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The Robert McLaughlin Gallery



Patterns

Lesson Plan for Grade 1-3



Jock MacDonald, Phoenix, 1949, watercolour and ink on paper. Gift of Alexandra Luke, 1967.

What is a pattern?

A Pattern is a repeated design

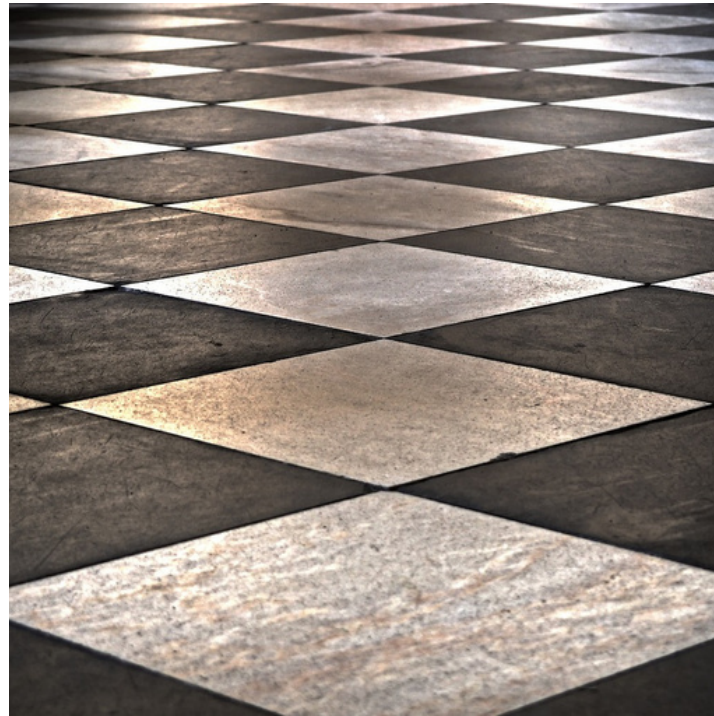
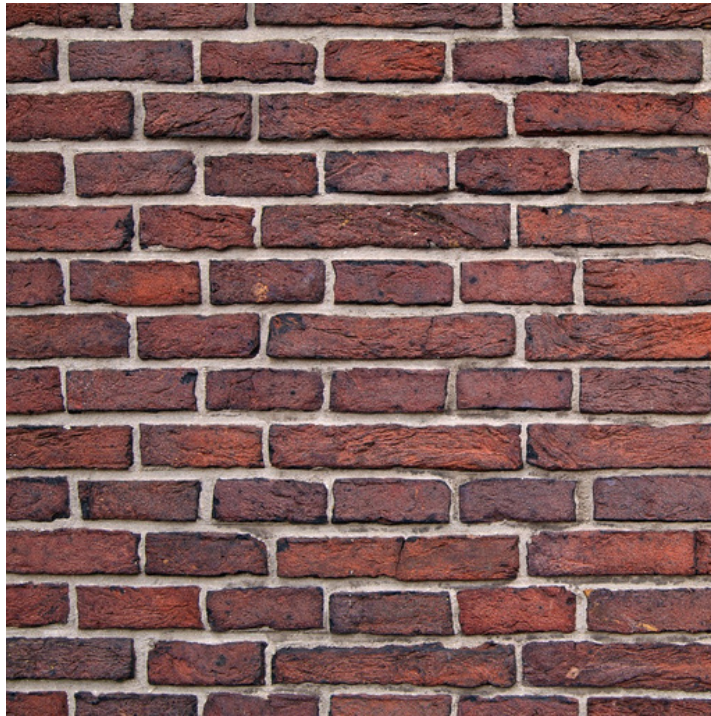
Patterns are like the beat to a song, repeating in a logical sequence. Whether it's stripes on a sweater or a series of numbers, shapes, or images, it's all about the repetition. Picture a pattern of alternating colors or a display of repeated lines and shapes.

What types pattern are there?

