

Art Inspired by Reptile Patterns

Ages 6 and up

Snakes and other reptiles have skin markings that help them blend into their natural surroundings to hide from predators (animals that might eat them).

You can use these patterns to make crafts look extra-cool! Here's one idea – there are more at the end of the activity.

Reptile-inspired “Live Strong”-type Wrist Band

Materials and Tools

Pencil

½-inch wide strip of white craft foam

Scissors

Stapler or Glue

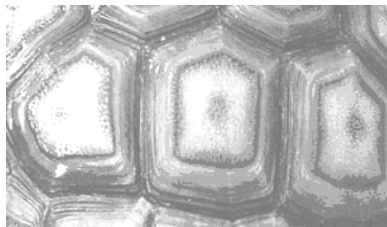
Assorted colored markers

1. Choose your pattern

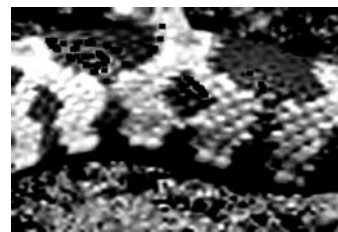
Choose a simple pattern from a photo of a snake or other reptile. Use one of the black and white ones below to get you started.



Python Pattern



Turtle Pattern



Corn Snake Pattern

You can find more patterns online at www.biglearning.org/reptiles

On a piece of scratch paper, practice drawing your pattern with markers – simplify it if you need to. Practice until you can draw small enough to fit on your wrist band, which will only be a half-inch wide.

2. Cut the craft foam strip to the right length

Wrap the strip around your wrist and pinch the strip where it meets the beginning. Then, add an extra inch of length so that you will be able to slide the finished band over your hand. Cut away excess length.

3. Color your pattern

With a pencil, draw the pattern you chose on the craft foam strip, and then color it in with markers.

4. Staple your wrist band

Staple the ends of the band together, with the smooth side of the staple inside the band for comfort. Or glue with hot glue or “tacky” glue (available at art supply stores).

Other ideas

Decorate a fat pencil with your pattern.

Make bookmarks: Cut strips of paper or craft foam and decorate with your pattern.