



Perfect Patterns!

Workshop

Information for Teachers

Introduction

Perfect Patterns is a cross-curricular workshop session at the Quilt Museum and Gallery designed for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils. We can deliver this workshop with a maths or art focus.

Working in groups, pupils will use quilts from our collection to solve a series of shape challenges, learning more about pattern, tessellation, rotation and angles, reflective symmetry and colour on the way! They will conclude the session by using everything they've learnt to make their own 'perfect patterns' picture to display in school.

QCA links

- Art & Design Unit 3B Investigating Pattern
- Maths MA3 Shape, Space and Measures
- History Unit 9 What were our homes like long ago?
- Citizenship Unit 1 Taking Part: Developing Communication & Participation
- English En1, En2, En3 Presentation

Learning Objectives

- To investigate and understand using and applying shape and space through problem solving and communication
- To investigate and understand how patterns are specific to countries and cultures
- To make observations and simple comparisons using the correct language
- To create 2D and 3D shapes and recognise mathematical features
- To learn new techniques for creating artwork with different materials
- To work as a group to develop a picture display to take back to school
- To understand what is involved in effective listening
- To listen and respond to others
- To develop skills of discussion, negotiation and cooperation in a group

Workshop

This workshop is suitable for up to 30 pupils and lasts approximately 1 hour.

The workshop takes place in the Education Room and will be led by a fully trained Learning Facilitator.

The Learning Facilitator introduces pupils to quilts and starts a discussion about what shapes and patterns they can see (5 minutes). In teams pupils then investigate a patterned textile and try to link it with words or objects from a mystery bag. The Facilitator will ask the groups to feedback their findings. (10 minutes).

Maths Focus: The Facilitator will then introduce some quick challenges based on the themes of rotation, reflective symmetry, 2D/3D shapes (KS1) tessellation and translation (KS2). Your pupils will rotate around the room as a group, completing challenges as quickly as possible and making notes in their 'perfect pattern' pads (30 minutes).

Art Focus: The Facilitator will then introduce some quick challenges based patchwork block designs including 'Log Cabin', 'Crazy' Patchwork, mirror patchwork and repeating print patterns. Your pupils will rotate around the room as a group, completing challenges as quickly as possible and making notes in their 'perfect pattern' pads (30 minutes).

Using quilts and multi-cultural textiles as inspiration, each pupil will finish the session by creating their own perfect patterns picture using templates. These pictures can be taken back to school to form a display (15 minutes).

To conclude the groups will show their pictures for the rest of the class.

The Galleries

We have two galleries that support the Perfect Patterns workshop and we highly recommend an independent gallery visit to support your pupil's learning journey.

The Heritage Gallery offers an exciting and ever-changing exhibition of quilts from the past whilst the Bailey Gallery offers the chance to see some contemporary quilts and learn how traditional quilting techniques and materials have developed.

Current Exhibition Trails and Teacher's Information Sheets are sent to all teachers who book an independent gallery visit.

Pre-visit activity suggestions

- Bring in examples of patterns from home and have a 'show and tell' session
- Make some shape crosswords or colouring sheets with maths clues
- Go on a patterns hunt around the school.

Follow-up activities

- Sewing skills in the classroom – we can offer this as an outreach session or help you with ideas for basic sewing sessions/projects
- Produce an exhibition of patterns and shape including artworks made during the workshop
- 'I'm a Robot' game: pupils work in pairs – one gives basic mathematical instructions to get the 'robot' pupil to a given destination.
- Make patterns scrap books

Your 'Perfect Patterns' notes

