

Recommended Pattern Picture Books Colleen Uscianowski

Anno, M. (1999). *Anno's magic seeds*. New York: Penguin Putnam Books for Young Readers.

Jack meets a wizard, who gifts him with two magic seeds. Eating just one seed is enough to keep Jack from going hungry for a whole year. When Jack plants the other seed, it produces a plant with two more seeds. Then Jack learns that planting two seeds produces four more. His fortune soon grows faster and faster as he plants more and more seeds. Children can keep track of how many seeds Jack grows every year in the simple illustrations. The engaging story invites children—probably at the kindergarten and first grade levels—to acquire an understanding of number patterns and develop early algebraic thinking skills as two seeds become four, three become six, five become ten, and so on.

Benton, L. (1998). *I see patterns*. Huntington Beach, CA: Creative Teaching Press.

Each page of this book begins with “I see patterns on...,” inviting children to find the patterns in the illustrations. Patterns appear on a beach umbrella, shells, and cookies, among other objects. As they explore patterns in the illustrations, children can learn that size, shape, and color patterns can be found all around us.

Cleary, B. P. (2010). *A-B-A-B-A—A book of pattern play*. Minneapolis, MN: Millbrook Press.

In this book, a group of cats define what a pattern is and describe a variety of different patterns. The book shows patterns in which colors, shapes or objects are repeating. It also shows simple number patterns that are increasing by 2s, 5s, or other constant amounts.

Harris, T. (2000) *Pattern fish*. Minneapolis, MN: Millbrook Press.

A group of fish swoosh, glide, swirl, and swish through the water as patterns surround them. As children hear patterns in the story, they can delight in finding those patterns in the illustrations: *wiggle-jiggle-jiggle-float, wiggle-jiggle-jiggle-float*. Children can continue looking for fun patterns until a shark appears, and all the fish disappear!

Hong, L. T. (1993). *Two of everything: A Chinese folktale*. Morton Grove, Ill: A. Whitman.

In this humorous tale, Mr. Haktak finds a big brass pot in his garden and drops his coin purse into it. Mrs. Haktak is not sure what to do with the pot but she soon realizes that it's a magical pot. When you put in one coin purse, you pull out two! As children discover that everything that goes into the pot gets doubled, they acquire an understanding of number patterns and develop early algebraic thinking skills.

Williams, R. L. (2013). *Mr. Noisy's book of patterns*. Huntington Beach, CA: Creative Teaching Press.

Mr. Noisy makes a lot of noisy patterns. He makes patterns as he walks and talks and sings and tap dances. Patterns even appear in his sleep. As they hear the text and examine the illustrations, children can explore patterns made of sounds, shapes, colors, and objects. Children can practice recognizing and comparing the patterns that the noisy Mr. Noisy makes throughout the story.