CoolitArt

Printmaking - Lino

This is a great way to try out printmaking at home! All you need is a polystyrene container and a pencil to make a plate to print, much safer than traditional lino and having to gouge it out with sharp tools!!
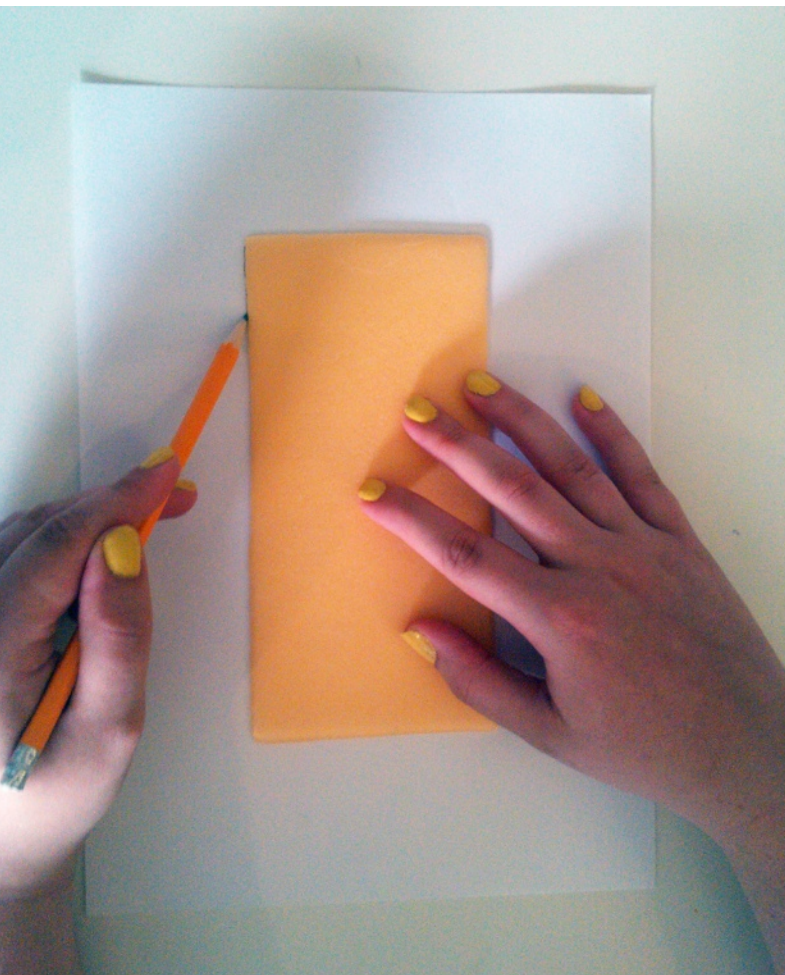
