



4A KIDS October 2021



<http://kashifnadimchaudry.com/>

Hello, my name is Nadim and I am an artist living and working in Nottingham, which is a small city in the United Kingdom. My work is mostly sculpture, so that's objects that you can walk around and see from all sides. Another very important part of my work is pattern and colour.

4A KIDS is a 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art project connecting kids with contemporary Asian and Asian Australian contemporary art, culture and ideas. All activities are commissioned from artists and each 4A KIDS kit has activities for kids ranging from 5-17 (and beyond!) Want more? Visit 4a.com.au



Colourful Patterns with Kashif Nadim Chaudry

The activity I'm going to show you is how to make a colourful pattern that is symmetrical, this means a pattern that is the same on two sides, like a **mirror image**.

We will be using coloured card to make this and by choosing a variety of different colours, we can create a lively and beautiful design.



All you need is:

Glue stick
Scissors
1 sheet of white card or paper
4 sheets of different coloured card or paper
A pencil
A ruler



Let's get started!



Activity: Colourful Patterns with Kashif Nadim Chaudry

STEP 1

First, we need make a square out of our white paper, this will be our base that we stick the pattern to. Most paper is a rectangle; this is not symmetrical because two sides are long and two sides are short. We need to cut the paper so that **all four sides are the same size**.

To make a square, fold the top left shortest side down against the longest side at the bottom. It is important to make sure that the corner, at the bottom left is folded in half.



STEP 2

Once you have folded the paper and made a crease along the line, you will see that there is an extra strip of paper on the right hand side. All you need to do to make a square is **cut off this extra strip**.

STEP 3

To help us with the pattern, we need to **mark a line with a pencil along all the creases** we have made. These marks will be our guidelines and help us to make a mirror image pattern.

Fold the paper from the opposite corner to create another diagonal crease. Mark this with a pencil. **You should now have a cross going from each corner of the paper** and already, you have created a symmetrical pattern!



STEP 4

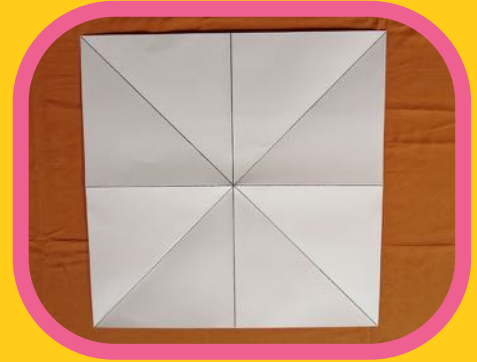
Fold the paper down the middle and from side to side, this will create another cross and these lines need marking too.



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Once you have marked all of these crease lines, you will have a **star shaped pattern on your paper**. These are our guidelines, all the coloured shapes that we make will sit on this star!

Here's a trick question.....when looking at the pattern you have just made, how many squares can you count in total? How many triangles can you count in total?

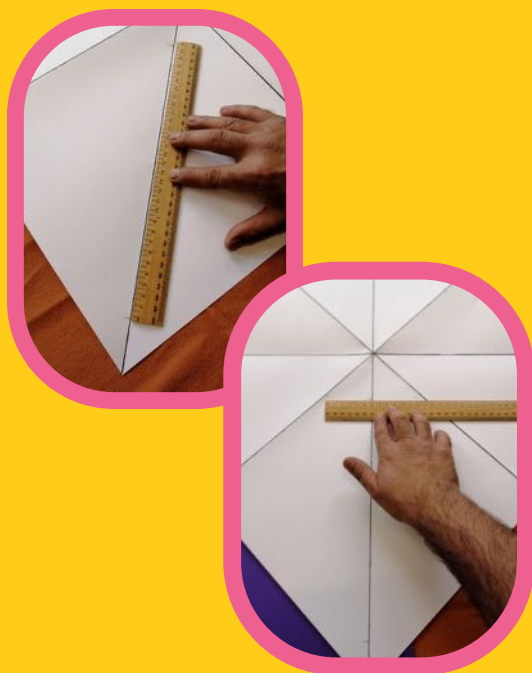


STEP 5

Now we need to start making our coloured patterns using the different coloured papers you have chosen. We will do this by making **four rectangles out of each colour paper, one for each corner of our star**. Each of these shapes will be identical. Here's how we do it.

