Patterns are designs in which lines, shapes, and/or colors are repeated in a predictable way. They are an important tool that can help us organize what we see and make predictions about what we are looking at. Patterns are everywhere and they are important in art, science, math, and other subjects. Repetition and predictability help us recognize patterns.

Look at the pattern below. It can be described by element as wavy lines-shape-shape, wavy lines-shape-shape, etc. Determining what comes next is easy because the pattern repeats. The pattern can also be described by color as red-yellow-blue-green-orange-purple, red-yellow-blue-green-orange-purple. Again, predicting the next color is easy because the pattern repeats.

Art is pattern informed by sensibility.

Herbert Read

Flint Institute of Arts
Education Department
1120 E Kearsley Street, Flint MI 48503
810-237-7314  •  flintarts.org
How Many Patterns Can You Find?

Materials
Pencil
Colored pencils or markers

Instructions
Visit the Flint Institute of Arts and look for patterns in the artworks. Draw the patterns you find below.

Select one of the patterns and describe it using the different methods below:

**Color:** Use colored pencils or markers to show the different colors in the pattern.

**Group:** Break the pattern into its different parts. Group similar parts together.

**Poem:** Use a rhyme to describe your pattern with words.