What is Collagraphy?

Collagraphy is a type of relief printmaking in which collage materials are glued to a matrix.

Relief Printing

Printing from a raised image [one example is a stamp]

Matrix

The base from which a print is made.
MATERIALS

- Acrylic paint
- 2 pieces of cardboard (Juice/Milk cartons work well)
- Roller (or Foam/paint brush)
- Textured collage materials
- Scrap paper
- An envelope
- Heavy book
- Wooden spoon
- Scissors
- Glue

TEXTURED MATERIAL IDEAS

- Household items like cardboard, plastic, foil, yarn, bubble wrap, cheesecloth
- Items from nature like leaves, bark, sticks
We're designing our print to fit an envelope so we can send personalized letters :)

1. Cut out two pieces of cardboard the size of your design. These will be your matrices.

We're designing our print to fit an envelope so we can send personalized letters :)
2. ARRANGE YOUR TEXTURED COLLAGE ITEMS INTO DESIGNS FOR EACH SIDE OF THE ENVELOPE AND GLUE THEM DOWN.

REMEMBER
IN PRINTMAKING WE DESIGN IN REVERSE! LETTERS AND NUMBERS NEED TO BE BACKWARDS ON YOUR MATRIX TO PRINT CORRECTLY.

See how we reversed our front envelope design for the matrix!
Tape the matrix down to keep it still. Use a foam brush to dab paint on your base.

**FOAM BRUSH ALTERNATIVES:**
BRAYERS OR PAINT BRUSHES
DO A TEST PRINT ON SCRAP PAPER FIRST!

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LINE UP YOUR PAPER AND APPLY PRESSURE BY TRACING YOUR DESIGN WITH A WOODEN SPOON AND/OR BY PRESSING DOWN WITH A HEAVY BOOK.
5. Lift print and set aside to dry. Print additional layers of color and/or repeat the process for the other side.
Once dry, embellish your envelope with markers or colored pencils and then mail a letter to a friend!