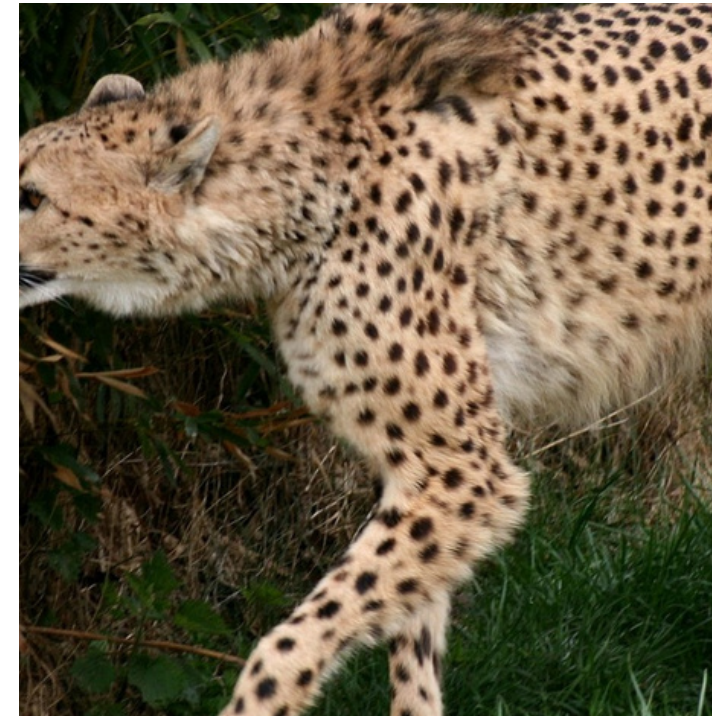
Patterns come in various forms, ranging from organic to geometric shapes, and can be found in both nature and human-made creations. They can be playful, precise, or free-flowing, and the options are limitless.

Types of patterns

Patterns Created by Humans



Patterns Created by Nature



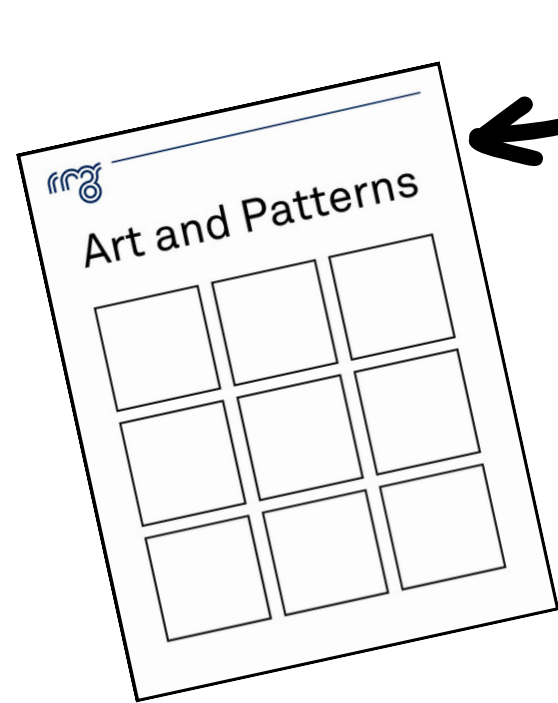
Let draw some simple line patterns

Grab a sheet of paper and a drawing tool, and give these type lines a try!

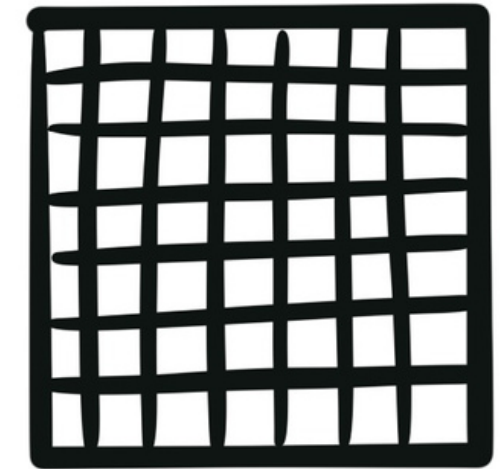
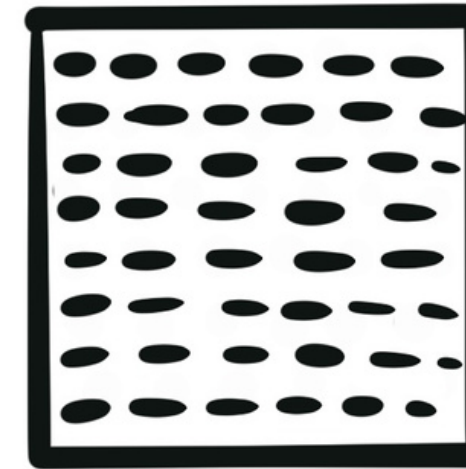


