

## Lesson Plan: Patterns

*by Marie-France Perron*

<b>Tool(s) used:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systems Mapping</li> <li>• Making Connections</li> </ul>
<b><u>Purpose of using tool:</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vocabulary Development</li> </ul> <p><b>Overview:</b> I adapted this strategy to introduce new vocabulary at the beginning of an IPC unit: Patterns.</p> <p>Students had to find similarities between patterns, talk about them, describe them and name the pattern (new vocab) with the help of the teacher.</p>
<b><u>Context of lesson/case study:</u></b>	IPC/LA lesson
<b>Participants (# and description):</b>	13 EY3 students (four years old)
<b>Topic, Theme, or Key Understanding of unit/project:</b>	Patterns
<b>Length of unit/project:</b>	20 minutes
<b>Resources/materials &amp; setting required:</b>	Patterns cards and clips, string.
<p><b>Lesson Plan/Description of the Project:</b></p> <p>Students are given a pattern card, which is clipped to their shirt.</p> <p>They stand in a circle.</p> <p>One student holds the string.</p> <p>All together, they find a pattern that connects with the first student's pattern, a pattern that has a similarity (shape/colour, etc).</p> <p>Once they have, they give the string to that student, starting the web of connections, and so on.</p>	
<p><b>Reflection</b></p> <p><b>Plusses:</b></p> <p>Although my students are young, they were able to stay in a circle. I imagine they were intrigued by the new activity and were eager to see the web develop. Lots of language was being used!</p> <p><b>Challenges:</b></p> <p>My goal in the future is to expand and use other compass tools like the Iceberg and Ladder tools to delve even deeper into the systems that surround us. I am finding it challenging to know when and how to bring these processes and work with them efficiently with my students. Hoping that Level 2 would help me with this.</p>	
<p><b>Suggestions for other practitioners and educators:</b></p>	

Just dive in and try it! We all ARE and CAN BE systems thinkers once we step out of our comfort zones and really break down events that occur in our everyday lives. Systems make the world so it is imperative that we start understanding them! As a teacher, you know your students, you know what tools they will be able to handle and understand. The key is to start introducing these tools into your classrooms so that students become equipped with the analytical and problem-solving skills they need to succeed in the future.

**Evidence and Resource:**



*Lesson plan submitted by: Marie-France Perron, 2017, while serving as Early Years (Pre-K) Teacher at International School of Havana*

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