

Storytelling Math celebrates children using math in their daily adventures as they play, build, and discover the world around them. Joyful stories and hands-on activities make it easy for kids and their grown-ups to explore everyday math together.

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A Beautiful House for Birds

Math activities by Marlene Kliman, TERC



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About the Book

"Hello, birds!" Olivia wants to make a colorful birdhouse. She starts painting a pattern of stripes, but then—oops! She makes a mistake! Now what?

About the Math

Pink, green, pink, green . . . Olivia starts out painting a simple pattern. After she makes a mistake, she re-thinks her pattern and creates a more complex one. As young children like Olivia recognize, create, extend, and talk about patterns, they build skills that will help them in many areas of math, including the number system, arithmetic, and algebra.

As you go about the day with children, help them notice and describe patterns around them. Encourage them to predict what would come next, and talk with them about how to tell if something is a pattern. And point out that sometimes, a mistake can be the start of a beautiful pattern!

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About the Author/Illustrator

Grace Lin is a *New York Times* best-selling author, a National Book Award finalist, and a recipient of the Children's Literature Legacy Award. She has won the Caldecott Honor, the Newbery Honor, the Geisel Honor, and many other awards for her books.

www.gracelin.com





A Beautiful House for Birds

Math Activities

Explore patterns with these activities!

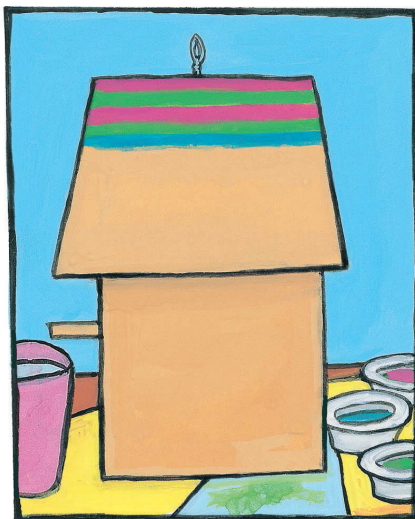


Patterns All Day Long

Talk together about patterns in the day. For instance, "First we have breakfast, later we have lunch, and last comes dinner." Consider having a mixed-up day that doesn't follow the pattern!

Make Patterns

Invite children to use art supplies or objects like spoons and cups to make patterns. Encourage children to talk about how they know they've made a pattern.



Not a Pattern

Challenge children to make a design that's not a pattern. Talk together about how to tell if something forms a pattern.



Act Out Patterns

Alternate two actions to form a pattern (clap, wave; clap, wave). Act out the pattern together, or split it up: one person claps, the other waves; one person claps, the other waves; and so on.