Tools and Materials:
- Takeaway Box
- Paintbrush
- Acrylic/Poster Paint
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Paper
- Bowl for paint and maybe some water to add to paint
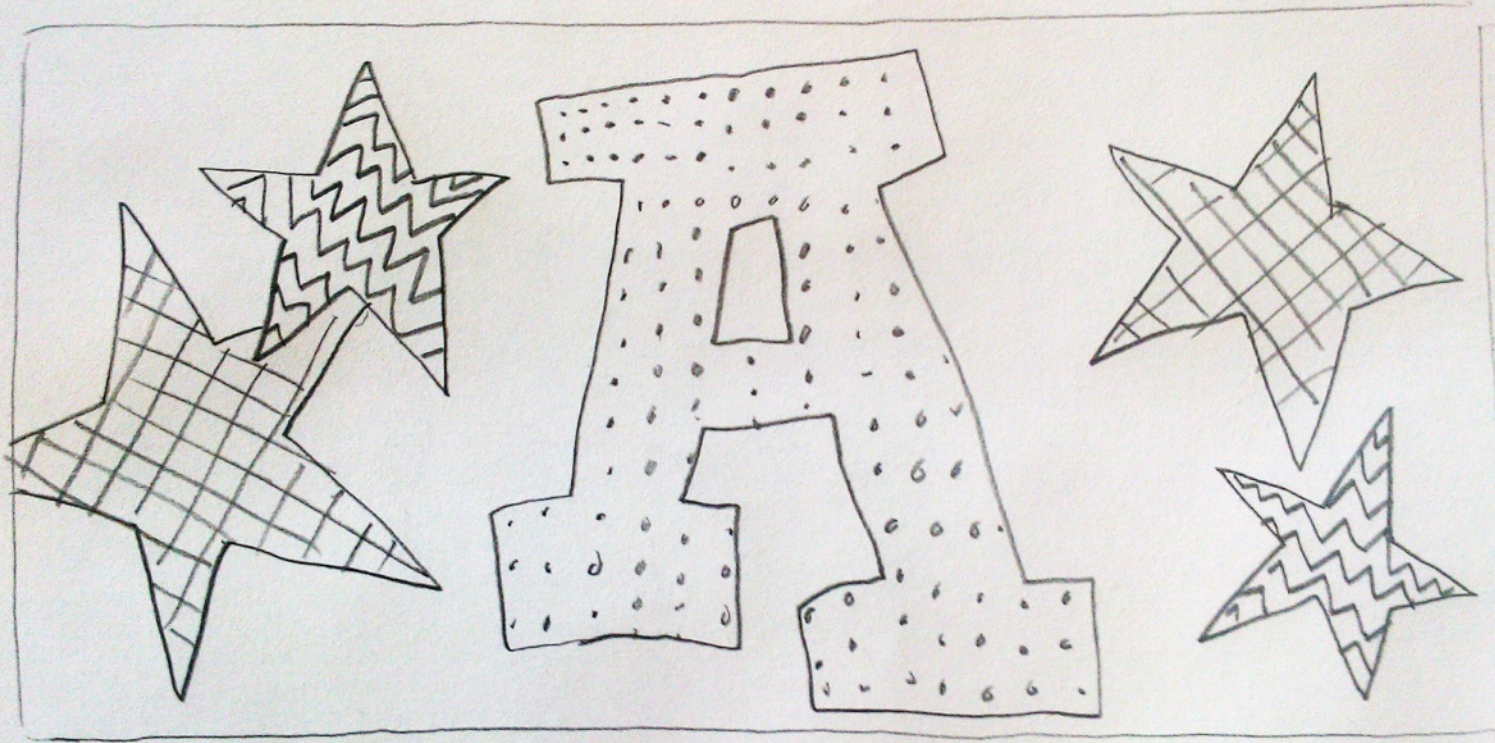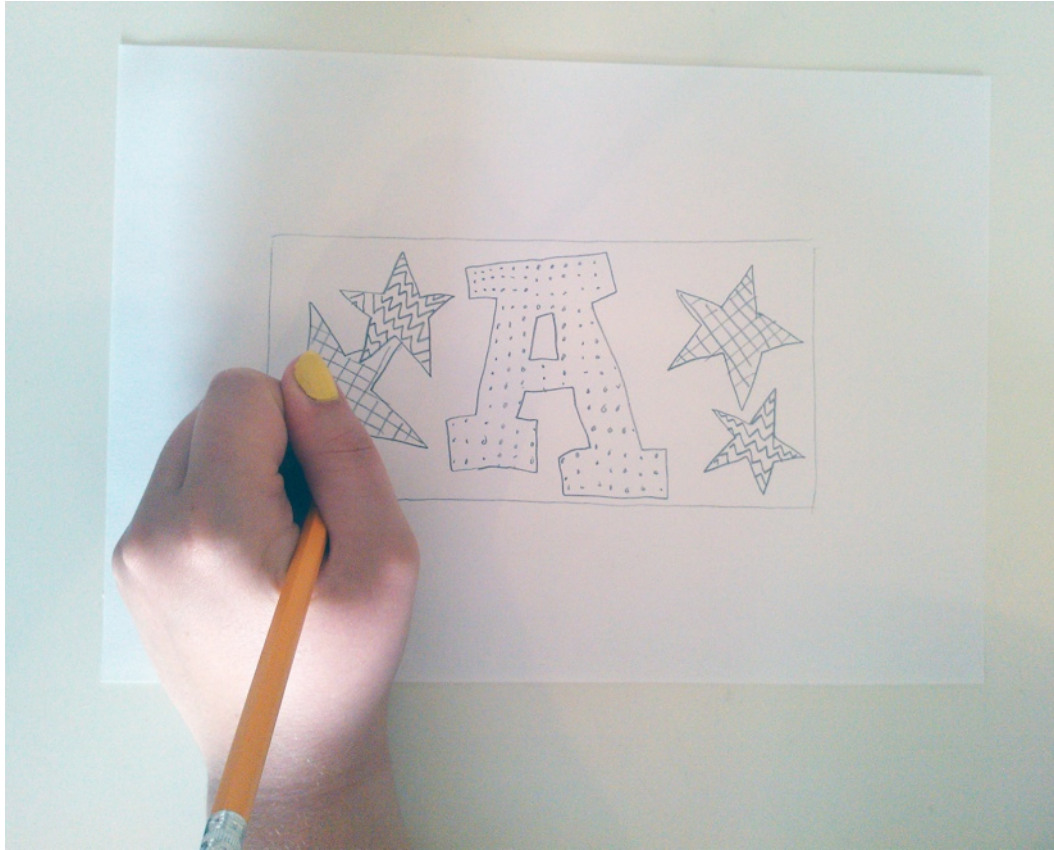- Biro/Ball Point pen

