This is a Japanese ceramic dish made in the 1970s. The artist pressed clay into a shallow square mold, which he made to be used over and over again. When dry, the clay was removed and the process of the decoration would begin. The decoration is made with colored glazes and slips. Slip is liquid clay that produces color when it is fired in a hot kiln.

Shoji Hamada was declared a national living treasure in Japan, one of the few countries in the world to give such high honors to artists and craftspeople.

Ceramic artists create forms from clay. on the surface of the forms, designs are added. On this square dish, Hamada created designs using a wax resist technique.
Use a crayon and draw your own surface designs on the plate. Cover it with watercolor for a simple wax resist.