Elements: Line
Principles: Pattern & Emphasis
Materials:

☐ 7” x 7” multi-colored construction paper
☐ Craft foam cut in 2.5” x 2.5” squares (dollar store)
☐ Pencils
☐ Brayers
☐ Paper plates or glass to roll brayers on
☐ Acrylic paint OR ink (*see note below*)
☐ Paper towels
Greetings,

Lesson: “Brayer Animals”

Instructions:

1. Show a painting made by American artist Andy Warhol to illustrate repetition and pattern to create emphasis in art (see below). Talk a bit about his use of bright colors as well.

2. Show the sample art. Explain that students will be using a brayer – a rolling tool – to spread paint (or ink) over a stamp and then press the stamp evenly onto paper to make an image.

3. Briefly explain that stamps made by artists are typically made from rubber (or wood) with a tool to engrave or create line (linocutter) for the stamping process. Tell the students that we will be using craft foam and pencils to create a similar effect.

4. Have students sketch a line drawing of an animal on paper. The sketch can be a portrait of the animal face or a profile of the animal face... or a whole body simple line drawing of the animal. Encourage them to just focus on the main lines of the animal.

5. Once they have established what they want to draw, then have them draw the same image onto their foam using pencil. They may need to use a slight bit of pressure to make an indentation in the foam, but caution them that too much pressure will actually tear the phone. I would recommend having some extra form on hand for students who have to practice at this. Inevitably some foam gets torn.

6. Have the students pick a few colored papers to print their stamp on. When the stamp is complete, roll brayer on a flat surface to pick up paint. Tell the students that they need to pay attention to getting the entire brayer evenly covered. Once a minute was spent getting the paint onto the brayer, have the students roll it across their stamped image. Paint dries fast, so tell students immediate stamping is needed.

7. Have the students quickly apply their stamp onto the paper, with even pressure across back of stamp and repeat this three more times, reapplying paint between each stamp.
8. After the students have used a specific color, they can trade brayers and paint plates with one another to try their stamp out in a new color – no need to worry about cleaning the stamp. Make as many prints as desired.

9. Have students add their name to the back of their print. Let them take the foam stamp they created home (may need small plastic bags for this). Immediately clean the brayers as acrylic paint dries quickly.

*DO NOT USE TEMPERA – It is too thin and will fill in the lines of the stamp*

American artist Andy Warhol – A Set of Six Self-Portraits – 1967

(Be careful searching up Warhol in a class setting because he has some nude photograph art – know the name of the paintings you wish to show if using smartboard)