

## Explore: Patterns



Ulrich Museum of Art

### Object:

Kevin Mullins, *Sari Zoetrope # 1*, 2017. Mixed media; screen print; fabric on canvas on panel, 37 x 107 inches. Ulrich Museum of Art, Estate of Kevin Mullins

### Description:

Students will learn about Kevin Mullins' fascination with repeating patterns. They will then explore patterns by making their own tessellation artwork

**Grade Level:** 3-5

**Subject:** Art, Math

**Length of Lesson:** 2 hours

### Standards:

VA:Cr2.1.3 Create personally satisfying artwork using a variety of artistic processes and materials.

VA:Cr3.1.3 Elaborate visual information by adding details in an artwork to enhance emerging meaning.

VA:Cr1.1.4 Brainstorm multiple approaches to a creative art or design problem.

VA:Cr2.1.4 Explore and invent art-making techniques and approaches.

VA:Cr1.1.5 Combine ideas to generate an innovative idea for art-making.

VA:Cn10.1.5 Apply normal and conceptual vocabularies of art and design to view surroundings in new ways through art making.

### Materials:

Worksheet

Paper

Square notecard or Post-it note

Scissors

Pencil

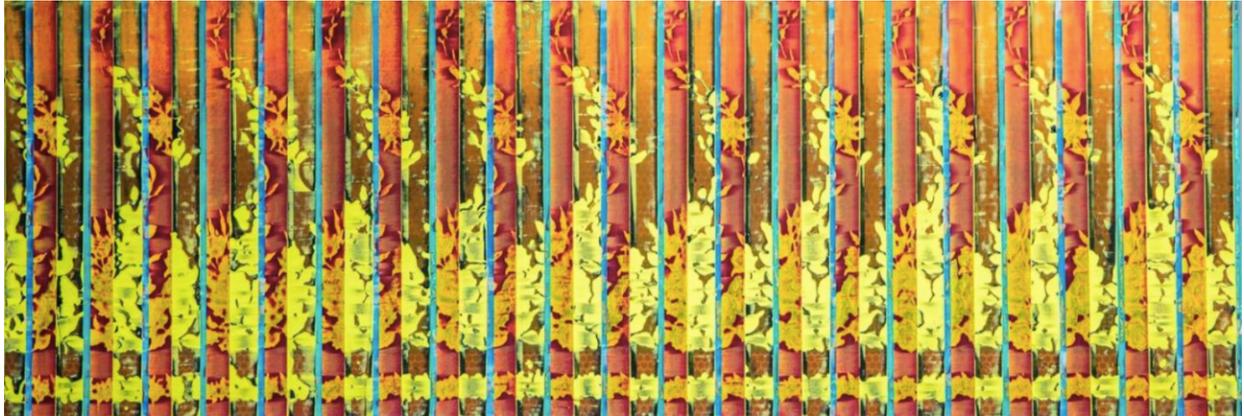
Tape

Colored pencils, markers, or crayons

### Resources:

Ulrich Museum of Art Collection portal on the artwork: <https://de1.zetcom-group.de/MpWeb-mpWichitaUlrich/v?mode=online&objectId=1252>

## Explore: Patterns



Kevin Mullins, *Sari Zoetrope # 1*, 2017. Mixed media; screen print; fabric on canvas on panel, 37 x 107 inches. Ulrich Museum of Art

The artist Kevin Mullins lived and worked in Wichita. He loved patterns. He enjoyed the patterns in fabric. Do you see patterns a lot? Maybe on your couch or your bedsheets? Do you see patterns outside? Like leaves on a vine or lines on the road? What other patterns can you find?

Kevin Mullins liked to create patterns in his artworks by choosing a single image or shape and repeat it over and over.

### Check out his artwork above called *Sari Zoetrope #1*:

1. What colors do you see repeated over and over?
2. Can you see any recognizable shapes or images in the artwork?
3. How does the repetition in the artwork make you feel?
4. Do you like this artwork? Why or why not?

### **Create your own pattern: Tessellation**

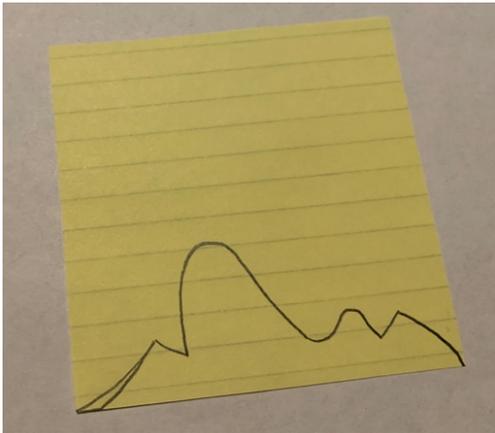
There are many ways artists create patterns in their works. One way is with tessellation. A tessellation is a shape that repeats over and over with no gaps between the shape. They can look quite complex, but are fun and easy to make!

