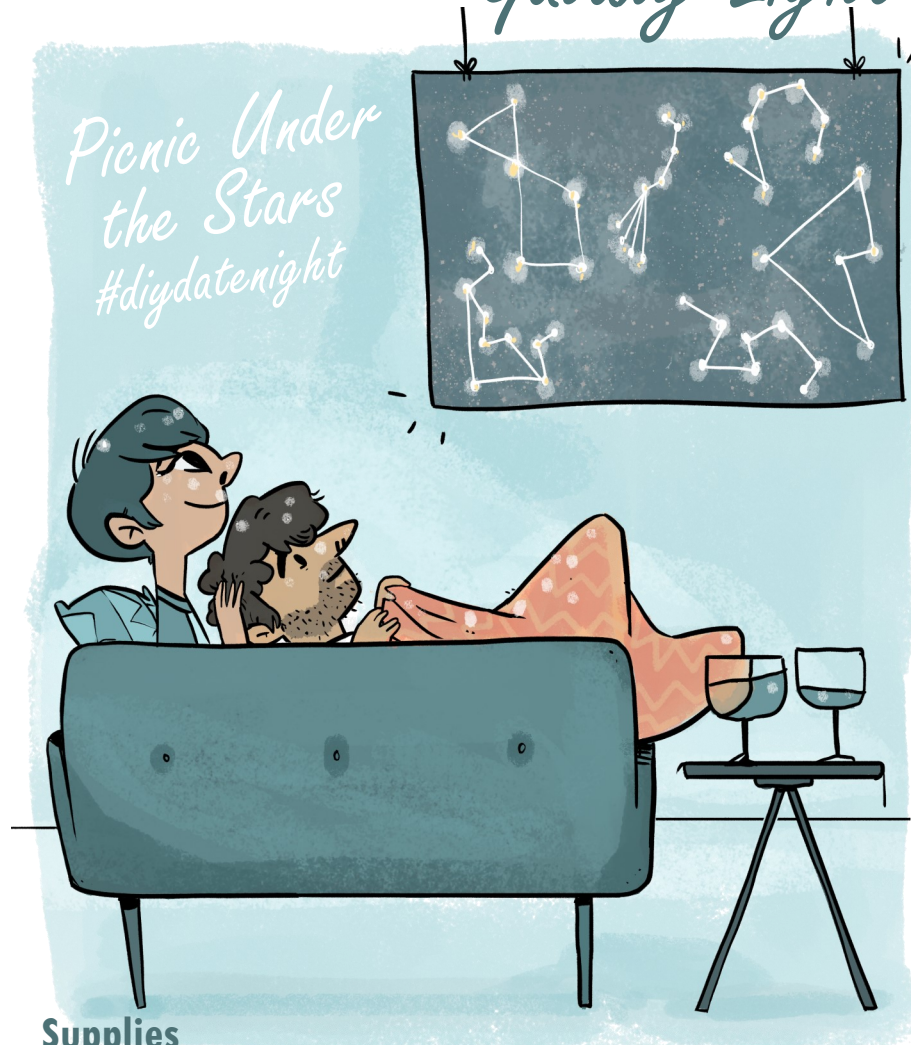


Galaxy Light Board Tutorial



Supplies

- Black foam core poster board
- Ballpoint pen or pencil
- Masking tape
- White paint pen
- Paper plate
- Paper towels
- Toothpicks
- Small natural sponges
- 2 Binder clips
- Temporary wall hooks
- Acrylic hobby paint (blue, pink, purple, white)
- String of white lights (plug in or battery powered)
- Extension cord (if needed)
- Laser pointer (optional)
- A sense of wonder and imagination

Instructions

Paint a 'galaxy' background

1. Squirt a dab of blue paint onto the paper plate and dip one sponge into the paint
2. Wipe off excess paint by lightly dabbing the sponge on a clean part of the plate
3. Paint on the poster board by lightly pressing the sponge onto the board in a random pattern
4. Repeat with purple and pink paint

Create a star field

5. Squirt the white paint on to the paper plate
6. Dip the end of toothpicks into the paint (we did it with one in each hand)
7. Paint the stars by just tapping the tip of the toothpick to the poster board

Draw your constellations

8. Using the white paint pen, draw out the constellations you want. They can be real or imaginary
9. Wait a minute or two for the paint to be dry, you don't want to smudge the lines
10. Take the ballpoint pen or pencil and poke a hole through the poster board for each star
11. From back to front, push the bulbs from the string of lights through the holes (don't worry if there are a few lights in between that aren't poking through, you can use the masking tape to dress the string and tape it to the back of the poster board)

Hang your night sky

12. Put the binder clips on the top corners of the poster board
13. Find the place where you want to do your star gazing and attach the temporary hooks on the wall
14. Hang the galaxy board by the binder clips
15. Plug in the sky (if your lights aren't battery powered)

Enjoy the star gazing

16. You can use a laser pointer to point out the constellations you created and take turns doing a "planetarium show" narration telling the stories of the constellations.

