

## Reflection 1

I began my internship at Old Dominion University's Brooks Crossing Innovation Lab on September 3rd, and I'm absolutely thrilled about it! After a long search, being accepted into my first internship feels like a major accomplishment. As a Makerspace Technician, I'm diving into a variety of technologies, including lasers, 3D printers, CNC machines, vinyl cutters, heat presses, UV printers, and DTG printers. I also maintain this equipment and teach community members how to use it, creating programs and tutorials for the iLab website.

Working with vinyl and heat presses is a perfect match for my interests, as I have experience making t-shirts, stickers, and digital content. This internship not only equips me with practical skills but also serves as a stepping stone toward my future career in cybersecurity.

In my first week, I familiarized myself with the equipment and successfully created a personalized keychain using the 3D printer. I also designed a pencil case and applied my design using the DTG printer. The second week was just as rewarding; I crafted a lantern with the laser printer and helped run a family workshop where participants made their own

Samantha Hairston

lanterns. By the third week, I developed a tutorial for a workshop on building paddle boats from popsicle sticks, which was both fun and educational. I also designed shirts and printed them using the DTG printer for an aerospace field trip.

In my fourth week, I created a design for the Department of Cybersecurity, producing 100 coasters with the laser printer. Over the first 50 hours, I learned a lot about the equipment and processes, while also engaging with fellow interns and community members. Organizing the facility and building connections has made this experience incredibly enriching. Overall, it's been an amazing start to my internship journey!

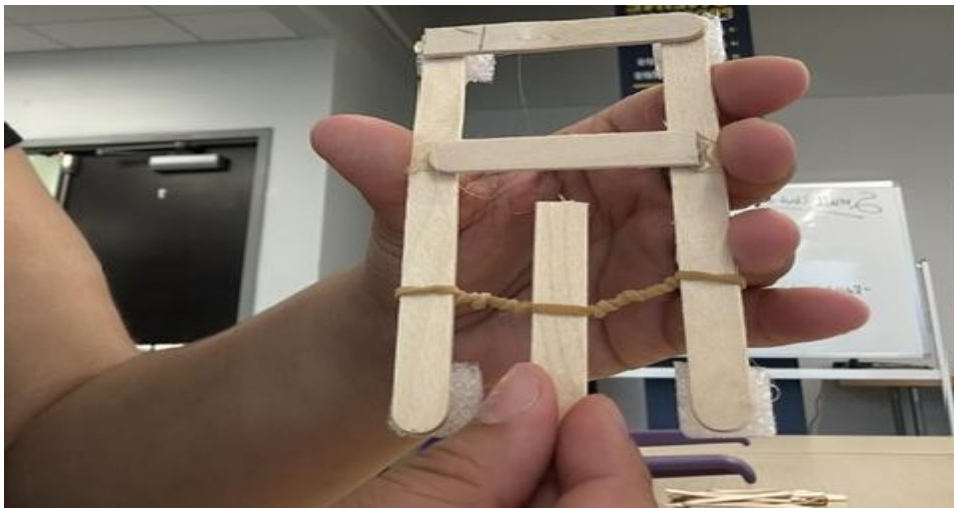
Attached Below are some of the projects I worked on:



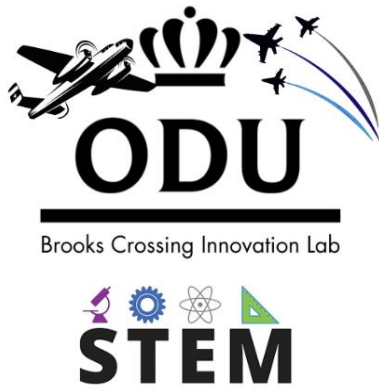
Pencil Case I created with DTG Printer.



Keychain I created with the 3D printer.



Paddle boat made out of popsicle sticks.



## Aerospace T-shirt Design