



**MAINE** MUSEUM OF  
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# Textile Design

Teacher's Guide and Worksheets



# Textile Design

## Grades 1-4



**Time:** 1 - 50-60 min. class period

### **Learning Objectives:**

- Students will be able identify a number of different common patterns in textile designs
- Students will be able to explain how some fabric patterns have special cultural meaning

### **Materials Needed**

- Worksheets below
- Colored pencils, crayons, or markers
- Pencils
- Scissors
- Glue
- Optional: examples of different types of patterned fabric - these could be clothing, tablecloth, curtains, pillows, sports jerseys, etc. OR images of different patterns of fabric (the Design section of our website has images).

### **Pre-reading/Preparation**

While it is recommended that students be familiar with the Design and Textile portions of our website it is not necessary for the completion of this lesson.

### **Set Up**

1. Each student should have one copy of the Textile Design student worksheets and a pencil.
2. Enough colored scissors, pencils, crayons and/or markers for each child.
3. Optional: a table with a collection of materials made with different patterns of fabric.

### **Introduction**

1. Ask students to look closely at the images or items you have that show different fabric patterns. Prompt them to share their observations. What do they see that is the same? What is different? What shapes do they see? What different colors are there? How do those colors make them feel?
2. Ask them to think about what they look for when they are shopping for something made of fabric. For instance, if they need a new shirt what do they look for? Prompt students to think about how the season, activity or fashion might influence their choices. Then ask them to think about a pillow design for their bedroom. What colors, patterns or images would they use?

### **Instruction, Teacher Modeling, Guided Practice**

1. Hand out copies of “Textile Design” worksheets below.
2. Review the sheets together as a class, spending time looking closely at the different pattern samples. Students will attempt to replicate a pattern of their choosing from the sheet. Help students select patterns that are appropriate for their skill level.
3. Students should cut out the pattern from the sheet they would like to replicate and paste it onto their inspiration board.
4. Have students select the colors they wish to use.

### **Independent Work Time**

1. Students should work their way through the Inspiration Board sheet following the directions. Patterns should be drawn in pencil first, then with color, then students may draw the pattern directly onto the pillow sample given.

### **Closing, Review and Additional Activities**

1. Have students share their design with the class. Prompt them to share thoughts on why they choose their design and colors. What did they find easy to do? What was challenging? If they could do it again, what would they do differently?
2. Additional activity suggestions: visit a textile exhibit in museum to see different types of fabrics or explore online exhibits offered by many museums. Use a pre-made pillow form or pillowcase along with fabric markers to create real pillow from the designs students create here.

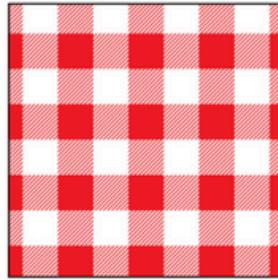
Name:

## Textile Design

Below are a number of samples of common patterns used in textile design today. Look closely at each one. What do you see that is the same? What is different? What shapes do you see? What different colors are there? How do those colors make you feel?



**Chevron**



**Gingham**



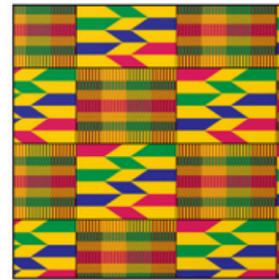
**Paisley**



**Tartan**



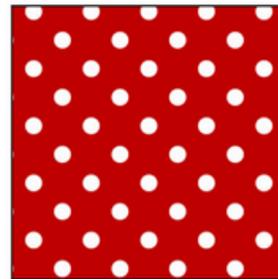
**Navajo**



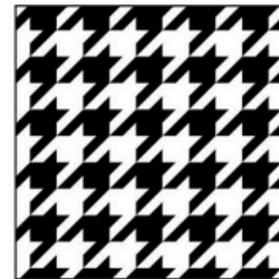
**Kente**



**Greek key**



**Polka dot**



**Houndstooth**

You are going to design a new pillow for your bedroom using one of the patterns from above. You may use any colors that you like but you should try to recreate the pattern as closely as you can. Use the inspiration board on the next page to get started.

Name:

# Inspiration Board

Name of pattern:

Paste your pattern square here

What colors will you use? Color a small sample of each in this box.

Use a pencil to draw the pattern below

Draw the pattern with color below

Name:

Draw your pillow design below

