

1

Keep my line going

Hold up a start card and choose a material to stand for each shape on it, such as a piece of pasta for the dark circle and a block for the light one. Build the start of the line on the floor where the whole class can see, then run a finger along it while the class says it aloud with you. Stop your finger at the empty space at the end.

"Pasta, block, pasta, block. Say it with me."

"My line stops here, but the pattern does not have to. What goes in this space?"

"How did you know?"

Place the object a student names, then keep the line going for four or five more objects with different students adding one each while the class says the line aloud from the beginning each time. Saying the whole line from the start is what tells a student what comes next, so do not let the class jump straight to the empty space.

2

How did you know

Every time a student adds an object, ask how they knew, and take the finger, not the words, as the answer. A student who knows points back to the matching object earlier in the line rather than saying that it looked right.

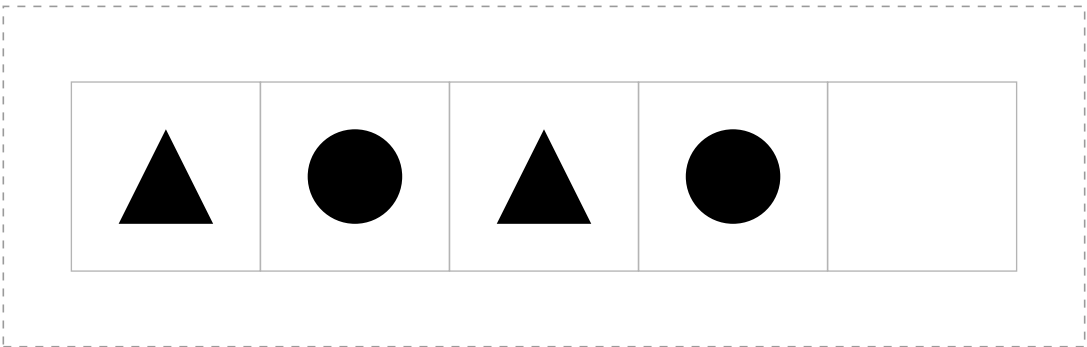
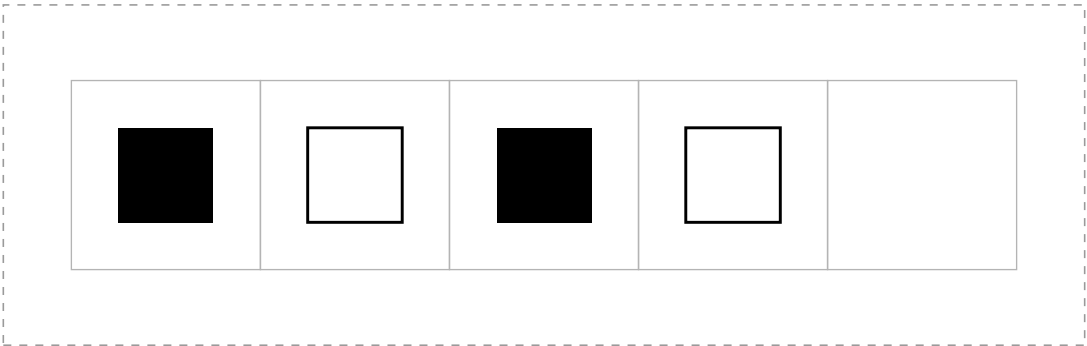
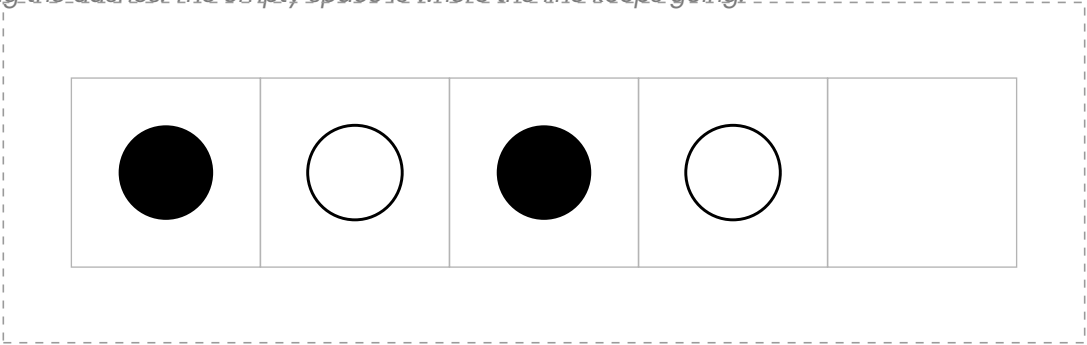
"Show me the one that told you."

"So this one is the same as that one. What is the part that repeats?"

Finish by stopping the line at a point part way through a repeat, such as after pasta, block, block, pasta, and asking what comes next there. A line that stops mid repeat is harder than one that stops at the end of a complete repeat, and it is the point at which saying the line aloud from the beginning stops being optional.

Pattern start cards

Cut along the dashes. The empty space is where the line keeps going.



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