#### **You will need:**

- Paper
- A square notecard or Post-it note
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Tape
- Colored pencils, markers, or crayons

#### **Instructions:**

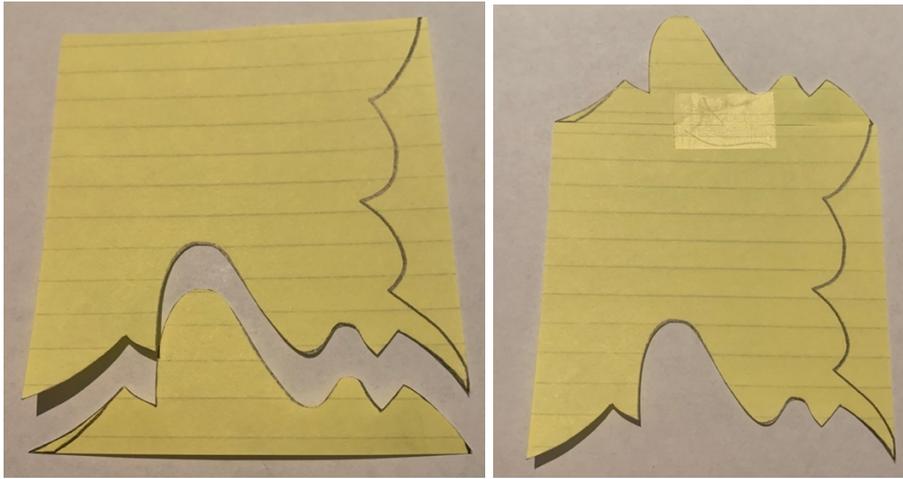
On your Post-it note or small square notecard, create a shape reaching from one corner to the next.



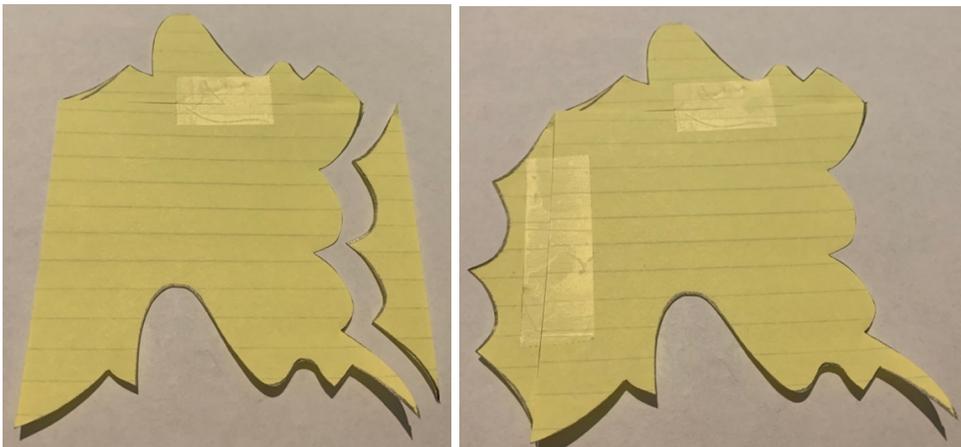
Create another shape from the corner with the first shape to the next corner.



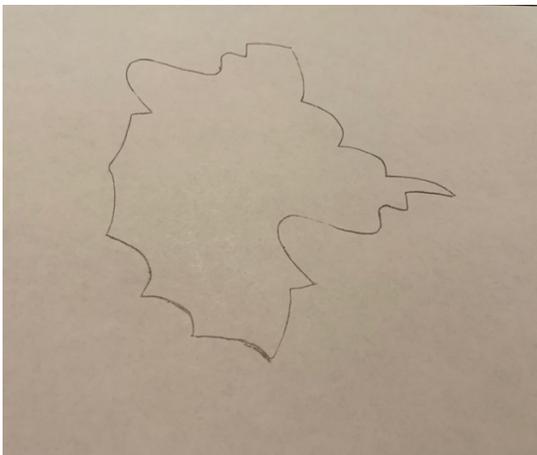
Cut out your first shape, then attach the shape you cut out to the top of the post-it with tape.



Cut out the second shape, and attach it to the other side of the post-it with tape.



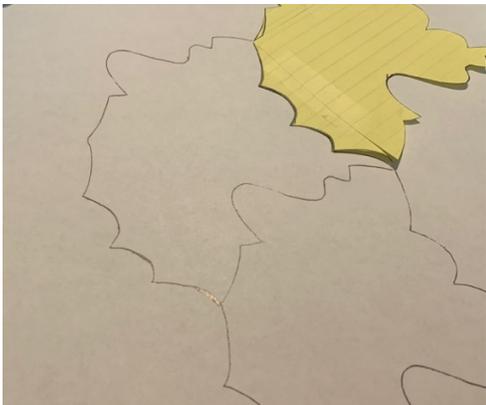
This is the shape you will tessellate! Place the the shape anywhere on your piece of paper and trace it with your pencil.



Move the post-it beside the shape you have traced, lining up your shape to the lines you traced. Trace the shape again.



Repeat this until your entire paper is covered. Make sure to always line your post-it up with the shapes already traced so the same shape repeats over and over on your paper.



Now use your colored pencils, markers, or crayons to decorate! Maybe your shape looks like something familiar to you, add those details to your shape. Maybe you want each shape to be its own color. The choice is up to you!



Congratulations, you have completed your tessellation!