Nature's Mirror Patterns

Research and sources · K–2 · 45–55 minutes × 2–4 sessions

Context for this inquiry

Observe plants and insects; distinguish real observation from decorative symmetry

Teach with relevant originals

Use primary artworks, museum biographies, documentary sources or student-conducted observation. The collection cover is an original editorial graphic, not a reproduction of the artist’s work.

Starting sources

National Core Arts Standards

https://www.nationalartsstandards.org/customize-handbook?discipline=Visual+Arts

National Core Arts Standards grade progression

https://www.nationalartsstandards.org/content/visual-arts-high-school-student-work

Next Generation Science Standards

https://www.nextgenscience.org/

Looking questions

What do you literally observe? Which design decisions are evident? What is uncertain or missing from this source? What does a second source change?

Source critique

For an artist study, identify the artist, date and medium of each original work before discussing influence. For arts integration, record the data or primary text behind the artwork and test its accuracy.

Copyright, authorship and consent

Contemporary artworks and portraits may require permission for online reproduction. Link to authorized museum or artist pages rather than downloading and reposting. Seek consent for photographs of identifiable people. Public domain status depends on the specific image and jurisdiction; verify before publishing.

Connection back to the studio

Return to Where do living things show symmetry and where do they not? Use source evidence to justify a new artistic response: Fold print and labeled botanical observation card.