

## Making patterns

Making patterns can occur in a whole range of activities and can get as tricky as you like. Here are a few ideas for starting off with objects that you can find around the house.

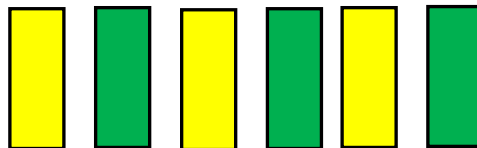
Collect buttons as they make a great resource for pattern making as well as counting.



Lay 4 or 5 buttons in a row, alternating a small button and a large button. Ask what should come next and then continue the pattern.

Play a similar activity alternating the colours of the buttons rather than size eg red blue red blue etc.

Cut out strips from various coloured paper and lay out a pattern eg



Ask what should come next and then continue the pattern. Make it harder by introducing a third colour.

Toothpicks or matchsticks can be laid out in patterns. Again ask what the pattern is and what should come next. (Make sure the matches cannot be lit!)

