

Newham Trackside Wall - Repeating Patterns in Nature

Transcript

Sarah Pimenta 0:14

Hi. I'm Sarah and in this video, I am going to show you how to make a repeating pattern inspired by nature and the work of William Morris. William Morris used the nature around him to create his designs and worked out how to repeat one shape inspired by nature to make a pattern. Sonia Boyce has used a repeating design of natural forms in her artwork, *Newham Trackside Wall*, showing plants found around the railway line. This was inspired by William Morris and his designs. To begin with we will need to have a collection of different shaped leaves like I have here. When you collect your own leaves, make sure you only take them when they have already fallen from the plant, or get permission from whoever owns the plant before picking them.

Sarah Pimenta 1:29

Step 1 - Choosing your different leaf shapes. Choose your different leaf shapes by looking carefully at the outside shape. Looking at the ones I have chosen I have a good variety of different shapes which is something that you will find in many of William Morris' designs bigger and smaller shapes. Now, carefully onto a piece of coloured paper, draw around your leaves, like this, carefully following the outline shape of the leaf. Make sure you draw around each leaf shape at least twice, as a key theme in William Morris' designs is repeating the same shape more than once. Draw and cut a selection of different leaf shapes. Draw and cut a selection of your different leaf shapes until you have a collection of different leaf shapes and colours like I have here. In this example, I have used real leaves. You could also do this activity by tracing pictures of real leaves and flowers and cutting the shapes you find out of coloured paper like I have done here. On a larger piece of plain paper start to create a pattern using your different leaf shapes like I am now. After you've created a design you like, you could take a photograph of it. Keep repeating the process until you have a design that is your favourite and then carefully stick the design onto a piece of paper. Keep repeating the process until you have a design that is your favourite and then carefully stick the design onto a piece of paper. Here is my finished design as an example I hope you enjoyed this video and I hope you have fun making your designs inspired by William Morris!