



Studio Sunday on the Front Steps April 2017 Activity Cotton



Create your own *katagami* stencil-inspired water and leaf patterns to print in fabric paint on cotton.

For this project you will need:

- Pencil
- Oiled stencil board
- Scissors (or x-acto knife for older children or adults)
- Tape
- Fabric paint
- Brushes and water cups
- Muslin, cotton, or other plain fabric
- Newspaper or table covering for under the fabric

Cherry Blossoms on Dark and Light Streams, late 19th – early 20th century. Thrust-carving; silk webbing. SBMA, Gift of Virginia Tobin.

Let's begin!

1. Draw your stencil design in pencil on the oiled stencil board.
2. Cut out the design with scissors (young children may need assistance from an adult for this step) and close the entry cuts with tape.
3. Lay your fabric out flat (over the newspaper to prevent the paint from bleeding through) and place the stencil on the fabric. Apply the paint to the stencil with a stippling motion, using small amounts of paint at a time. Paint any combination of stencils on your fabric to create a one-of-a-kind design!

Tips & Tricks

- The stencil board can be difficult to cut—patterns with large openings and rounded edges work best.
- Create multiple different stencils to create a scene on your fabric, or try layering, rotating, or flipping the stencil over to create different visual effects.
- Try using one color, or different colors for different stencils. If you're ambitious, try blending from one color to another within one stencil print.
- The *katagami* stencils were made in a way that they can be aligned end-to-end to create a continuous image when printed. Try creating a stencil that gives the illusion of a longer or wider stencil by making a pattern that is split across the edges of the stencil, but forms a complete image when the stencil is moved and aligned.