

# Easy Batik

Explore this safe and simple method of cold batik with younger children.

## Materials

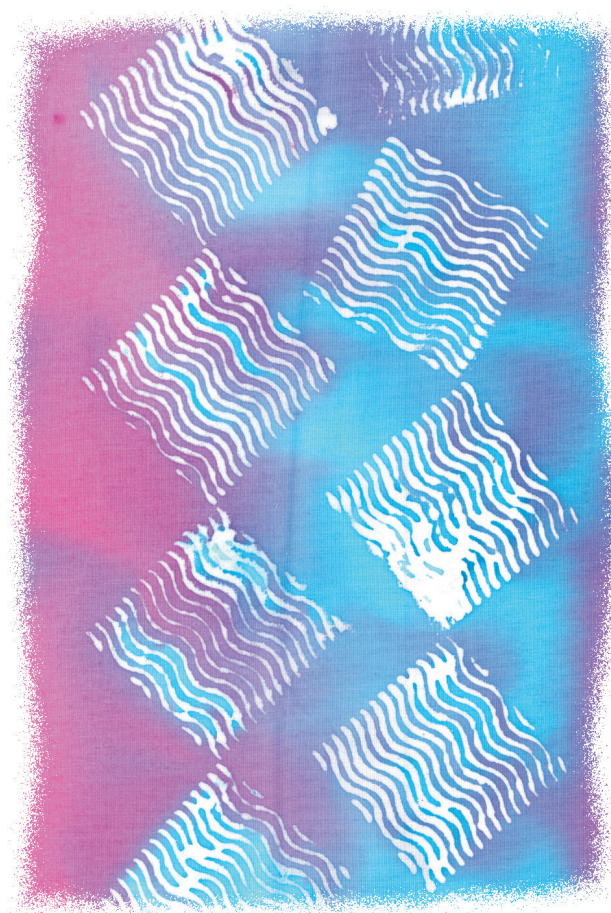
- Thin white paper
- Black pens
- Cotton fabric
- Dylon Easy Batik®
- Fabric dyes or Brusho® powder mixed with water.
- Printing/stamping tools e.g. stiff card, print blocks etc.
- Pots for dye
- Paintbrushes

## Method

- Look at textile designs for inspiration including African textiles or do a web search for printed patterns. Select some to inspire the children.
- Ask children to look at the source material and choose a pattern they like, then ask them to explain what they like about it – shapes, colours etc. They will use this pattern to inspire their own work.
- First the children draw their design ideas on paper with a black pen. Put it nearby to act as a guide.
- Apply the Dylon Easy Batik® to the fabric using brushes, card or print blocks and leave until completely dry – usually about 4 hours.
- Heat set the Dylon Easy Batik® by ironing as per the instructions on the bottle.
- Brush the colour over the fabric – if the cold batik has worked the pattern should be revealed as white areas. Allow the children time to explore the way that colours mix on the fabric as they bleed together.
- Allow to dry

## Taking it further

Work collaboratively on a large scale – several children can work together on larger pieces of fabric. Use the finished fabrics to make simple items in DT – this is a great opportunity to teach children the simple running stitch that would allow them to make cushions or basic toy shapes. Link the textiles work to Geography by looking at the printed, woven or stitched textiles produced by other countries.



## Experimenting

Textile Designers

The use of a cold batik product enables children to experience resist techniques on fabric safely and at a much earlier age than when using traditional hot wax. Not only can links be made to real life processes but this is also a good way to practise control of materials and motor skills.

