

# Gel Press Mexican Folk Art Sun Face

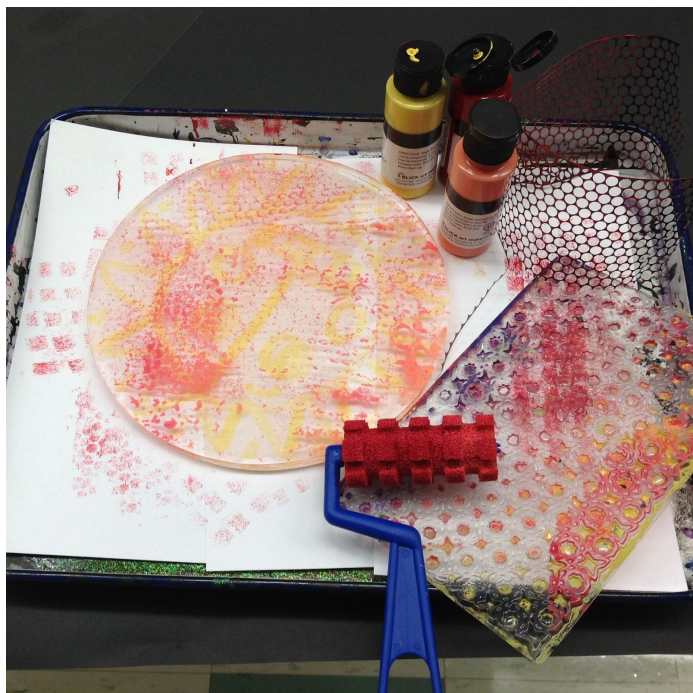
Grade 1



**Objective:** Students will use the circle Gel Press to create a Mexican Folk art inspired sun face. Focus will be on creating a textured background for their piece and using symmetry to craft a stylized sun face unique to the arts and crafts of Mexico.

## Materials

- Circle Gel Press
- Craft acrylic paints for printmaking (warm colors)
- Texture tools
- Paint pens (warm colors) or markers for detail
- Black permanent marker



## Motivation

- Share with students examples of traditional Mexican Folk Art sun faces.
- Discuss and demonstrate symmetry and a stylized sun face.
- Discuss the symbolism of the Mexican sun image as in representing life, energy and good luck.
- Share with students the Gelli plate printing process.
- Using warm colors in representing the sun.

**Step 1:** Students are grouped with 4 students sharing a circle Gel Press. Each student has a turn using their Gel Press and a limited palette of warm colors (orange, yellow and red) and a brayer to roll out their paints. Encourage mixing directly on the Gel Press. While each student is working with the Gel Press the other students will be sketching out the facial features they will be using on their sun.



**Step 2:** Allow each student's circle texture print to dry. Students use pencil to sketch on the dry print, adding detail, facial features and sun rays. Students will outline features using a black sharpie. Color will be added using paint pens or markers.