To get started you need to cut your takeaway box to make plates you can draw on like so
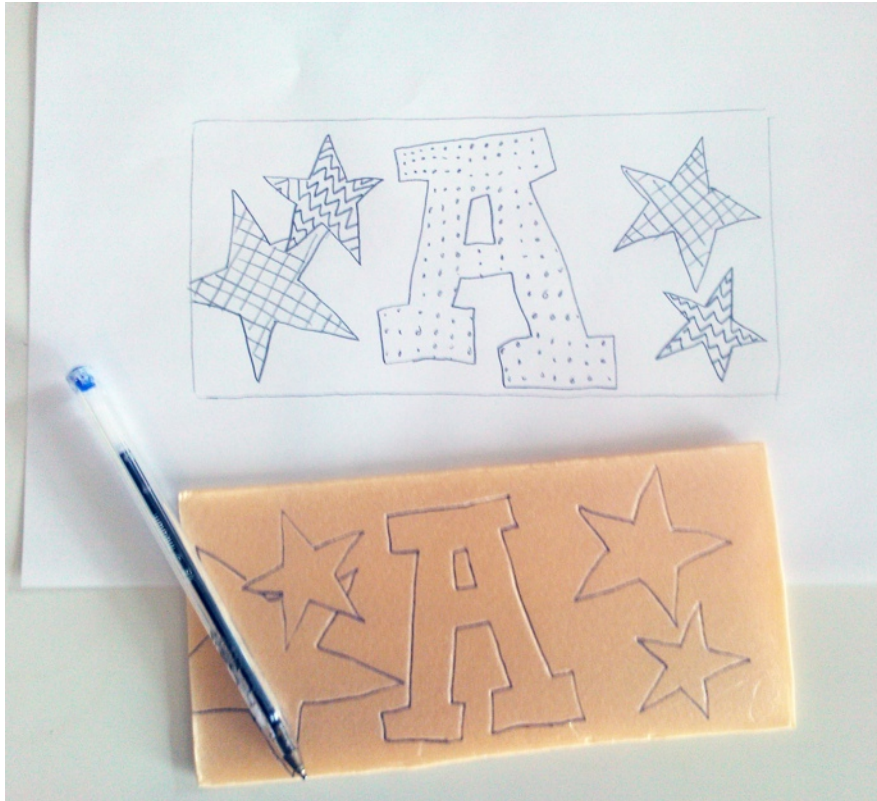

Once you have your plate take one and draw round it on a piece of paper so you know how much space you have to do your design. It is best to plan your design out as once you start drawing into the polystyrene you can't change any of the lines!

Now start drawing out your design, think what you would like to do, line drawings and patterns work well, don't forget if you want to write words you have to do them mirror image to print the right way round! Practice on spare paper first if you are unsure

Once you are happy with your design start drawing it onto your plate, softly at first but you do want to go as deep as you can into the polystyrene to produce a surface that prints

When you have added all the details in you should end up with your plate looking like this

Now you are ready to print, mix the paint with a bit of water to make it more easy to use, you may want to play around with consistency to find out what works for you. Cover your plate in paint like so making sure to do it on some paper or newspaper so it doesn't go on the table!!

Then push it down flat on the paper you want to print on and then smooth the back of it with your hand to make sure the paint touches every bit of the paper

Then lift one of the corners gently to peel the plate off

Then you end up with your finished print!

Here are some other ideas for what you could make!