

## Objective

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to create a soap carving and learn about the historical significance of soap carving in different cultures.

## Materials and Prep

- A bar of soap
- A pencil
- A carving knife or a small spoon
- Optional: reference materials or images of soap carvings from different cultures

Before starting the lesson, make sure you have a clean and flat surface to work on. It's also important to have adult supervision or assistance when using the carving knife or spoon.

## Activities

1. Research: Spend some time exploring the history and cultural significance of soap carving in different parts of the world. Look for images or videos of soap carvings to get inspiration.
2. Design: Using a pencil, sketch your desired design on the bar of soap. Start with simple shapes and gradually add details.
3. Carving: Carefully use a carving knife or a small spoon to remove the soap around your design. Take your time and be patient. Remember to always carve away from your body to avoid accidents.
4. Refine: Once you have the basic shape carved out, use the carving knife or spoon to add finer details and smooth any rough edges.
5. Reflect: Take a moment to admire your soap carving and think about the cultural significance it might hold. Consider the historical context and the purpose of soap carvings in different societies.

## Seventh Grade Talking Points

- "Soap carving has been practiced for centuries in various cultures around the world."
- "In some cultures, soap carvings were used as decorative items or gifts, while in others they had ceremonial or religious significance."
- "Soap carving can be seen as a form of art that reflects the creativity and craftsmanship of individuals."
- "Different cultures have their unique styles and techniques when it comes to soap carving."
- "The history of soap carving can provide insights into the cultural values and traditions of different societies."
- "By creating your own soap carving, you are not only engaging in a fun and creative activity but also connecting with a historical art form."