

Answers:

Gold Foil, Scented, Crystals, Lenticular, Wood, Record, Glow in the Dark, Felt

DRCLACLLFSFAG
O EERLAADTFLLD
OCTGYOIREYERE
WORNOSC LDGNAW
KRADEHTN IWOLG
NDHECCOASOAVO
RDFWODADRDCTF
WVLI DAODT DNO
I LYODESNEAOE I
O CDCL EWCK LOLL
L L I TRDODUINSE

in this gallery!

Look for the 8 unusual stamps featured

Word Puzzle

Did you know...?

Sometimes, people mail strange things. In November 2006, someone in the United States of America sent a coconut through the post!

Mataking Island of Sabah, Malaysia has an underwater post box. Mail is collected from the post box twice a week and cancelled with a special postmark!

In 1879, 37 cats were trained to deliver bundles of letters in Liège, Belgium. This project did not last as the cats were too undisciplined!

A bottle with a message was set adrift in the ocean in 1914 and it was only recovered by an English fisherman in 2006! This is known to be the longest time any bottle with a message had spent at sea.

FUN FACT!
Do you know that United Kingdom is the only country that doesn't have its name on its stamps? Instead, they have the silhouette of Queen Victoria. See if you can spot any of these stamps in this gallery!

Where do you think was the silhouette of Queen Victoria taken from?
(Hint: It's round and you may have it in your pocket!)
Why is the stamp black in colour?
(Hint: Technology)

Here's a few questions for you to think about:



The Penny Black is the world's first adhesive postage stamp.

Before stamps were invented, the person who received the mail usually paid postage. If he or she refused to accept the mail, the poor postman would not get any payment! Unfortunately, this happened quite often.

Subsequently, senders began writing secret messages on the envelope. When the postman reached the receiver's house, the receiver will read the secret message on the envelope and then refused to pay for the mail.

Sir Rowland Hill, a British postmaster, introduced stamps in 1840. The sender had to buy stamps and paste them on the letter before mailing it. Stamps were proof that postage had been paid.

The postman did not need to make any more wasted trips. Mail delivery became faster and cheaper.

ORANGE ROOM



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SINGAPORE PHILATELIC MUSEUM

Singapore Philatelic Museum is Singapore's only museum devoted to philately which was officially opened on 19 August 1995.

The museum assumes the role of custodian and curator of the nation's treasure of philatelic materials for posterity and education.

Find out things that you never knew about stamps through this Museum Guide, which has been specially designed to help you optimize your visit to our permanent galleries!

Singapore Philatelic Museum

Self-Directed Museum Guide



Purple Room

Did you spot the difference between the Penny Black and the stamps we see today? That's right, it does not have any perforation*! The production of stamps has changed over the years, from imperforated stamps to sticker stamps, hence, there are many printing methods used.

Walk through the production line of stamps as shown in the panels in this gallery.

Explore the gallery and find the answers to these questions

Why would a stamp collector be thrilled to discover a design error on a stamp?

Which printing method is widely used in the printing of Singapore stamps?

How fast can the DBCS machine sort mails?

How does the ink used to cancel mail prevent cheating?

You have learnt about the language of philately in the Orange Room. What type of stamp is selected stamp for the Singapore Arts Festival?

With technologies like emails, why are letters and stamps still important?

*Perforation: Holes at each corner of the stamp align horizontally and vertically

How do you collect stamps?

Stamps are beautiful pieces of artwork and through stamps we can learn about a country's culture, people, festivals, history, heritage and more.

Moreover, as stamps contain treasure troves of information, we can collect them, study about them and share them with our family and friends.

Stamps can be collected in two different ways; through countries, e.g. Singapore, Thailand, Japan etc. or through themes such as transportation, culture, animals etc.

Stamps can be bought from stamp dealer shops or from the mails we receive.

