

# Read and Play with Math Patterns

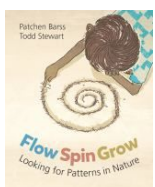


Math skills are essential for kids to be successful in school and life. **Patterns** is one of the nine Big Ideas put forth by Erikson Institute's Early Math Collaborative that young kids need to learn. We are featuring activity sheets for all nine Big Ideas this summer. Here is Erikson's website for more great math activities and information. <https://bit.ly/30wTbgd>

Math "makes sense" because its **patterns** allow us to generalize our understanding from one situation to another. Kids who expect mathematics to "make sense" look for patterns.

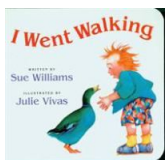
## Read and Talk

Here are some of our favorite pattern books plus easy activities to do with little ones. You can put these items on hold at [skokie.library.info](http://skokie.library.info), wait for a notice they're ready, and get them using curbside pickup.



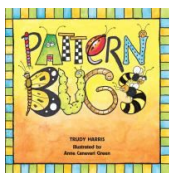
*Flow, Spin, Grow. Looking for Patterns in Nature.* By Patchen Barss (Youth Easy Nonfiction 500.201185 B)

Explore the hidden shapes and patterns in nature. Look for patterns the next time you're taking a walk outside; you might be surprised how quickly you can spot them all around.



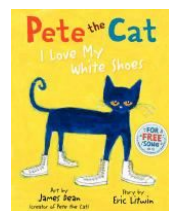
*I Went Walking.* By Sue Williams (Youth Picture Book WIL)

During the course of a walk, a young boy identifies animals of different colors. As you read, stop and wait for your little one to finish the sentence. Point out the pattern in language as well as the growing pattern in the illustrations.



*Pattern Bugs.* By Trudy Harris (Youth Picture Books HAR)

Rhyming text and illustrations describe patterns depicted by various insects, including fireflies, moths, and caterpillars. Look for the patterns in the words and pictures!



*Pete the Cat. I Love My White Shoes.* By Eric Litwin (Youth Picture Books PET)

Pete the Cat gets into colorful adventures while out walking in his new white shoes. There are so many patterns to follow and sing along in this story. Pause to let your child help you tell it.



*Pitter Pattern.* By Joyce Hesselberh (Youth Picture Books HES)

Lu and her friends spot patterns in their daily activities, including patterns found in music, weather, time, play, shapes, nature, math, and language. Can you find all the patterns?

# Play

*There are patterns everywhere.*

Look for patterns the next time you're outside!



Look for patterns on your clothes!



Look for patterns on your fruit!

## *Make your own patterns*

Can you make patterns out of toys?  
With paper and crayons?  
With a drum or a spoon and an upside down pot?  
With words or numbers?

