



Mushroom Spore prints—its great fun!

Mushrooms produce millions of spores – these are like seeds.

Spores are produced in the gills underneath the mushroom cap, when they are mature they fall off the gills and are blown around by the wind.

Using a spore print you can see thousands of them all together - Amazing!

What you need:

a mushroom, black paper, white paper, cellotape tape, jam jar, hairspray (optional)



Process:

- Tape the black & white of paper together side by side, making sure the tape is underneath.
- Cut the stalk off a mushroom, then lay the cap down on the paper so that it is half on the black paper and half on the white paper.
- Cover the mushroom cap with the jar to prevent it from drying out.
- Leave it for at least two hours.
- Carefully remove the jam jar and the mushroom cap. You should see a pattern on one of the sheets of paper, depending on the colour of the spores.
- To prevent smudging, you can fix the print by spraying it with hair spray.



You may need an adult to help you.

