



FUN FOAM KĀPALA

SUBJECT

Fun Foam Kāpala (Stamp)

TIME

1 - 3 hours

GRADE LEVEL

Appropriate for all grade levels

GOALS

Provide students with a hands-on activity that will allow them to practice their kilo (observation) skills and translate what they see into a printable design.

OBJECTIVES

1. Students will be able to kāpala (stamp) a blank fabric object (canvas bag, hat, T-shirt) or paper with a stamp made from fun foam.
2. Students will be able to share about their fun foam design and background information on the subject chosen for their kāpala.

MATERIALS

- Acrylic paint
- Small foam brush
- Scissors
- Paper plate (or something similar) to spread paint on
- Pencil
- Ball point pen/ dull pencil
- Fun foam sheets with adhesive back
- Cardboard
- Scratch paper
- Something to print on (Fabric [Bag, T-shirt, Hat, etc.] or paper)
- Painter's tape (optional - to be used with fabric)

PROCEDURE

1. **Kilo!** Have students kilo (make observations) about a particular theme in nature. Examples of themes could be native rainforest plants, native dryland plants, native birds, shapes of bird bills, shapes of fish tails, etc. Get creative with your theme, you can even have a discussion with students to determine what to focus on. If it's not possible to make direct observations, do an internet search to find photos of your chosen theme/subject.
2. **Prep!** Prepare the cardboard backing and fun foam pieces. Start with a 5"x5" square of cardboard (or whatever you have on hand). Students can divide and cut the cardboards into fourths. Cardboard can be divided into larger portions if larger stamps are desired. These cardboard pieces will serve as the sturdy backing for the fun foam stamps. Trace the cardboard squares onto the fun foam and cut the foam along the traced lines (the fun foam and cardboard pieces should be the same size).

PROCEDURE

3. **Draw!** Have students trace the cardboard pieces onto their scratch paper and draw their kāpala ideas into the traced squares. You can explain the reason for doing this is so their design fits within the fun foam piece. (Alternatively, they can make the design first and cut the fun foam and cardboard to size.) Refer to page 3 for more information on the two styles of fun foam designs and helpful design tips.
4. **Transfer design!** There are two methods to transfer a design from the paper to the fun foam sheet.
 - 1) Draw directly on fun foam. A dull pencil or ball point pen works best. It's important to note that the printed image will be reversed if choosing this method. Words must be flipped and written backwards.
 - 2) Draw on paper and transfer to fun foam. Follow these steps to transfer. Refer to page 4 for step-by-step tutorial with pictures.
 - a) Darken the image by tracing over it with a pencil.
 - b) Place the fun foam on the image. Align it with the traced shape of the fun foam.
 - c) Hold the paper and fun foam together and carefully flip over so the paper is now on top.
 - d) Carefully, so the fun foam doesn't move, use a pencil to transfer the image by drawing lines back and forth over the image.
5. **Stick it!** Have students connect the cardboard to the fun foam stamp by peeling the white backing from the adhesive side of the fun foam and attaching it carefully to the cardboard. This will serve as a sturdy backing for them to press down on and grip during printing.
6. **Printing prep!** Set up the printing space by laying newspaper, paper bags, or an old sheet or towel on a flat surface (a table or wooden/cement floor is good) to prevent paint stains. Make sure to clear any unnecessary items off to the side.
7. **Kāpala! Stamp!** Have students squeeze a small amount of paint onto a plate and use their foam brush to spread the paint into an even layer. If students are too young, an adult can help with this step. Apply a thin, even layer of paint to the stamp. A pencil can be used to remove any paint build-up in the indented lines. Kāpala or stamp the image onto the paper! Do several test prints. Students can choose to make a few edits to their design, but it's important to remember that once a line is drawn into the fun foam, it can't be undone. Remind students to take their time and keep a positive attitude.
8. **Clean Up!** Make sure to clean stamps and sponges after each use.
9. **Optional!** Printing on fabric is optional. Hats, T-shirts, and bags are always fun. To prepare fabric object for printing, tape off desired printing areas then insert cardboard or paper bag inside canvas bag or T-shirt to prevent paint from bleeding through to the other side. Kāpala!

PROCEDURE

10. Heat set the paint! (This step only applies to printed fabric)

Wait until paint is fully dry before heat setting. It can be hung, or left under a fan or out in the sun to speed up drying. Different ways to heat set:

- » Use a hair dryer (if available) to both heat set and speed up the drying process.
- » Use an iron (put a junk piece of fabric between printed area and iron to prevent paint from being accidentally transferred to iron).
- » Throw in the dryer on low heat. It's recommended to wait at least 24 hours after printing to put it in the dryer.

FUN FOAM DESIGN STYLES

There are two styles that can be done with fun foam stamps:*

1. Simple shape with drawings

- A simple shape (square, circle, triangle) is cut out of the fun foam.
- The drawing is done within the simple shape.

2. Die-cut: custom shape

- The shape of the stamp is dependent on the drawing.
- The fun foam is cut around the shape of the drawing or the object is cut out on the edge of its shape.

**See images on page 5 for reference/examples.*

HELPFUL DESIGN TIPS

Positive vs Negative!