Let draw some simple patterns

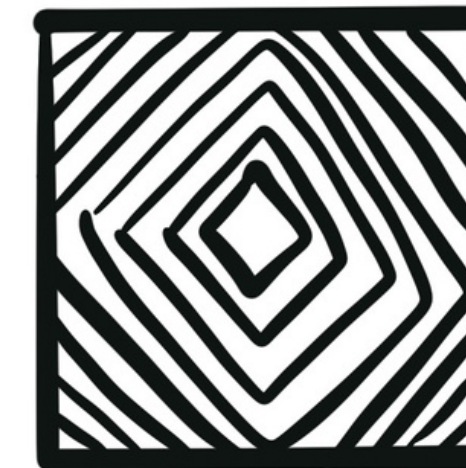
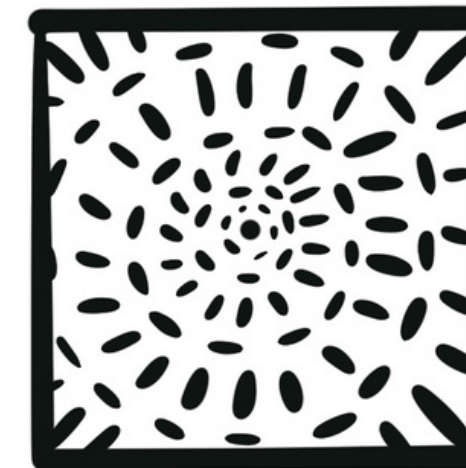
Print out the worksheet and practice drawing lines and shape patterns.



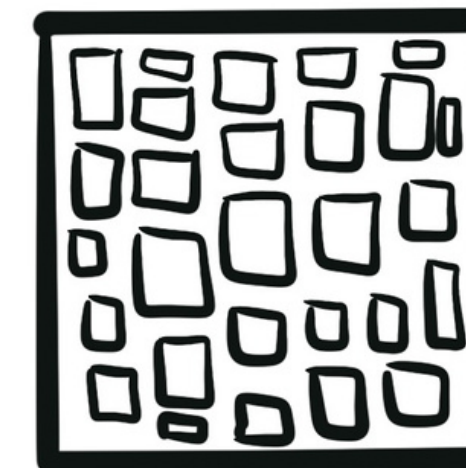
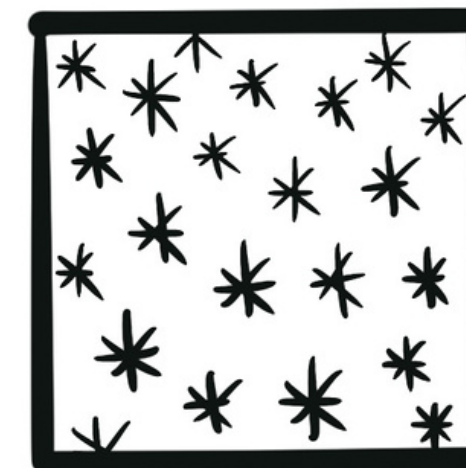
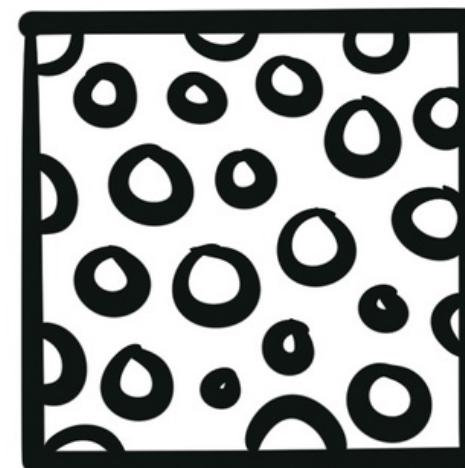
line →



