

Wrinkled Sunprints

Just by itself, crumpled paper creates a beautiful landscape of light and shadow. If you crumple a piece of sunprint paper, the effects are even more dramatic. Because of the light reacting qualities, the parts that are exposed to the sun turn dark blue, and you can create a record of sun and shadow to display even after your paper is developed and flattened.

What you need:

- Sunprint paper
- Piece of acrylic or cardboard
- Pan of water

Making the Sunprint:

1. Find a place out of the sun to prepare your print.
2. Crumple up a piece of sunprint paper. The more wrinkles, the more interesting your sunprint will be.
3. Place it on top of the cardboard or acrylic and allow it to expose in the sun, until some parts are bluish white.
4. Flatten it out.
5. Rinse it in water for 30 seconds, and then lay it out to dry and develop.
6. After it dries, press it under some heavy books to de-crumple it.

Going further:

- You can also make topographical maps out of wrinkled sunprint paper. Find a topographical drawing of your area. Can you read the concentric shapes and recreate the hills and valleys in sunprint paper?
- What happens if you crumple the paper in specific ways, to make a shape? You can fold it around to form a face, or any other object you think of. To do this, use your fingers to make it go up in certain places, and in and down in others.
Experiment!

- What happens if you make your print early in the morning? Midday? Late in the afternoon? What effect does the changing angle of the sun have on the shadows in your paper? Does it have any effect?
- What does crumpling sunprint paper have in common with tie-dye?