

# Go with a bang!

Practise printing techniques to create a colourful firework display

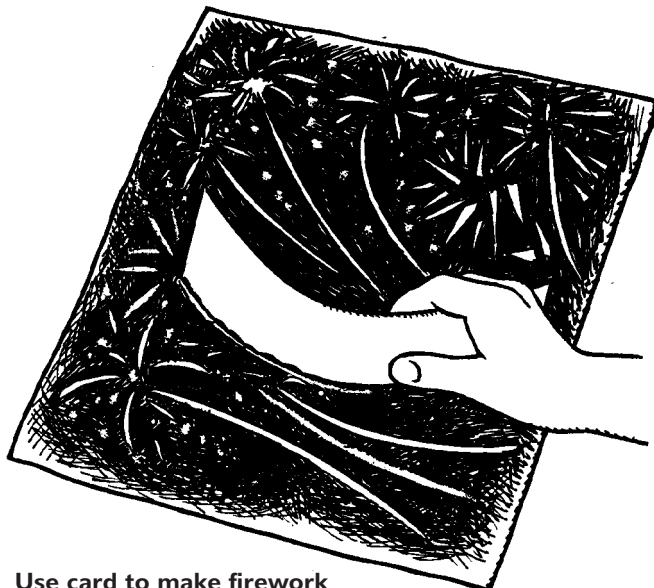
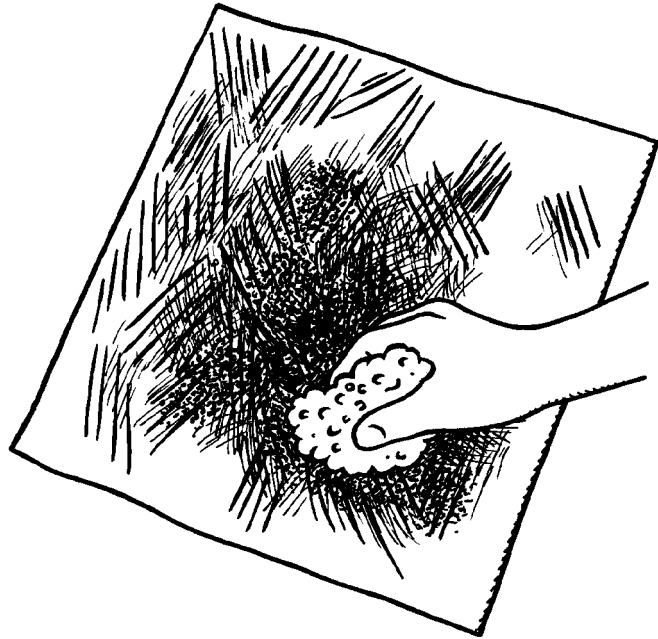
Look at the firework shown in the painting (*Bonfire Night* by Barry Watkin). It has been created out of lines and dots, and stands out from the rest of the image because the artist has used white, the lightest colour in the painting. In the following activity, children will be exploring a number of techniques to create their own bright firework display on a dark background.

## The background

**You will need:** dark paper or neutral sugar paper; paints in blues, red and yellows; sponges.

- Begin by preparing the background. Get children to mix a range of dark colours (see photocopyable 1 for guidance) and then sponge these onto the paper to create a dark, smoky sky.
- Children can explore the different effects that can be achieved by printing/dabbing with the sponge and/or by dragging it across the paper to smear colours.

**Use a sponge to create the background**



**Use card to make firework patterns by printing**

## The fireworks

**You will need:** scrap paper; pieces of stiff card; pieces of thinner card; cotton buds; thin dowels or round-ended sticks; white/fluorescent/metallic paints.

- While the backgrounds are drying children can practise printing their firework designs onto scrap paper. The edge of a sheet of stiff card can be great for creating straight lines, shooting upwards. Thinner card can be used for curved lines. Use the cotton buds and sticks to make dots for the sparks.
- Once designs are perfected and the backgrounds are dry, children can print their fireworks onto the surface. The paler and brighter the colours, the better they will show up.