radial →



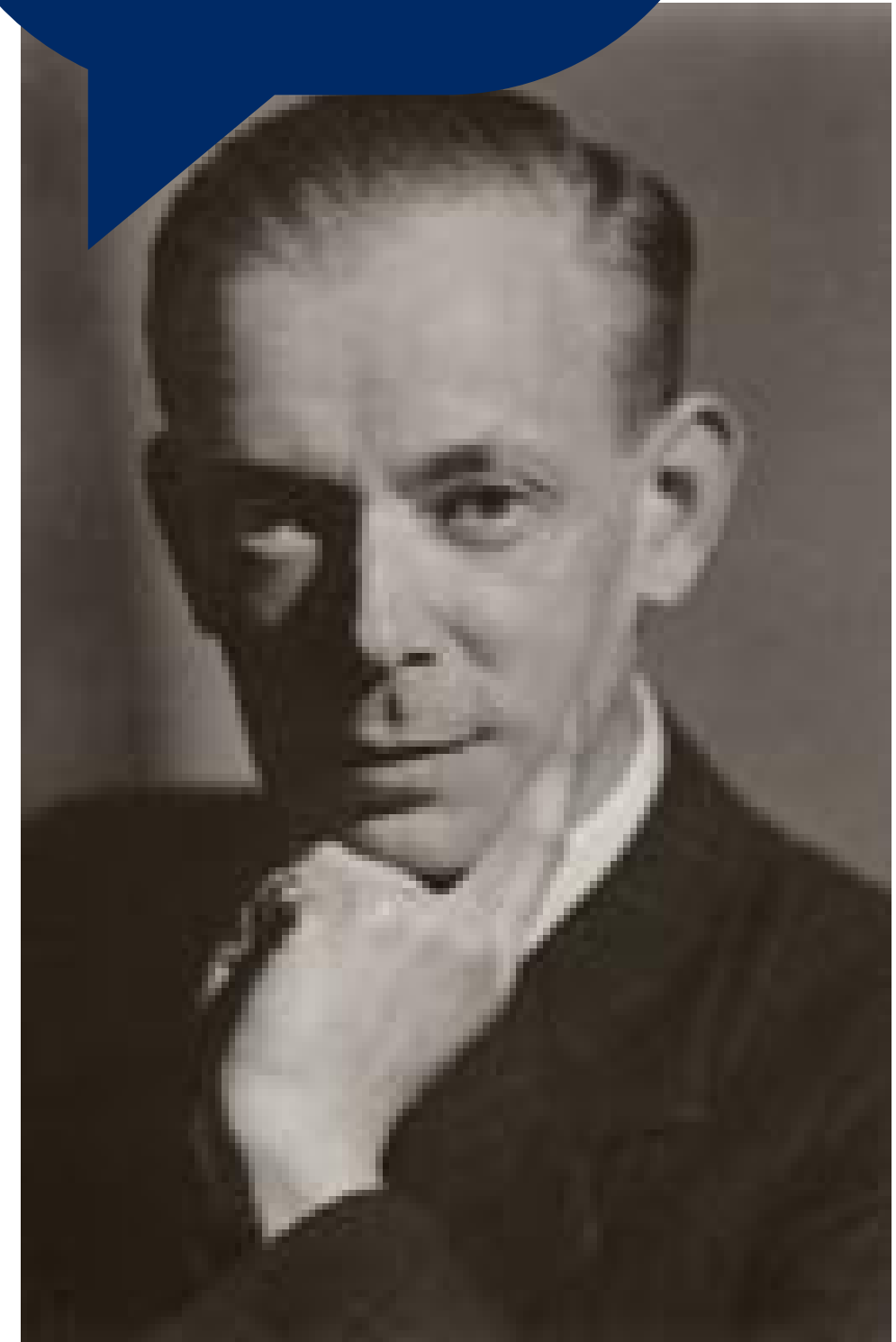
shape →



Jock Macdonald

- 1 He was Canadian and part of a group called the Painters 11.
- 2 He was often inspired by nature and the natural world.
- 3 Worked as an artist and a teacher.

Who Was He?



Jock Macdonald

Let's play a fun game of "I Spy" with patterns!

1

Can you describe one of the lines you see in the artwork?

2

Count up all the different line patterns you can spot!

3

Can you give us a clue about what the overall image looks like to you?



Jock Macdonald, Phoenix, 1949, watercolour and ink on paper. Gift of Alexandra Luke, 1967.

Hortense Gordon

- 1 She was Canadian and part of the Painters 11.
- 2 She was very involved in her community.
- 3 She spent time both as a student of art and a teacher of art.
- 4 She learned many different ways and styles of painting.

Who Was She?



Hortense Gordon

- 1 Count the bird shapes - how many do you see?
- 2 Can you spot any other designs that keep popping up in this piece?
- 3 Are these patterns inspired by nature or by human-made things?