The removal of stamps from an envelope/postcard is known as floating. Here's how:

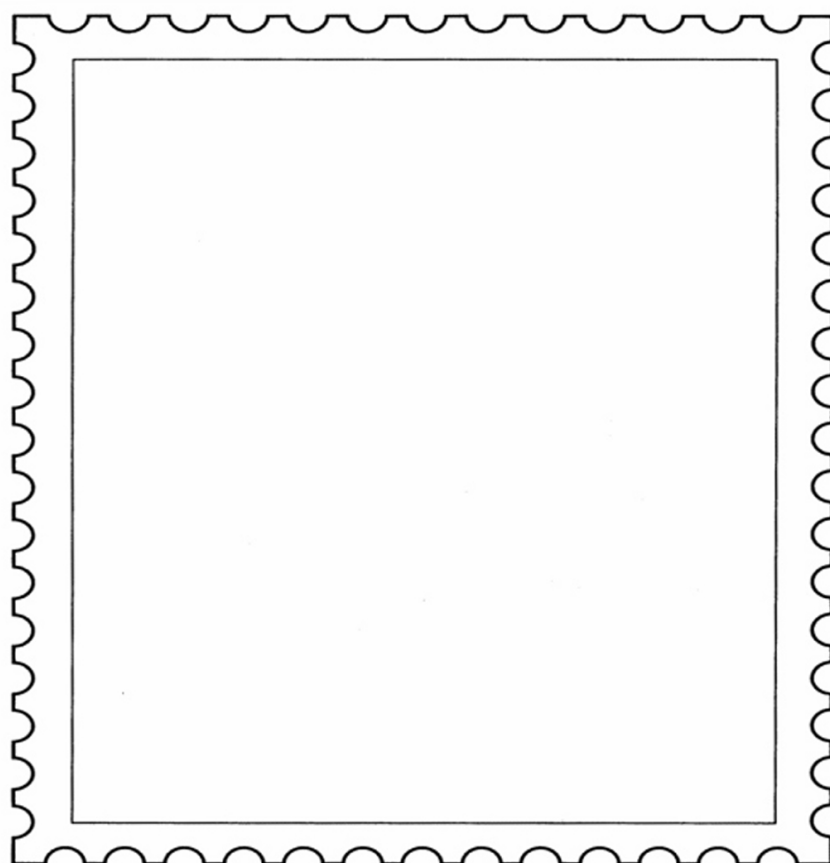
1. Cut the stamp from the envelope, leaving a border around it
2. Put the stamp into a bowl of water and let it soak
3. When the stamp moves away from the paper, take out the wet stamp from the bowl using a pair of tweezers (Be careful not to tear the stamp)
4. Dry it on some newspapers with the image facing down (Some of the adhesive might still be on the stamp) The newspaper will help to absorb the water from the stamp

Head down to our Museum Shop to view the wide variety of stamps for sale!

Future of Stamps

There are many unique stamp designs today. How would you give your stamp a personal touch?

Use the stamp template below and design a stamp!



List the unique features of this stamp:

Room of Rarities

Get an up-close-and-personal view of philatelic rarities from our 18th century collection and trace the growth of Singapore through philately and postal artefacts.

Explore the gallery and find the answers to these questions

What are pre-stamp covers?

Name the counter that was known as the longest postal counter in SEA

What is the common purpose of the Lamp Post Box?

What are the correspondences the Malay Postmen handled?

How are telegraph and train mail significant in the communication between Singapore and its neighbouring countries?

In which year were the first pictorial stamps issued in Singapore?

What event did the first miniature sheet printed in Singapore commemorate?

When was the stamp vending machine replaced?

Green Room

Did you know that Philately is known as the "the king of hobbies" and the "hobby of kings"?

Look through the panels of stamps from around the world as well as local stamps from 1969 onwards. You may use these questions below to get you started!

What did the stamps designed by Eng Siak Loy in the year 2000 feature?

In 2009, Singapore collaborated with a neighbouring country to issue "Tourist Attraction" themed stamps. Which country issued these stamps?

What was the theme used on the stamps to commemorate National Day in 1998?



Want to start on your own stamp collection? Learn how to float stamps!

Heritage Room

Believe it or not, the history and culture of Singapore has been captured in stamps! This special gallery brings you to the past where there were many Spice Grinding Shops and people wore wooden clogs instead of the shoes we wear today.

The main ethnic communities in Singapore are the Chinese, Indians, Malays and Eurasians. Learn about them and note down related keywords (e.g. Chinese New Year, Dagu and Fire Crackers for the Chinese community) in the table below!

Chinese	Indians
Malays	Eurasians

Discuss with your child
How do you show respect to friends of other races?