

Tessellations

Activity 5 - Stained Glass Symmetry

Regular tessellations are made up from congruent regular polygons. The patterns in a regular tessellation can be formed using only one type of regular polygon. For example, there can be a tessellation made only by repeating the same equilateral triangle over and over in every direction.

In this activity you will be making a stained glass design to hang in a window.

For this activity you will need: scissors, a pencil, a ruler, a thin mixture of white glue and water, a paintbrush, four pieces of brightly coloured tissue paper, black construction paper, wax paper (same size as your construction paper) and tape.

Instructions:

1. Fold the construction paper in half twice. You will end up with four smaller rectangles. Do the same with the wax paper.
2. Measure a 2-3cm border from each section and cut out the middles.



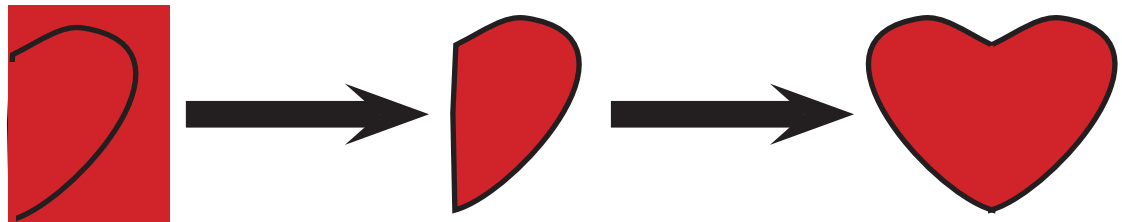
3. Choose a symmetric design (butterfly, heart etc.).

Can you believe THIS is math?

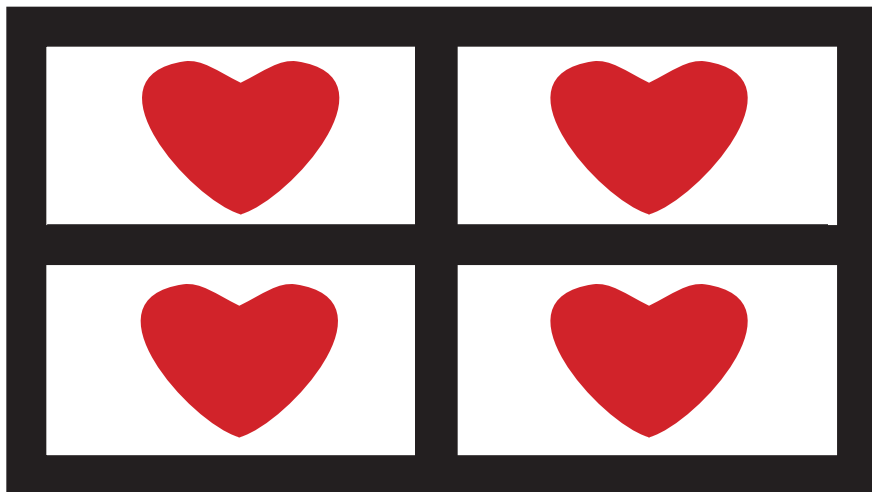
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4. Get the tissue paper and fold the four pieces in half. Draw half of a symmetrical shape (a heart, butterfly etc.) on the tissue paper along the fold. Cut out the design. Unfold it.



5. Glue the tissue paper to the back on the wax paper.
6. When it dries, glue the black paper on top and hang it in a window with tape.



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