

## “Pass the Patterns, Please: an Interactive Pattern Creation Process”

Angela Patrick

### Materials:

White copier paper, 2+ sheets per student

Pencils

Scissors

### Procedure:

Fold both sheets of paper vertically in half, then in half again, then in half again (total 7 creases).

Fold the same sheets of paper horizontally in half, then in half again (total 3 creases).

On BOTH sheets, student writes name at top of column 1.

On ONE sheet, student initials top of column 2, 3 and 4.

With paper horizontal, the student categorizes the 8 columns with the following (left to right): Growth, Spiral, Curve, Dot, Circle, Triangle, Diamond, Square.

Return paper to vertical.

The student will create a **pattern** which uses each of the shapes/lines/etc. in the box with its name. The student may stretch, divide, add to, double, mirror, repeat, etc. the shape as long as it is identifiable in the pattern. Students should work with relative ease, generally large pattern for the space and not get too intricate. There will be time for this later while working on his/her project.

After each item in the first column is completed, the student will copy the pattern in each of the spaces next to it.

Cut the patterned paper into columns, each containing the eight pattern with student's initials at the top.

Teacher will establish an order of rotation to pass the initialed columns around to other students. Students should be allowed about 3 minutes or less to quickly copy interesting patterns and designer's initials onto the spaces on their second sheet in any order. (Length of time should be adjusted by teacher to meet grade level and ability of students.) Students write the initials of the designer students so they will know if they have seen the column previously.

Once students have a filled or mostly filled page, teacher can end the rotations, one column from each student can be posted or placed in a class booklet for reference.

Students are encouraged to modify, elaborate or create new patterns to fill their pages.