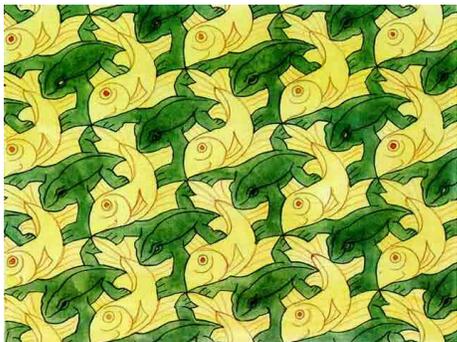




## Tessellations

*This activity is geared towards older Littles (12 and up)*



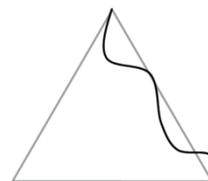
A tessellation is a repeated geometric design that covers an area without gaps or overlaps.

### What you need:

- 1 sheet of tracing paper or thin paper
- 1 sheet of plain white paper
- Pen or pencil
- Markers or crayons
- Scissors

### What to do:

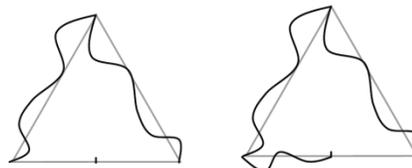
1. Using one of the triangles on the attached sheet, draw a wavy line down one of the sides. The less waves, the better –too many waves will make it very difficult to tessellate.



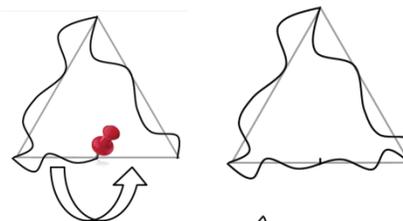
2. Copy the line with your tracing paper and then rotate it 60 degrees (pushing it so that the top stays and simply swings the bottom of the wavy line to the left. You now have 2 sides of the triangle) If you don't have tracing paper, you can use a blank sheet of paper and trace while putting it on a window so that you can see through it.



3. Find and mark the center of the third side.
4. Draw another wavy line from the vertex (where the 2 sides meet) to the center line on your original triangle, not the tracing paper.



5. Trace this line onto your tracing paper. Then flip your tracing paper over and trace the line to complete the triangle. You will have lines on both sides of the tracing paper.



6. Cut out your tracing paper triangle. Place it in the center of a plain white sheet of paper and trace the lines around it, so that you have copied your shape onto the new sheet of paper. Do you see the shape of an animal or flower? Different people will see different things. There is no right or wrong answer. Whatever



shape you have made, it will now tessellate.

7. Then rotate the tracing paper triangle and fit it into the side of the shape you drew and outline the two sides. Continue fitting in your shape and outlining it until you have filled the page.