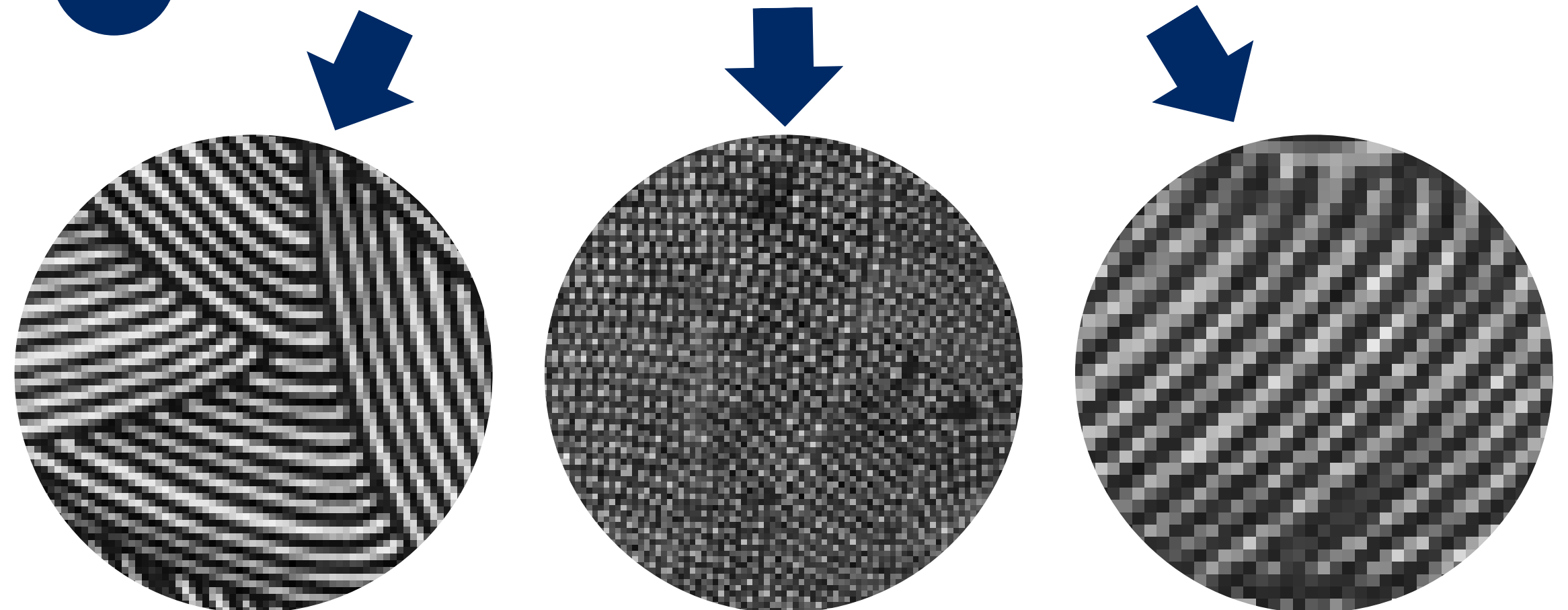


Hortense Gordon, Plate, Bird Design, 1928, hand-painted porcelain. Gift of the heirs of the Hortense Gordon estate, 1971.



Robert Wilson

