

Patterns Here, There, and Everywhere

This lesson was created as a supplement to the *Patterns Here, There, and Everywhere* program at the National Building Museum. It is designed to be used in your classroom independently, or as an activity before or after a school program at the Museum. For more information about and to register for the National Building Museum's school programs, visit <http://www.nbm.org/schools-educators/school-visit/>.

The *Patterns Here, There, and Everywhere* program introduces pre-kindergarten through second grade students to patterns and helps students understand their presence in architecture, in other media, and in their everyday lives. Patterns are found everywhere and can help students make connections and predict what will come next. They help young people make sense of the world by organizing it into groupings that can be easily understood. Recognizing patterns will create a foundation for analyzing problems and designing solutions.

National Building Museum

Created by an act of Congress in 1980, the National Building Museum explores, celebrates, and illuminates achievements in architecture, design, engineering, construction, and planning. Since opening its doors in 1985, the Museum has become a vital forum for exchanging ideas and information about such topical issues as managing suburban growth, designing and building sustainable communities, and revitalizing urban centers. A private, nonprofit institution, the Museum creates and presents engaging exhibitions and education programs, including innovative curricula for school children.

Over the past two decades, the Museum has created and refined an extensive array of youth programming. Each year, approximately 50,000 young people and their families participate in hands-on learning experiences at the Museum: 2-hour-long school programs for grades K–9; major daylong festivals; drop-in family workshops; programs helping Cub and Girl Scouts earn activity badges; and three innovative outreach programs, lasting between 30 and 60 hours, for secondary school students. The Museum's youth programming has won the Washington, D.C., Mayor's Arts Award for Outstanding Contributions to Arts Education and garnered recognition from the National Endowment for the Arts.



NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F Street, NW Washington, DC 20001
202.272.2448/www.NBM.org
Red Line Metro, Judiciary Square

Fun Field Trips: Exploring Your Community

Families:

Your children are learning about patterns in school and at the National Building Museum. Encourage them to explore patterns in their community and have them teach you how to find and make patterns.

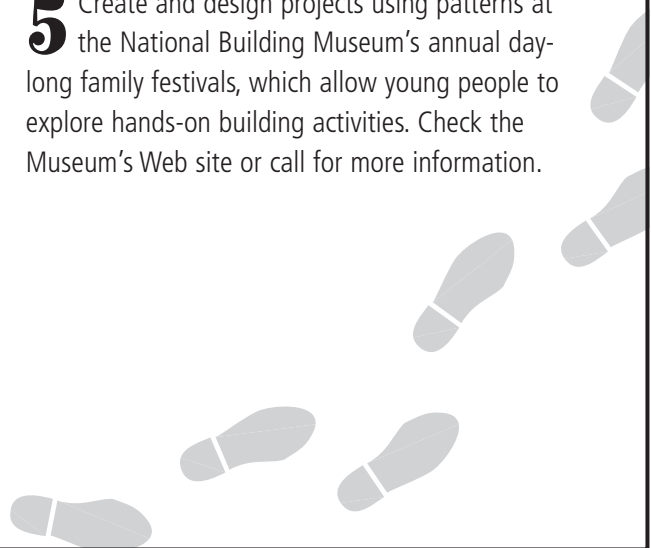
1 Ask your child about the patterns s/he made while visiting the National Building Museum. Have him/her explain the patterns in his/her packet. Return to the Museum with your child and have him/her show you some of the patterns found there.

2 Visit the U.S. Capitol or the Lincoln Memorial. See how many patterns you can find on the building's exterior. Take paper and crayons to draw a record of the patterns that you found. Visit the National Building Museum's *Washington: Symbol and City* exhibition to see and feel the patterns found on large models of the U.S. Capitol building and the Lincoln Memorial.

3 Take a trip on the Metro. While waiting for your train, look up. Describe the patterns on the ceiling in the underground station. Do you see patterns on the floor? Where would you find this pattern in nature (honeycomb)? Why are bumpy tiles used closest to the tracks?

4 Visit buildings in your community that have stained glass windows. What patterns are in the windows? What colors and shapes do you see? How do the colors and shapes create patterns? Two buildings in Washington, D.C., famous for their stained glass windows are the National Cathedral and the Jefferson Building at the Library of Congress.

5 Create and design projects using patterns at the National Building Museum's annual day-long family festivals, which allow young people to explore hands-on building activities. Check the Museum's Web site or call for more information.



**Visit the National Building Museum,
where families can discover the world we build for ourselves!**

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Programs for Schools, Families, and Scouts, Outreach Programs, Discovery Carts, Exhibitions, Birthday Parties, Festivals, and Interactive Web site