**d.i.y. Rainbow Scratchboard**

**SUPPLIES**
- Newspaper or wax paper
- Thick paper (cardstock, mixed media paper, or any paper with a heavier weight)
- Paint palette (paper or a plastic plate works!)
- Black acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- Crayons or oil pastels (if using crayons, make sure they are wax based)
- Toothpick, skewer, paper clip, or any sharp utensil you can scratch with
- Dish soap

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Lay out newspaper or wax paper to protect the surface you’re working on.

2. Use crayons or pastels to cover a sheet of your thick paper with any design you like, from stripes to spirals to hearts. Just make sure you press firmly and completely cover the paper. Any areas left white will absorb paint and be un-scratchable.
   a. Plan out your spacing before you begin coloring.
   b. The design you create doesn’t matter as much as the diversity and repetition of colors that you use.
   c. The brighter the colors you use, the more they’ll stand out against the black paint.

3. Gently mix equal parts dish soap and paint together on your palette. This will help the paint stick to the crayon or pastel.

4. Coat your entire paper with paint and allow it to dry. Depending on the type of paint you use, one layer may not be enough to cover the colorful background. If you like the way it looks when some of the color shows through, you can move on to the next step. If you want to completely cover the crayon or pastel, paint as many layers as necessary, but keep in mind that you will need to let each layer dry between applications, and the thicker you layer the paint, the harder it will be to scratch through.

5. Once the paint dries, use your pointed utensil to scratch away the paint, revealing the rainbow colors underneath. You can scratch out letters or shapes, or just create a cool pattern.

6. If you peel up too much paint, or are unsatisfied with your drawing, you can always paint over whatever you don’t like and try again.

When your creation is complete, turn it into a postcard, hang it in your window, or cut it into pieces to make a collage or something totally different. Have fun making these rainbow scratchboards all month long with friends and family, take pictures of what you dream up, and post them on social media using #DMAatHome.

Always Free. Art for All. Your DMA.