Title: Letter Stamping
Recommended for: 2-5 year olds

Objectives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children</th>
<th>Adults</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creativity</td>
<td>Creativity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Follows direction</td>
<td>Teamwork</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooperation</td>
<td>Positive mood</td>
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<tr>
<td>Letter recognition</td>
<td>Recognition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fine motor</td>
<td>Fine motor</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Materials Needed: Recommended for small groups of 2-3 children and 2-3 elders.

- Stamps (letters)
- Stamp pads (several colors)
- Cards with simple 3-4 letter words printed clearly and a photo of the word
- Markers
- Paper
- Cards with participants’ names printed on them clearly

Methods:

Intergenerational Participants
1. Introduction -- pair each elder with a child and sing the hello song.
2. Introduce the stamp activity by demonstrating how to stamp.
   a. Option: Instead of just including letters, stamps could be shapes, words, or symbols.
      b. Place the stamps in an area where IG pairs can collect several stamps together.
         The adult or child could pick up the stamps for their group.
3. Have the IG pairs work on creating a word with the letters they have. Provide cards with words/photos on them to pairs that need help thinking of words.
4. Have the IG pairs work together to stamp their names – they can get up to find the letters they need.
5. Have the older adult in the pair write or stamp a letter and ask the child what it is.
6. Clean up and sing the goodbye song.

Helpful Websites
- [http://www.allcrafts.net/stamps.htm](http://www.allcrafts.net/stamps.htm)

Special Considerations
- Make sure adults and children do not stamp on their body without prior permission.
- Make sure adults and children know not to stamp on furniture, walls, etc.
- Be sure to have enough stamps for each IG pair to have several letters.

Getting to Know You
• Have IG pairs discuss how they spell their name. Have pairs stamp the names of people in their family (e.g. parents, siblings, pets).

**Encouraging Interaction**
• Have IG pairs discuss things that can be made with stamps (e.g. notes, cards, and signs).
• “You could ask ____ (IG partner) how to spell the word ____.”
• Ask IG pairs to brainstorm together animals, places, or colors that start with one of the stamp letters they have in front of them.

**Extension Opportunities**
• Making Christmas cards for family members around the holidays.
• Have the seniors and children make signs for the center.
• Stamp labels for things in the center so the children can practice their reading (e.g., coats to put over a coat rack or bathroom to put on the bathroom door).
• Make letters from whipped cream or icing or other squeezable goodies.
• Play junior scrabble.
• Play with magnetic letters on cookie sheets to spell words.
• Make letters with found materials or bodies (adults might take pictures of the kids shaping their bodies into alphabet letters).