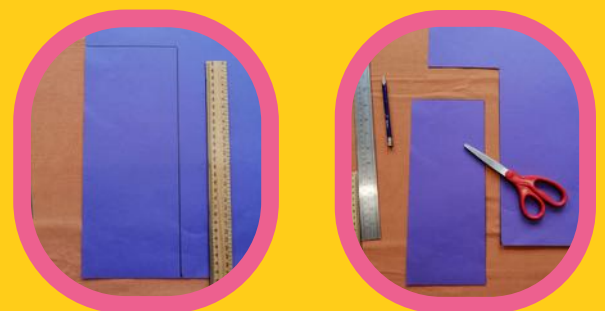
First we need to **measure the length and the width** of this rectangle. Use your ruler to measure your paper as I have.

These rectangles will sit on the diagonal lines that come from the four corners of our star



STEP 6

Take your first piece of coloured paper. Use your measurements to **cut four identical rectangles**.



STEP 7

Once you have cut out your rectangles, **place them on your star shaped pattern, running along the diagonal lines**.

Once you have cut all four shapes, your pattern should look like this:



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STEP 8

Now, this already looks like an interesting pattern and as you can see, it looks symmetrical (mirror image) on all four sides. But I think we can make this even more interesting! This is where we can really start to use our imaginations.

I would like to cut these rectangles into shapes. What shapes do you like? I like to take inspiration from nature, especially the shapes of leaves and also the shapes and colours of flowers. Let's have a go.

The first thing to do is to **fold each coloured rectangle in half, along the length**. We are then going to **draw a shape onto this**. The most important rule to remember is that the shape we draw must start and finish on the folded half of this paper and not on the side that is open.

Remember, you can draw any shapes you like, why don't you have a look at some leaves or flowers for inspiration. I'm going to draw some simple curves. This is what my shape looks like:

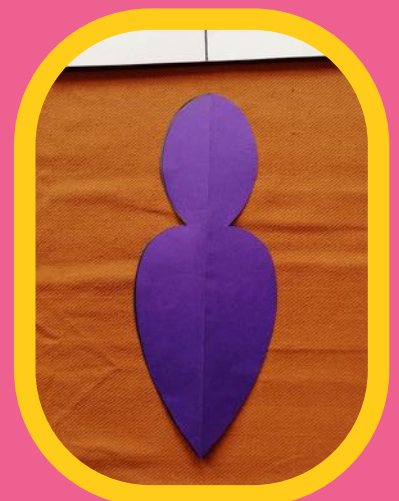


STEP 9

If you open out the shape, you will see that the drawing is in half, along the folded line. Close the shape back up.

Cut along the line to create the shape. Make sure the paper is folded as you do this. Remember to ask an adult if you need help with scissors.

Once you have cut out your shape, open it up and you will see that you have made another symmetrical pattern, which is the same on both sides of the folded line.



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STEP 10

Refold your shape and **use this as a template** to draw around on the other three rectangles.

Remember to fold the three other rectangles in half before you draw your design. Make sure to draw along the folded edge of the paper!



STEP 11

Cut these shapes out and start to place them onto our white star. We are going to be using the lines of our star as a guide.

