

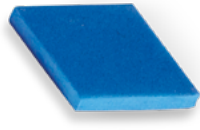
Pattern Blocks



Green Triangle



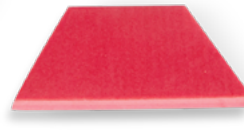
Orange Square



Blue Parallelogram



Tan Rhombus



Red Trapezoid



Yellow Hexagon

Discover Pattern Blocks

Overview: In this activity, students discover the relationships between the different Pattern Blocks and express them as equations.

Materials: Pattern Blocks, paper, pencil

- Have students sort the Pattern Blocks by color. Have them take away 1 yellow hexagon.
- Have students make a hexagon from the red trapezoids. How many red trapezoids did it take?
- On a piece of paper have students write: 1 yellow hexagon = 2 red trapezoids.
- Now ask students to use a different color pattern block to make a hexagon and write the “formula” on their paper.
- Now that they figured out how all the pieces relate to the hexagon, see if they can figure out how each pattern block relates to each other.

Cover the Caterpillar

Overview: In this activity, students learn how to record and observe how different patterns can create the same shape.

Materials: Pattern Blocks, paper, crayons

- Have students put Pattern Blocks together to make a caterpillar outline like the 1 shown here.
- Have students trace and color the caterpillar outline on a sheet of paper to record their solution.
- Now, challenge students to make another caterpillar outline using a different arrangement of Pattern Blocks.
- Ask students, “How is your second caterpillar outline different from the first caterpillar outline? Did you use more or fewer Pattern Blocks in your second caterpillar design?”
- Repeat this activity with different shapes for variety.

