Aztec Patterns

Vocabulary

Word	Meaning
carvings	Cut with care into stone.
collage	Different materials stuck onto a surface.
composition	A finished piece of work.
evaluate	Assess what worked well and what you might do differently next time.
geometric	A regular shape, such as a triangle or a rectangle.
Inspire	To be influenced in a creative way.
overlap	Placing shapes one over the other.
pattern	When a colour shape or line is repeated. It could be a combination of these.
reflect	Think carefully or deeply about what you have done.
symbol	A recognisable image that represents something eg. power or wisdom.
tessellation	When a shape fits together without a gap.
texture	Appear to have a bumpy or rough surface.
tone	How light or dark an object appears to be.

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Patterns in Nature

There are all sorts of amazing patterns that are created by nature. Sometimes they are very obvious. Sometimes you need to look a little more carefully for them.









Sketching

Artists make a record of the things they observe in nature by making sketches.



Different grades of pencils can be used to achieve a range of tones and textures by making marks and shading.

Drawing lines of different sizes and thicknesses create all sorts of effects.

Look carefully and record the shapes, patterns, textures and tones you can see on a selection of fruits, vegetables, leaves and flowers.

Meet the Artist

Frida Kahlo

Born: 1907 Died: 1954 Location: Mexico





As well as painting many portraits and self-portraits, Freda Kahlo's work was often inspired by the nature of Mexico.

She became a well-known artist despite being left disabled by an illness as a young child.

Year 3 Summer Term

Aztec Patterns









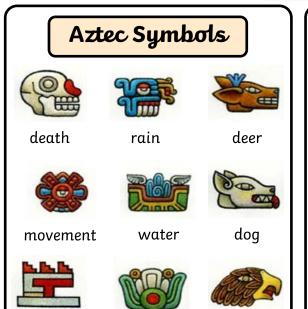


Aztec art was created using lots of bold, geometric shapes to build up a pattern.

Repeating patterns were often used to create a design.

The patterns sometimes included images or symbols that represented different aspects of their way of life.

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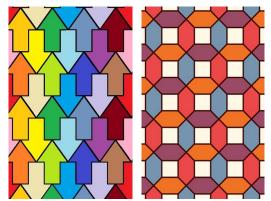


flower

house

Patterns with Shapes

Patterns can be created by repeatedly using shapes. When the shapes fit together with no gaps, it is called **tessellation**.



Extending your learning

5 things you could do at home to extend your learning:

eagle

- 1. Visit the British Museum to find Aztec artefacts with geometric patterns.
- 2. Collect samples of wallpaper or wrapping paper with examples of repeating, geometric patterns.
- 3. Design a set of symbols that represent different things from your daily life.
- 4. Research examples of Aztec art which has been found by archaeologists.
- 5. Take your sketchbook and sketching pencils out with you on a walk in nature so you can record some patterns you observe.

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