

Numeracy K January 11

Activity 2: Making Patterns

Materials Needed:

- Coloured cubes, beads, small toys, leaves and twigs; printing and sticking shapes. Long strips of paper for making patterns.

Task Instructions:

Make a repeating AB pattern with blocks have the student copy and continue it. Then do it in other colours and with other materials such as small toys, leaves and twigs or by printing and sticking shapes on long pieces of paper.

If they are comfortable, they can progress to ABB or ABC repeating patterns.

Once they are familiar with AB patterns, you can extend to making patterns with words (an AB pattern in words would be click-clack, click-clack, click-clack for example—see Act 1 this week); they could also do one with sounds tap-clap, tap-clap or with body movements—check out [this video](#) for ideas.

Questions to encourage thinking

Get students to describe:

- What do you notice about the pattern?
- Can you say the colours – red, blue, ...?
- Tell me about your pattern.

Get students to reason:

- What is the same and what is different about this one and your copy?
- I wonder which one goes next? I think the next one is blue – oh, don't you agree?
- Can you explain how the pattern should go?
- What is wrong with this pattern?
- Is that something you know or did you guess?



Going further:

- Can you make your own pattern?
- What is the pattern called?
- What is the rule for your pattern?

Parent Tips:

Read about the language and understanding of repeating patterns [here](#).

If your child is ready to move forward, make more complex patterns: ABA; ABC (3 elements); AABBC; etc.

This lesson is from nrichmaths at <https://nrich.maths.org/13250>