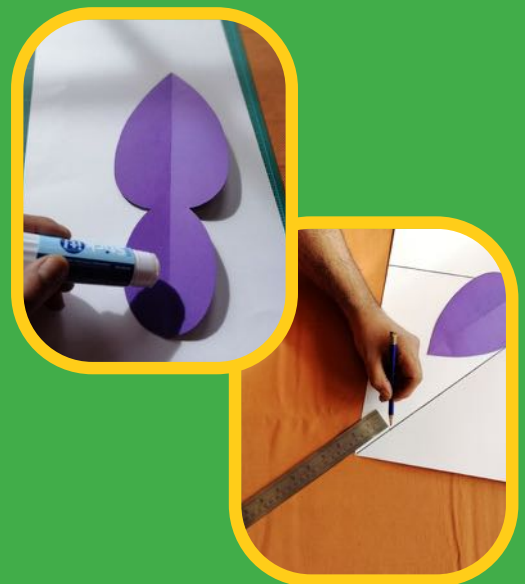
STEP 12

In order to make this pattern the same on all four sides, the first thing to do is decide where you want to put your shapes. **Measure from the corner of the white paper and then make sure you use this same measurement for all four corners.** Use the folded line of the coloured shape and make sure this sits on top of the diagonal line of the star, remember the lines of the star are our guides.

STEP 13

Once you have decided where to place your shapes, **glue these in place**, using a glue stick. Don't forget to measure where each shape is going and to repeat this for all shapes.... that's how we make a symmetrical shape.

Now your pattern should have the first layer of colourful shapes and look something like this:



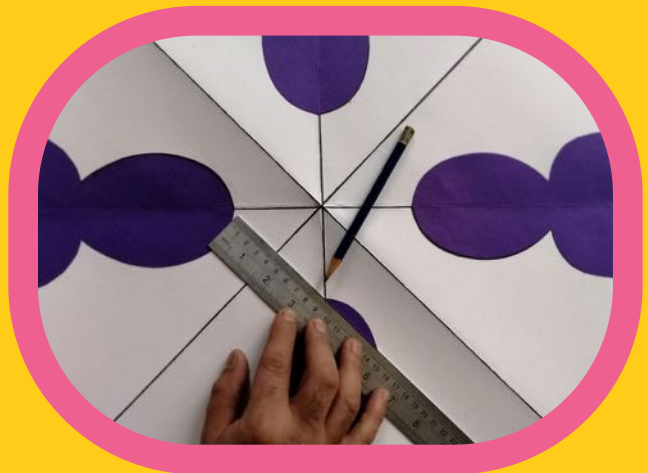
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STEP 14

Time to add the second layer of shapes. These shapes are going to be in a different colour. In total, we will have **four different layers and colours of shapes**. The important thing to remember is that each layer of shapes needs to be slightly smaller than the one before. This is so that when we place them on top of the previous layer they don't completely cover these shapes.

For the next layer, first we need to decide where the shapes will go and second, how big these will be. As we did for the first layer, start your shapes as rectangles first. **Begin by measuring where our rectangle will go.** I am going to place the next shapes on the four lines in between the first shapes, these lines make a cross shape.

Here's a trick question.....when looking at the pattern you have just made, how many squares can you count in total and then how many triangles can you count in total?



STEP 15

We are going to repeat what we did with our first rectangles.

Once we have cut out our second colour rectangles, **lets place them on our white card and see what they look like.** This time I am using blue card.

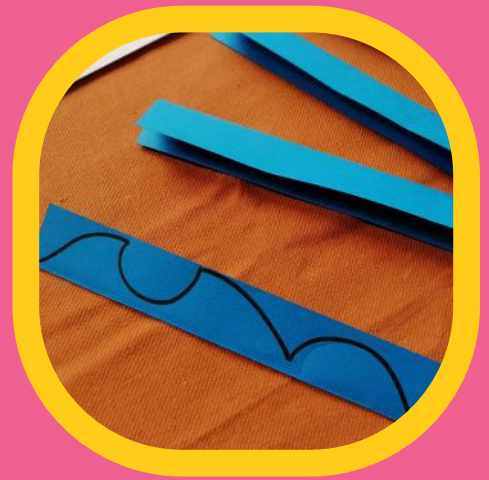


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STEP 16

This is beginning to look like a nice pattern. You can see that it is symmetrical on all four sides. I think we should use our imaginations to create much more interesting shapes for our next colour! **Now let's repeat the same process we used to create the first shapes.**

