SUNPRINT INSTRUCTIONS

What you need: Sunprint paper, water, fun and interesting objects to print.

Arrange your objects on a piece of Sunprint paper away from sun: The blue molecules embedded in the paper are sensitive to ultra-violet light. For the best results, organize your objects on the print paper where the sun's light cannot reach the paper. Direct sunlight will expose the paper very quickly.

Take your Sunprint outside and lay it directly in the sunlight for 2-5 minutes: The areas of the paper exposed to the sun will fade from blue to white. When you see most of the colour disappear from the paper, your print has been fully exposed.

Two crucial molecules in the paper are interacting, forming a new molecule. Their interaction is initiated by specific wavelengths of ultra-violet. The new molecule is colourless so that as the blue molecules are converted, the white of the paper base begins to show through. Areas of the paper covered by your objects still contain the original blue molecule, so they remain blue.

Rinse your Sunprint in water, and watch the colours change: To get the deepest blue that the paper can give, leave it in a container of water for 1-5 minutes. There are 2 exciting things happening underwater. First, the original blue compound is water soluble so that when you immerse it in the bath, the water carries it away. Second, the colourless compound whose formation was caused by the sun's energy is *not* water soluble, so it cannot wash away. It *is* sensitive to the water in a way that causes an oxidation reaction that turns the colourless compound into the deep blue of the finished Sunprint.

Lay your Sunprint on paper towel to dry!