

# CURBSIDE CRAFTS FROM THE PROVIDENCE ATHENÆUM'S CHILDREN'S LIBRARY!



## SOLAR PRINTS!

*What is a solar print?*

*A solar print is the silhouette of objects placed on dark paper and left out in the direct sunlight for a long time. The objects protect the color of the paper from fading in the sunlight. When a few hours have passed the objects may be removed from the paper, and there should be a dark silhouette that shows up. This is caused by the sun "bleaching" or fading the exposed paper with its powerful ultraviolet rays.*

### Supplies

- a bright and sunny day (not too windy)
- dark colored construction paper (supplied in kit)
- clear plastic paper protector, clear plastic wrap, or a sheet of plexiglass (supplied in kit)
- tape
- an assortment of small, variously shaped objects

### Directions

See back



**CURBSIDE HOURS:  
TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, SATURDAYS  
10AM-4PM**

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**OVER ►**

## **Directions**

Search for an assortment of objects outdoors (grasses, flowers, leaves, shells, etc.) or indoors (coins, buttons, keys, small toys) that you think will make an interesting image.

Find a spot outdoors that will get good sun for at least a few hours.

Lay the construction paper in that sunny spot, and arrange your objects on the paper. Cover with your plastic paper protector. Weigh or tape the edges down to make sure everything stays in place.

Here's the hard part: leave your creation alone in the direct sunlight for at least two hours, but longer is better! Try not to move the objects or check the progress.

After enough time has passed, remove the plastic and the objects and voila! You have made a solar masterpiece!

## **BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS**

*Sun Bread* by Elisa Kleven (ages 3-5)

*Musicians of the Sun* by Gerald McDermott (ages 4-8)

*How the Sun was Brought to the Sky* by Mirra Ginsburg (picture book)