



Family Note

The word *pattern* has many different meanings. Here, pattern is defined as a simple arrangement of objects, such that one can tell what will come next if the arrangement is continued. The concept of predictable patterns is an important part of mathematics.

To dye pasta for color patterns in this activity, place the pasta in a jar with some rubbing alcohol and a few drops of food coloring. Shake the jar and then lay the pasta on a sheet of newspaper to dry. Or you can buy pasta in different colors in many grocery stores.

You can make patterns with food. Make some patterns with cereals and crackers that have different shapes and colors. If the cereal has holes, string a cereal pattern on yarn to make a necklace or bracelet that you can eat.

Or

Make patterns with different kinds of tube-shaped pasta. Use plain or colored pasta. Sort by color, shape, or both. Make your patterns into necklaces or bracelets or glue them on paper. (Do not eat these patterns!)

