

YOU can be an Artist at Work

Freeman Owle carves people and animals from the stories of his people, the Cherokee. Do you know some family stories? Here's something you can work on with your family. Tell stories as you carve!

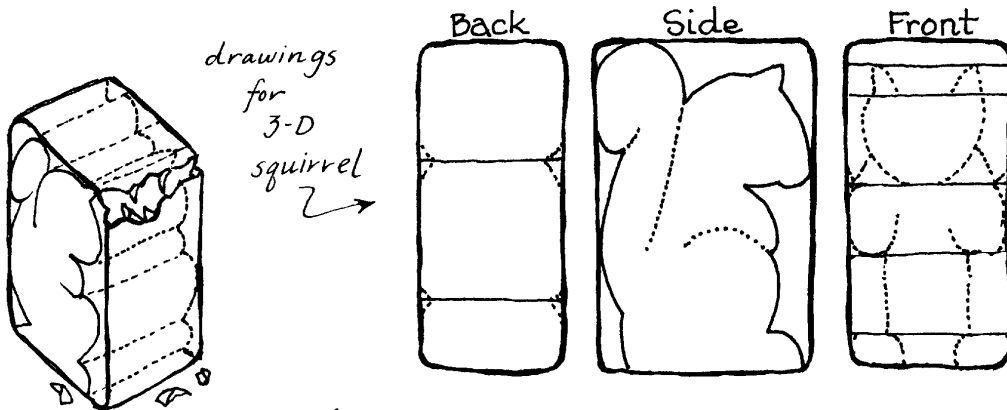
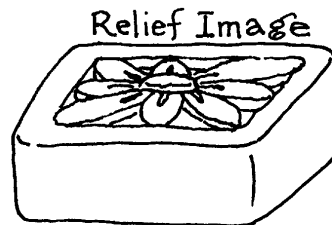
NOTE: Children should not attempt this project without adult supervision.

Soap Carving

For this project you will need a **new** bar of soap (Ivory and Dove work well) and a metal table knife or butter knife.

SAFETY NOTE: When you carve, always move the knife blade away from you and the hand holding the soap.

1. Unwrap the soap and let it sit out for one day.
2. Decide what you want to carve:
 - relief image:* a fairly flat design carved just deep enough so that the pattern stands out from the background.
 - 3-D image:* a sculpture, or three-dimensional representation, of an animal or person.
3. Draw a picture of what you want to carve onto the bar of soap. If the shape is complex, draw front, side, and back views (you can practice on a piece of paper first).
4. Cut the soap away carefully, removing only little chips. Once you cut a chip off, you can't put it back! Slowly carve the soap down to the lines you have drawn. Rough out the entire shape before carving the little details.



Leftovers??

Once you finish carving, you'll have lots of shavings and chips of soap. What can you do with them?

1. Try washing clothes the old-fashioned way! Before Biz or Tide, people sometimes scrubbed their clothes with soap they had grated into small pieces. Sprinkle some of your soap chips on a washcloth. Scrub, rinse, and wring it in a sink or bucket, and hang it up to dry. Would you like to wash all your clothes this way?
2. Fill a small cotton bag with soap chips, tie the end shut, and use it as a scrubber when you take a bath.

