NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM LOS ANGELES COUNTY



Shaping Dinosaurs 7th Grade

Duration

Pre-Activity: 10 minutes Activity: 30 minutes Post-Activity: 10 minutes

Supplies

- Tesselation examples
- Worksheet
- Pencil
- Ruler (optional)

Standards

CCSS Math G.A.1

CA State

Math Grade 7

Measurement and Geometry 2.1

Vocabulary

Repetition Geometric shape Equilateral Tesselation

Concepts

- Tessellations are a pattern of plane figures that fill the plane with no overlaps or gaps.
- The perimeter and area of a shape can be calculated using basic geometric knowledge.

Objectives

- Students will know what tessellations are and be able to identify them.
- Students will create a tessellation pattern and use it in a drawing exercise.
- Students will calculate the perimeter and area of their drawing.

Outline

1. Review what a tessellation is and show examples. Ask students if they can think of any examples themselves (tiled floors or ceilings, brick walls, etc.). Introduce the worksheet.

2. Using the attached packet of Dinosaur Hall images as inspiration, they will complete the worksheets.

3. Have students share their tessellations with the class. As a class, talk about how to calculate the perimeter and area of their drawing using what they know about the geometric shapes.



A Tessellation Dinosaur

First, choose a specimen from the Dinosaur Hall and draw it lightly in pencil below. Keep your drawing simple, a basic outline with a few key characteristics represented.

Next, pick a tessellation to fill your drawing. You may choose one from below, or look up other examples to use. Pick a pattern with shapes that fit into the smallest parts of your drawing and fill it without going over the edges. Use a ruler to help get straight lines. When your drawing is filled, erase the parts of your original outline that are not part of the pattern.

Finally, color your dinosaur to share with the class (keep the tessellation's pattern obvious!).







TRICERATOPS



TYRANNOSAURUS REX



ALLOSAURUS



STEGOSAURUS

CAMPTOSAURUS



MOSASAUR

