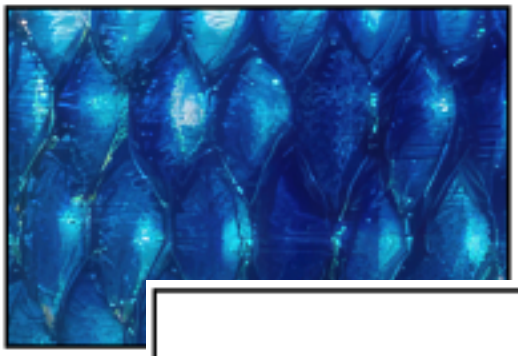
Patterns in Nature

Real-Photo Science & Math Task Cards





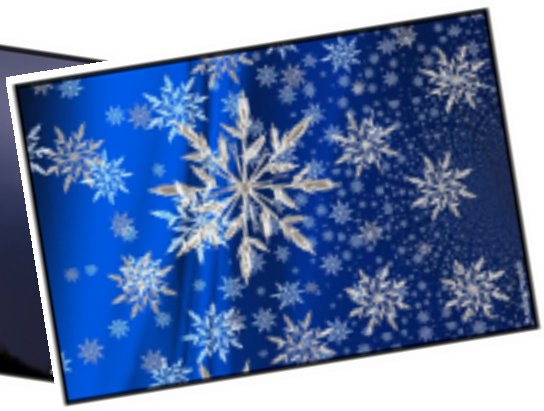




13 Real Animal Photography Cards









Includes 6 Pattern Categories



Digital Version Included

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Let's Hang Out!

Let's make learning a magical adventure together!

Instructions

This set introduces 6 main pattern categories found in nature: Animal Coats, Spirals, Branching, Hexagons, Concentric Rings, and Fractals.

Product Preparation Instructions

1. Print: Print all pattern cards on heavy cardstock or standard copy paper.
2. Double-Sided Printing (Animal Cards): Select Print on Both Sides (Short Edge Flip) so the full animal control image aligns on the back of each close-up coat pattern.
    - Alternative: Print single-sided, place the animal coat and animal photo back-to-back, and glue before laminating.
3. Laminate: Laminate cards for long-term durability in hands-on learning stations or outdoor discovery.
4. Binding Options:
    - Binder Ring Mini-Book: Punch a hole in the top-left corner of each laminated card and secure with a binder ring to create a durable "Outdoor Nature Field Guide."

Classroom Activity & Center Ideas

1. Mystery Animal Guessing Game (Self-Correcting Center)

Place the Animal Coat cards in a learning center. Have children examine the close-up pattern on the front (e.g., crocodile scales or jaguar spots), guess which animal it belongs to, and flip the card over to check their answer!

2. Loose Parts Pattern-Matching Station

Set up a sensory tray filled with loose parts alongside the pattern cards:

- Spirals: Pipe cleaners, play-doh ropes, or coiled ribbon.
- Hexagons: Wooden pattern blocks, hexagonal tiles, or yellow felt honeycombs.
- Concentric Rings: Wooden nesting rings, jar lids of varying sizes, or ring stampers.
- Branching: Dried twigs, stick collections, or leaf skeletons.

Students lay matching loose parts directly on or beside the cards to replicate the natural structures.

3. Outdoor Nature Walk & Scavenger Hunt

Take the portable binder-ring set outside! Encourage children to search the playground, garden, or local park for matching patterns in the real world (e.g., checking tree bark, looking closely at leaves, or spotting spider webs).

4. Direct Fine-Motor Tracing

Provide dry-erase markers so children can trace lines directly onto laminated cards—tracing the spiral on a snail shell, the grid on a turtle shell, or the branching veins on a leaf.

Guiding Circle Time Discussion Questions

- Notice: "What shapes or lines do you see repeating in this picture?"
- Compare: "How is the pattern on the turtle shell similar to the honeycomb?"
- Predict: "If we zoom in super close with a magnifying glass, what shape do you think we will see inside this leaf or fern?"

Animal Patterns







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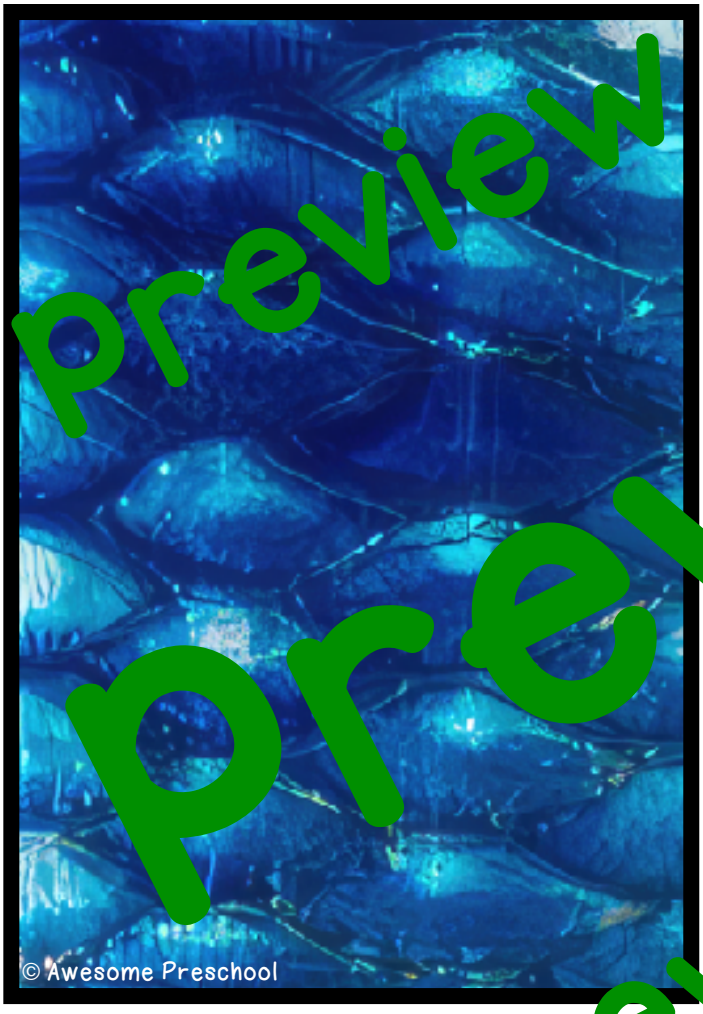


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Spiral Patterns

"Swirl patterns" that start small in the middle and grow bigger as they wind outward.

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Pinecone

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Snail

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Rose

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Branching Patterns

"Forking paths" where one big line splits into two smaller lines, then splits again.

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Leaf

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Leaf

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River Delta

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Hexagon Patterns

"Tiling patterns" where shapes fit together tightly like puzzle pieces without leaving gaps.

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Dragonfly Wing

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Turtle

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Cracked Mud

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Concentric Ring Patterns

"Circles inside circles!" They start together from the middle to branch the outside without ever crossing paths.



Water Ripple

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Onion Slice

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Beet Slice

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Fractal Patterns

"Shapes inside shapes!" The big picture is made of medium pieces that look like it, which are made of tiny pieces that copy them again.







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Let's Hang Out!

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