- 1 Can you describe one of the patterns you see being used this artwork?
- 2 Can you find these patterns in the artwork?

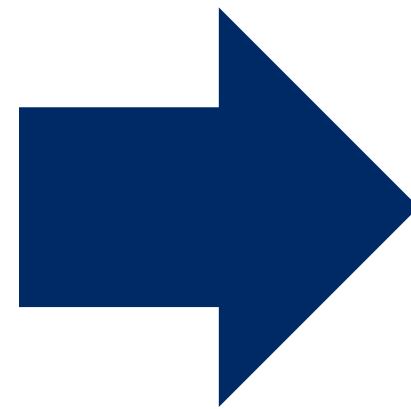
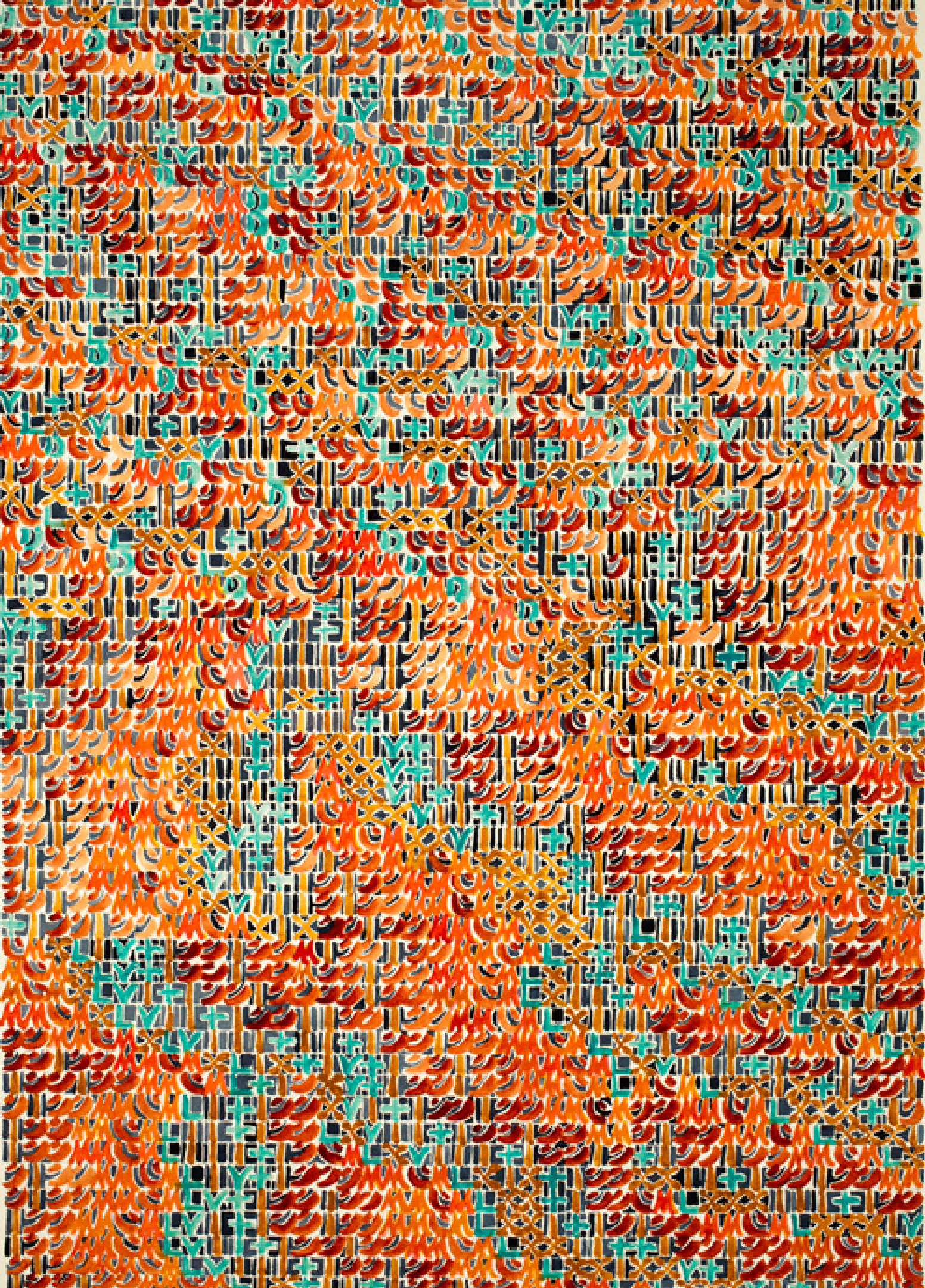


