

Pin-Prick Art

Make pictures that come alive
when you shine a light



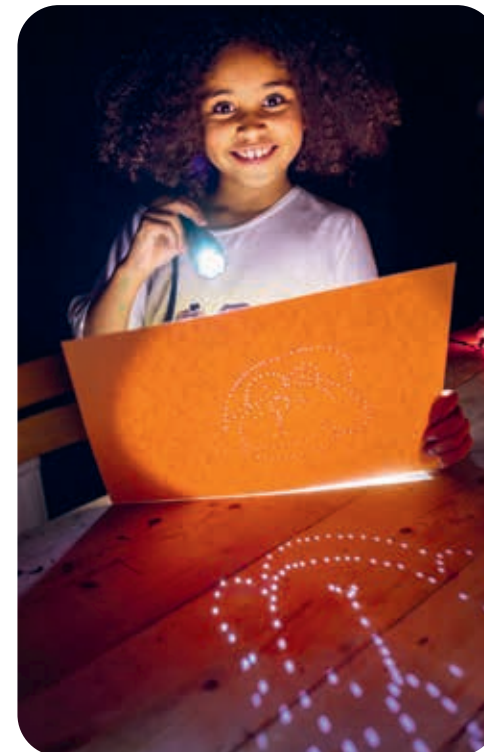
Pin-prick art is easy for little fingers to create, but still fascinating and complex enough for teenagers, making this a scalable, fun activity for families to try together. This form of craft was a popular pastime among the upper and middle classes in 18th century Britain and America. Special shops sprang up to supply amateur art enthusiasts with fine papers in all thicknesses and colours of the rainbow.



YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Paper – *coloured, black or white.*
- ✓ A soft pencil
- ✓ A thick piece of cardboard or foam
- ✓ Push pins, sticky tape or adhesive putty
- ✓ A small sharp nail, tack, awl or needle
- ✓ A light source – *table lamp, torch, LED tea light or candle*

1. Draw a design in pencil on the reverse of your paper.
2. Using pins, tape or sticky putty, fix your paper to the cardboard.
3. Following the pencil lines, carefully use the sharp object to prick through the paper. Be careful not to tear the paper. The popping sound you get when you push through is very satisfying!
4. Older children might like to fill in areas of the paper with pin pricks to create different effects. Lots of dots close together will let more light through and that area will be brighter.
5. Hold your picture in front of your light source and watch it spring to life.
6. Experiment with using different objects to make holes and create new textures and patterns.



Why Not...

Create a display in your front window, leave the curtains open and hold an art exhibition for passers-by.

Or use your art to make beautiful lanterns – simply tape your masterpiece into a cylinder shape, and stand it around an LED tea light.

Sharp Safety!

- Young children should be supervised when using sharp objects.