M.C. ESCHER

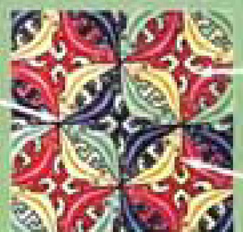
By Christy Hale

Meet the Artist

Never-Ending Designs

Math + Art = Fun!

A WALK THROUGH THE PAINTING



Contrast How many geckos can students find? Escher often used contrasting shades and colors to help make the patterns in his art easy to see.

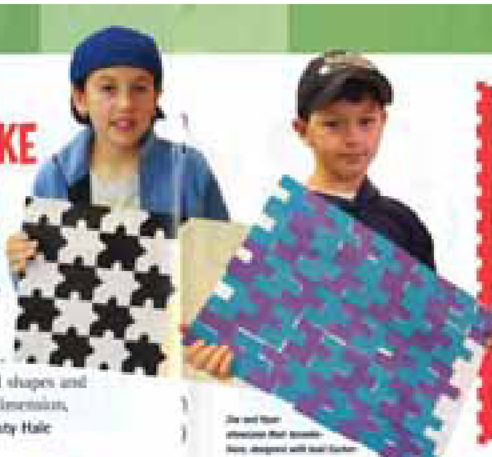
Tessellations All the geckos are the same shape, fitting together like a puzzle with no space left in between. Can your students find tessellating shapes in the world around them?

Rotation Have kids find all the geckos of one color. How are they the same? Different?

Be Positive The space filled with lines, color, designs, or shapes is called positive space. The surrounding empty space is called negative space. Ask students to look carefully at the space around any gecko. What do they see?

CREATE TESSELLATIONS LIKE M.C. ESCHER

Mary Bussman's fourth- and fifth-grade students at Ohlone Elementary School in Palo Alto, California, really know how to put the pieces together! Inspired by the striking work of M.C. Escher, the students turned math into art as they experimented with colorful shapes and interlocking patterns. In the process, they explored contrast, dimension, illusion, repetition, metamorphosis, and even infinity. By Christy Hale



TESSELLATION TERMS

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