Robert Wilson, Untitled, date unknown, ink, coloured crayon.
Gift from the Douglas M. Duncan Collection, 1970.

Mary Celistino

This artwork is made up of tiny patterns squares.

Do you spy the tiny patterns? What do they bring to mind?



Who Was
She?



Alma Thomas

- 1 African-American artist and teacher.
- 2 She was best known for her colourful, abstract paintings using line and pattern.
- 3 She achieved success as an African-American female artist despite facing segregation and prejudice.
- 4 Her most renowned works were created during retirement following a 35-year teaching career.




Alma Thomas

- 1 What kind of line does she use?
- 2 What shape does she use?
- 3 How would you describe her colours?
- 4 If you had to name this artwork, what would it be?

Pattern Scavenger Hunt

Here's how to conduct a Pattern Scavenger Hunt activity:

1. Distribute a copy of the Pattern Scavenger Hunt to each student.
2. Give them a time limit and ask them to identify and sketch as many patterns as they can within the classroom (or another designated area).
3. Take note of the common and unique patterns discovered by the students.
4. Initiate a discussion about where the patterns were found most frequently (such as clothing or walls).



Pattern Scavenger Hunt

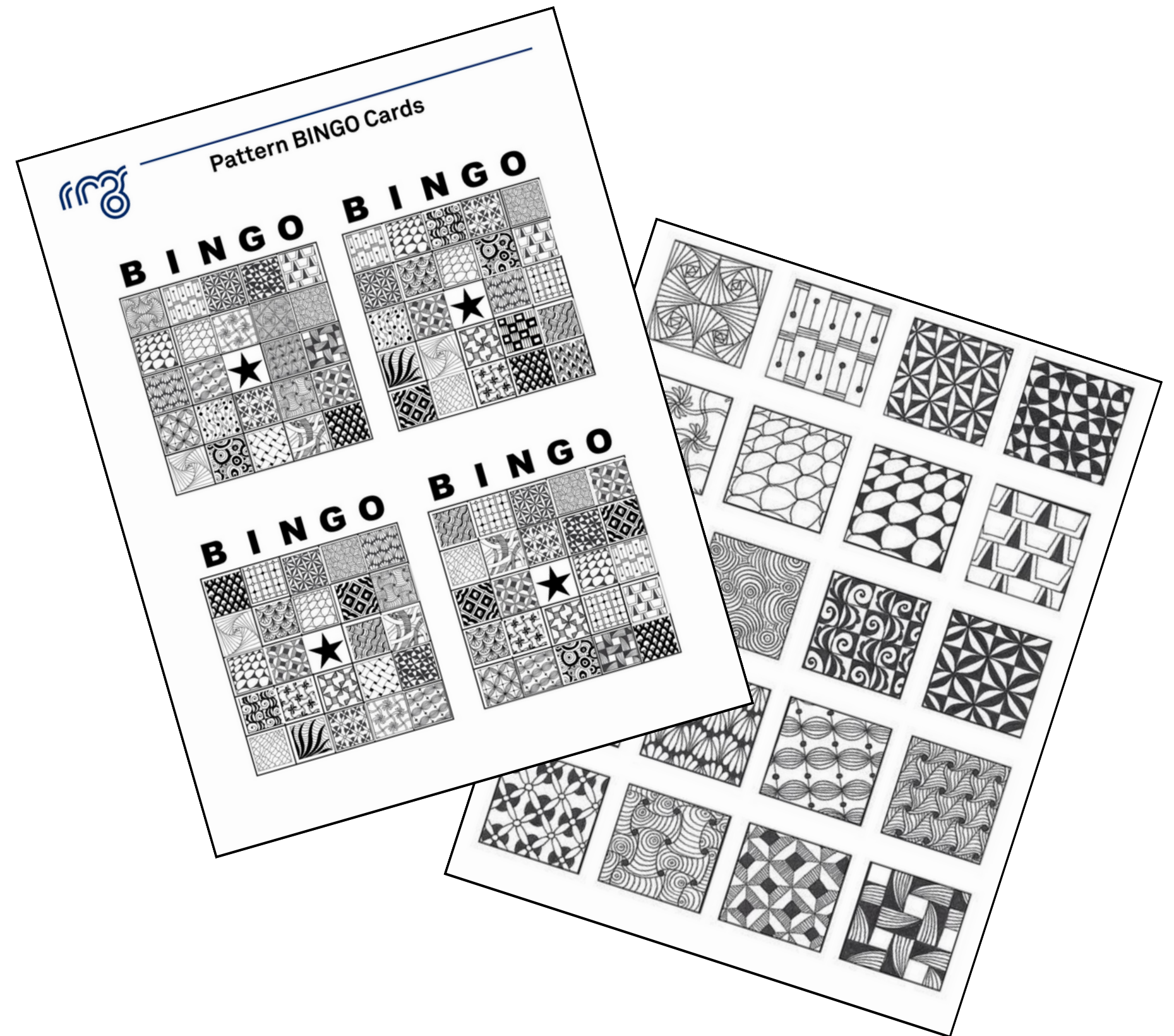
Look around for patterns in your classroom. You might see them on your classmates clothing, on the walls, on your things.

Use a pencil to sketch out nine different patterns that you can see around you and write below each square where you found them.

Pattern Bingo

How to Play Bingo in the Classroom:

1. Print out 16 unique Bingo cards, with four cards on each page, and cut out the individual cards.
2. Hand out one card to each student.
3. Print and cut the pattern cards, which will serve as the Bingo balls, and place them in a container.
4. Draw a card from the container and display it to the class. Ask the students to locate the corresponding pattern on their Bingo cards and mark it off.



Art Activity : Patterns

This activity will guide students through the process of creating their own art using patterns. Feel free to swap out any of the materials listed in this lesson plan if necessary.

For example, if you don't have watercolour paint or watercolour paper you could just use markers or coloured pencils. Coloured paper could be swapped out for zen tangling.



