

Symbol Symmetry

Math Matters



RESPOND to the expression *mirror image* by exploring ways that art can present a symmetrical image. When observing or creating symmetrical art, it helps to identify the *line of symmetry*, where the symbols or each half of the image meet, making an equal match on both sides.

Mexican folk art, as well as images popular in other Hispanic cultures, use symmetrical art that features symbols of the culture or objects found in the geographic region, such as birds and flowers or boldly colored shapes.



CREATE a symmetrical image that features objects seen around your community. It might include birds or other animals, flowers or other plants, or geometric or organic shapes.

- First, fold this page in half lengthwise to form a *line of symmetry*. Unfold it so you have a full drawing area.
- Plan how you'll arrange parts included in the image so that they form a symmetrical design with a mirror image on each side of the fold.
- You might start by creating a full design on one side of the fold and then repeating it on the other side. Or you may add a single symbol or character to one side and then the other.



PRESENT your image and discuss how you chose the symbols, characters, or objects in the art and how you made the image symmetrical.



CONNECT the experience you had creating this art with other examples of symmetrical images seen on fabric, flooring, wall decorations, and elsewhere. Symmetrical patterns are common in nature. Faces and bodies are handy references to symmetry. Where else can symmetry be seen?



Learning

THINKING SHEET

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