

PDC- Los Molinos, Almeria 2013

Session title		Patterns in Nature, Patterns in Design	
Date, time and location		Monday 15.30-17.00 Geodome and walk in valley	
Learning objectives			
By the end of the session, participants will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Draw and describe patterns in Nature [Describe the functions of patterns [Explain how these patterns can be used in design 			
Resources needed			
Large rolls of brown paper, colourful chinks, pile of objects from nature (also ask participants to bring their own on way to classroom), different sized squares of newspaper, Cards for Patterns in Design Activity			
Session Plan			
Activity	Time	Teacher / facilitator	Students / participants
Exercise with paper squares	10	Lay out different size squares of newspaper. Give the rules: see how many times you can fold the paper. Invite discussion on what is a pattern. See if their definitions match/complement "A pattern is: A theme of recurring events or objects with elements repeated in a predictable manner with predictable outcomes" Introduce why patterns in PC- pattern is design, design is subject of permaculture, designs are made from an assembly of components, and we can use patterns to put them together. Q. What patterns have we established here on this course already?	Individually fold paper, look for common pattern, In group: Discuss where we see patterns in our lives, time and space Think about patterns/rhythms of course, where we sit in room, timings
Drawing Patterns (from: Manual for Teaching Permaculture Creatively by Skye and Robin Clayfield)	20	Offer objects from nature, large floor paper and chinks to participants and ask them to draw the pattern they see in object. Repeat it. Change the size. Rotate it 90degrees. Q. What is interesting? What do you see? What happens when patterns overlay each other?	Draw the patterns Stand back and look at each others With a partner take it in turns to draw a pattern, one person leading, the other following with their chalk. Discuss experience.
Patterns in Nature Walk	25	Walk outside, encourage group to point out patterns at different scales/orders	Observe, make connections, say what you see
Patterns in Design Small groups	15	Put people into groups of 3/4/5 Each group looks at 1 or 2 patterns Handout cards with different patterns eg. Spiral, Wave, Branching Each group fills in card 1: where that	Fill in cards for 1or 2 patterns (depending on group size and distribution). Display on wall/floor and everyone gets to read work done by everyone

		pattern is in Nature, card 2: what that pattern's function is and card 3: where we see that pattern in human designs	else
Pattern Application	15	Q. How can we use pattern understanding to reduce work and/or increase yields Q. How is pattern used by tribal groups? Song, art, dance, sculpture	Discuss
Closing	5	Name any other patterns, signpost future sessions where we will use Patterns during course	