Materials Needed

Watercolour Paper

Watercolour Paint

Brush

Water Container

Rag/Paper Towel

Masking or Painters tape

Colour paper

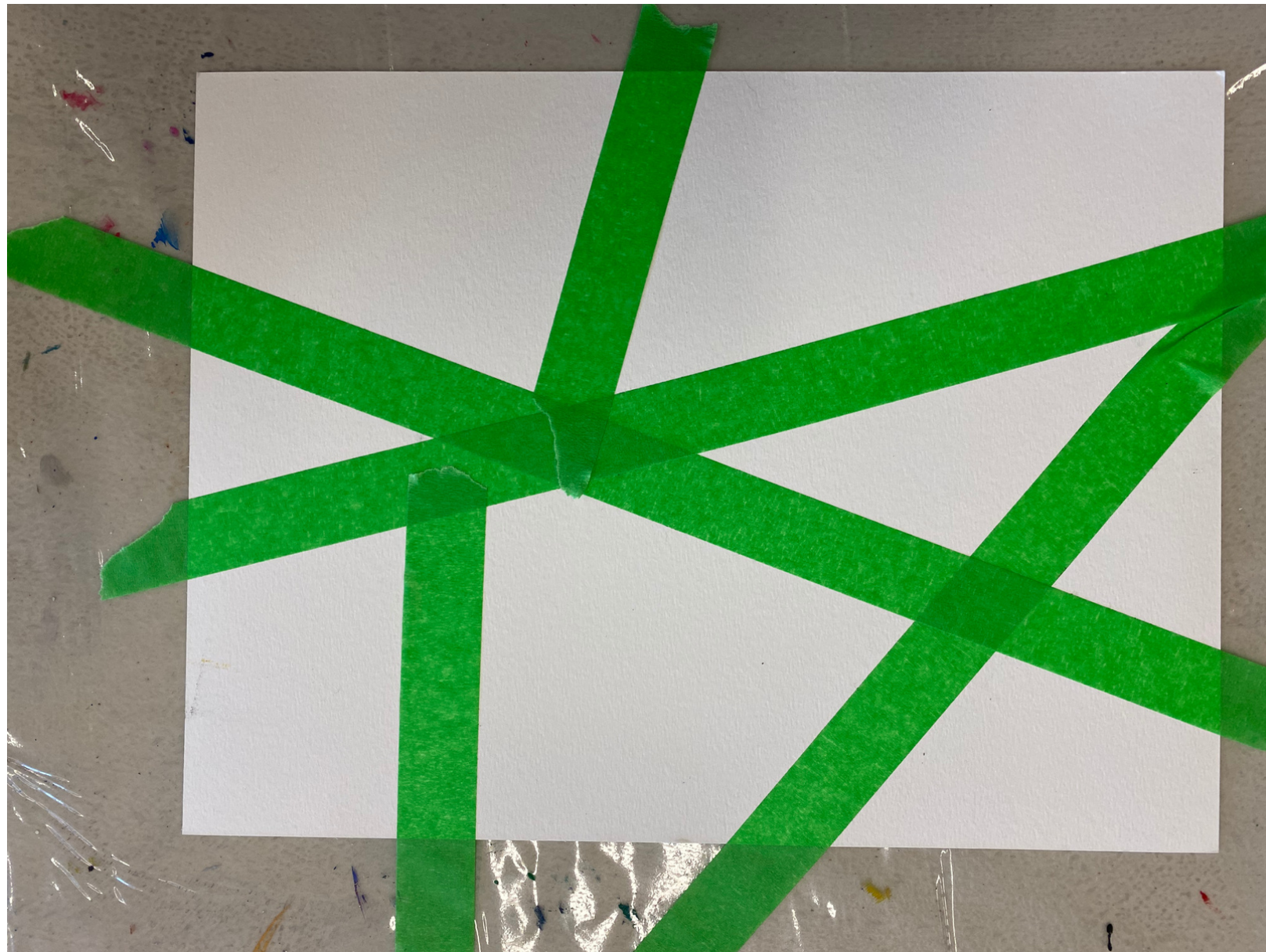
Wax Crayons

Glue (sticks or PVA)

Scissors

1

Adding Tape



Let's get artsy! Hand out some watercolor paper and a strip of painter's tape.

Next, it's time to get creative as you stick the tape in random patterns, dividing their paper into funky sections.

2

Creating Patterns with Crayons



Time to jazz up those sections with a pop of color! Pick a crayon and let your creativity run wild with spirals, dots, lines, zig-zags, or any of the patterns you've made before.

Let your designs go off the edges and onto the tape for a real masterpiece!

3

Adding Watercolour Paint

After filling each section with crayon patterns, use watercolour paints next.

Look at the stunning patterns you've created and pick a watercolor that will electrify those design!

Why not jazz things up by layering a second splash of color on those cute little areas, or mix it up with a whole new hue?



4 Dry. Peel off tape.

After painting the canvas, allow it to dry completely before removing the tape, revealing clean white lines between each section.



5

Add cut strips of paper.

To create a colourful design, cut strips of coloured construction paper or cardstock, glue them into place, and cut them into segments to fit the space.



6

You're done!



Isn't it amazing how everyone followed the same steps, yet their art is unique?

Post Art Activity Discussions

Let's get creative! Line up your masterpieces on your desk and let's have a gallery walk! Stroll around the room and soak up the artsy vibes. Don't forget to mull over these questions while you're exploring:

- Did a particular pattern show up in multiple artworks?
- Which watercolour hue made the crayon patterns really pop when combined?
- Did anyone come up with a one-of-a-kind pattern that no one else used?
- Did you notice more nature inspired patterns or human inspired patterns?
- Which was your favourite pattern to look at?
- Which was your favourite pattern to draw?

Bibliography

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/teaching-patterns-to-infants-and-toddlers#:~:text=Patterns%20are%20things%20that%20repeat,swim%20versus%20animals%20that%20fly.>

<https://www.aci-iac.ca/art-books/jock-macdonald/>