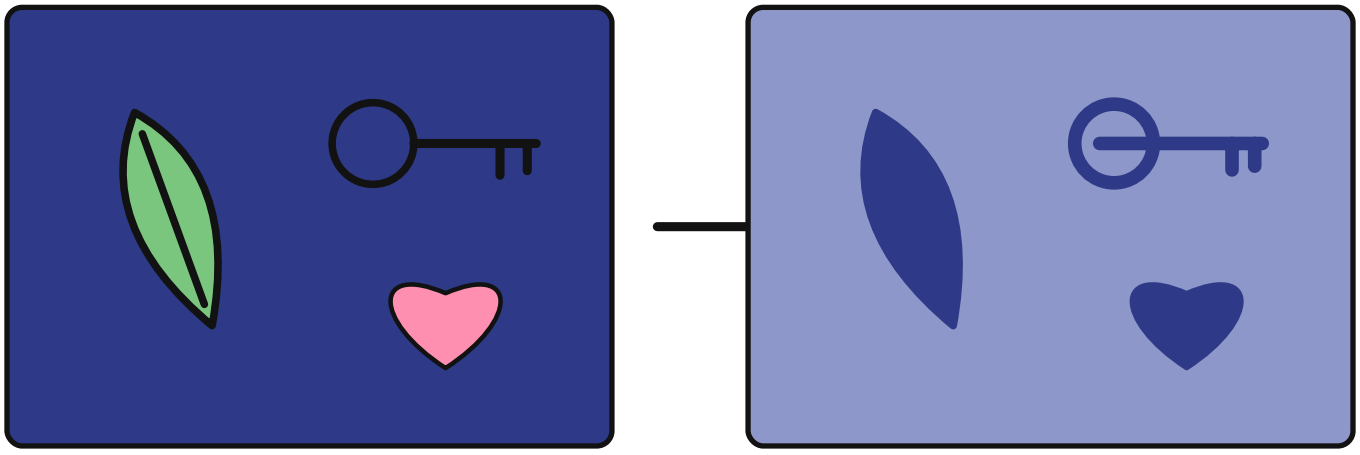
Sun-print pictures

Sunlight is strong enough to fade some coloured paper. Cover parts of a dark sheet, leave it in a sunny window, and the sun will ‘print’ a picture for you.



Day 1: cover

Days later: lift and look!

You need

- Dark coloured paper (dark blue, red or black)
- Flat things: leaves, keys, paper shapes
- A sunny window sill
- Tape, or a clear plastic sheet
- Patience: a few sunny days

1. Lay the flat things on the dark paper.
2. Tape them down or cover with a clear plastic sheet so nothing blows away.
3. Put it in a sunny window, facing the sky. Leave it for several sunny days.
4. Lift the things off. The covered parts stay dark; the sunny parts have faded.

How many days?

- ☐ Day 1: sunny / cloudy
- ☐ Day 2: sunny / cloudy
- ☐ Day 3: sunny / cloudy
- ☐ Day 4: sunny / cloudy
- ☐ Day 5: sunny / cloudy

Stick or draw your print

Some papers fade fast, some hardly at all. That is part of the fun: try two colours and compare. Never look straight at the sun.