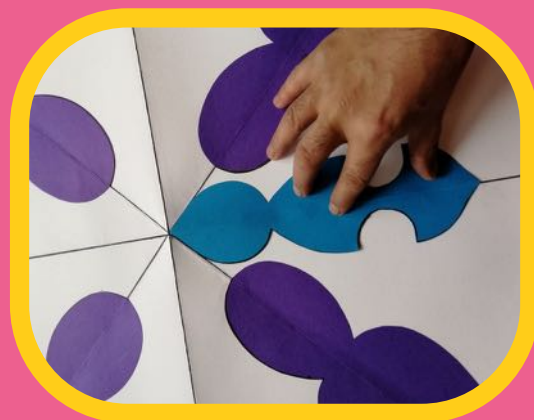
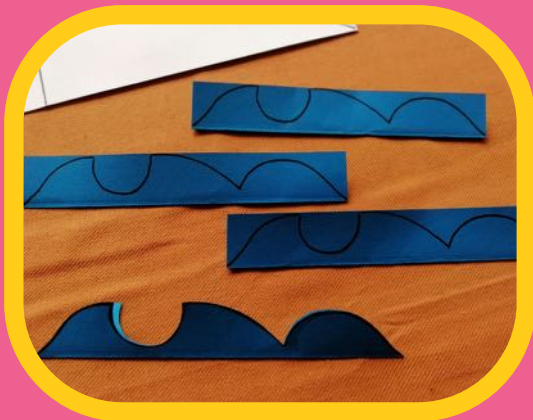
First we fold the our rectangles in half, lengthwise and then the golden rule: we draw our design along the folded edge of the card.



STEP 17

Once we have cut out our first blue shape **use this as the template** to draw around for the remaining three blue rectangles.

Once you have done this, **cut each shape out and place them on the white card.** Remember to use the guidelines on the white card for accurate positioning.



STEP 18

Once you are happy with the position, the next step is to **glue your shapes down in place.**



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STEP 19

Time to add another layer, our third layer and another colour. But first let's take a look at our pattern. Where do you think we could add another colour? Can you see lots of white space? Maybe this will help us to think about where the next layer will go.

I can see lots of white space at the edges of the square, in between the purple points, so this is where I'm going to put the next pattern.

Let's choose another colour of card and measure out and cut our rectangles. I am going to choose the colour red.



STEP 20

Place your rectangles onto the pattern so we can see how they fit.

STEP 21

Once again, I think we should use our imaginations to think about what shape these red rectangles could be.

First, we need to fold the rectangles in half but this time we are going to **fold them along the width** and not along the length. Next we draw our pattern.

Can you see the difference?



STEP 22

Once you are pleased with your new shape **draw this onto the other three red rectangles**, which will also need folding in half.

Cut these out and let's place them onto the white card and see how they look!

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STEP 23

Glue down your shapes when you find a position you are happy with.

You may notice that something new is beginning to happen with our pattern. The more shapes we begin to use and the greater the number of layers, shapes begin to sit on top of each other and, by doing this, we are creating more, new shapes.



STEP 24

For the final layer and final colour, let's think about making a shape that will sit on top of another colour. Let's see what new shapes this will make.

Once again, choose another coloured piece of paper and begin by measuring where we think these new shapes will go, then we make our rectangles. This time I am going to choose the colour orange.

Cut out your rectangles. Now place them on the pattern to see how they look.



STEP 25

If you are happy, then let's repeat what we have done before. **First let's fold these orange shapes in half and then use our imaginations to make an interesting shape.**

Once you have cut it out, don't forget to use this shape, as the template for the three other orange rectangles.



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STEP 26

Place the new shape onto the pattern and see how it looks. When you are happy with how it looks, **glue this and the other shapes down.**

Now our pattern is complete!



Can you see how the new orange shapes create more interesting purple shapes underneath? We have used 4 colours, imagine what it would look like if we had 5 or 6 or even 10 different layers and colours. I think maybe, with your next pattern, you should give it a try!



Thanks for having fun with 4A KIDS – see you next time
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