

Spatial Relationships: Patterned Set Recognition Using Dot Plates

A good set of materials to use in pattern recognition activities is a set of dot plates.

Construction Notes

Dot plates should be made in 2 colours.

Note that some patterns are combinations of two smaller patterns or a pattern with 1 or 2 additional dots. Keep them compact since spread out dots make the patterns hard to see.

Dominoes are good for spatial work also.

Dominoes and dot plates can also be used for early addition.

Activity: Learning Patterns

To introduce the patterns, provide each student with about 10 counters & a piece of construction paper. Hold up a dot plate for about 3 seconds. Ask:

"Make the pattern you saw using the counters."

"How many dots did you see?"

"How did you see them?"

Activity: Dot Plate Flash

Hold up a dot plate for only 1 to 3 seconds. Ask:

"How many dots did you see?"

"How did you see them?"

Activity: Dot Plate Variation

Instead of identifying how many dots are showing, students show:

- One more?
- One less?
- Two more?
- Two less?
- The double?
- The double plus one more?
- How many more does it take to make 10?

Sample Dot Plates

