Use a soft brush to add the Velvet underglaze wash.