- The areas that are colored (where the paint coats the fun foam stamp) are considered the positive spaces.
- The deep lines created by drawing on and indenting the fun foam are considered the negative space and will remain colorless.
- Remind students to keep this in mind while drawing their stamp designs and encourage them to use both positive and negative spaces to increase the impact of their design.

Repetition! Repeating designs or patterns can have great visual impact. Encourage students to practice stamping in different configurations or repeating patterns to determine their ideal arrangement.

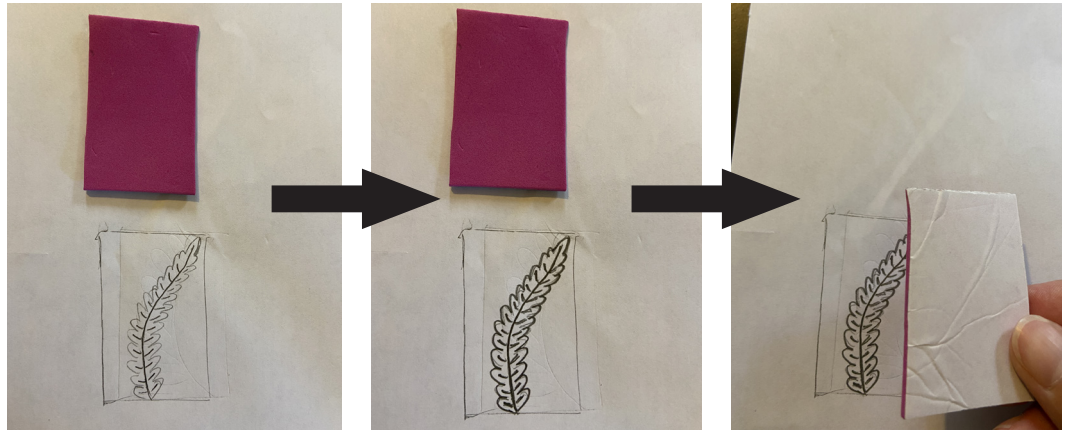
ADDITIONAL RESOURCE



@imipononokaaina

Visit our Instagram page and navigate to our Story Highlights. There are a series of fun foam tutorial videos featuring native plant-inspired stamps. The videos all have the abbreviation FFF (i.e., Māmane FFF) which stands for Fun Foam Fridays. Perhaps these videos could serve as inspiration for older students to make their own social media posts!

DESIGN TRANSFER TUTORIAL (METHOD 2)



1. Draw the design on a paper.

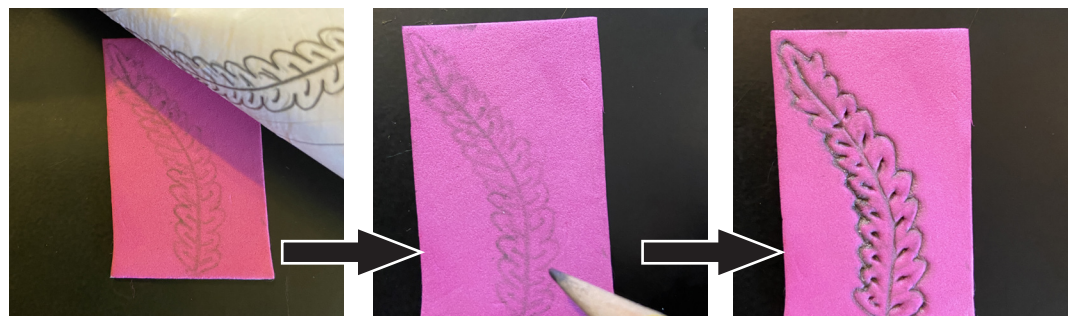
2. Darken the image by tracing over it with a pencil.

3. Place the fun foam on the image. Align it with the traced shape of the fun foam.



4. Hold the paper and fun foam together and carefully flip over so the paper is now on top.

5. Carefully, so the fun foam doesn't move, use a pencil to transfer the image by drawing lines back and forth over the image.



6. Lift the paper to reveal the transferred image. Use a dull pencil or ball point pen to indent the image into the fun foam to create the stamp.



7. Apply ink and press firmly to paper or fabric. PAU!

EXAMPLES



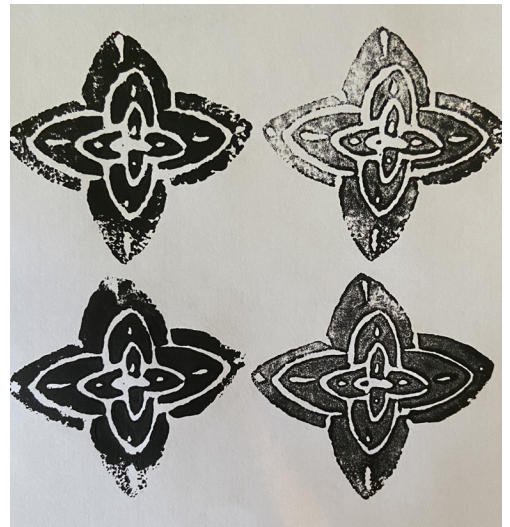
Style 1: Simple shape



Style 2: Die-cut



Die-cut lehua stamp on the left and manu and lehua simple-shape stamp on the right.



Repetition



'A'ali'i stamps on a hat



Koa stamps on a shirt