

Pattern Detective: What Comes Next?

Look closely, say the pattern out loud and work out what comes next.

Name _____ Date _____ Class _____

Learning objective: I can continue, copy and create repeating patterns.

✓ I can say a pattern out loud ✓ I can find the part that repeats ✓ I can spot a mistake

1 Two-shape patterns Say the pattern out loud. Draw the next three shapes.



2 Trickier patterns Look for the part that repeats. Draw what comes next.



3 Three-shape patterns Draw the next three shapes.



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- 4 Filled or empty?** Some shapes are coloured in. Continue the pattern – colour in the shapes that should be filled.



- 5 Spot the mistake** One shape breaks the pattern. Circle it.



- 6 Colour the beads** Colour every other bead to make a pattern: colour, gap, colour, gap...



- 7 Make your own** Make up your own repeating pattern. Ask a grown-up to say what comes next!



Adult tip: point to each shape and say it out loud together (“circle, square, circle, square...”). Then cover part of the pattern and ask what is hidden. To make the repeating part easier to spot, draw a ring around each repeat, just like the Clue button in the app.

Answer Key

Pattern Detective: What Comes Next?

Question	Answers
1 Two-shape patterns	1 circle, square, circle ; 2 star, heart, star ; 3 triangle, circle, triangle ; 4 moon, star, moon
2 Trickier patterns	1 circle, triangle, triangle ; 2 heart, heart, square ; 3 star, moon, moon
3 Three-shape patterns	1 circle, square, triangle ; 2 heart, star, moon
4 Filled or empty?	1 empty circle, filled circle, empty circle ; 2 filled square, filled square, empty square
5 Spot the mistake	1 shape number 5 should be a circle , not a square; 2 shape number 6 should be a heart , not a star; 3 shape number 7 should be a triangle , not a square
6 Colour the beads	Beads 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 coloured (or 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12) – the pattern must alternate.
7 Make your own	Any pattern where a unit repeats at least twice, e.g. heart, star, heart, star, ...

Teaching note: the Development Matters guidance for Reception includes continuing, copying and creating repeating patterns. As in the app, shapes differ by outline rather than colour, so the sheet works in black and white.