

## Wiggly Pattern Snakes

**Objective:** The children will replicate AB and ABC patterns  
The children will identify colors.  
The children will develop fine-motor movement

**Materials:** colored penne or rigatoni pasta (you can dye the pasta using food dyes and vinegar), long pipe cleaners, ruler, markers, poster board or used file folders, adult volunteer

**Vocabulary:** color words, pattern

### Procedure:

Before the children arrive:

1. Dye the pasta three different colors.
2. Cut the poster board or file folders into a dozen 8 inch by 2 ½ inch strips.
3. On each strip, draw 12 circles. Each strip will have a different pattern.
4. Color in 7 of the circles in either an AB pattern (red, blue, red, blue) or an ABC pattern (red, blue, green, red, blue, green) Make sure there 5 empty circles.

After the children arrive:

1. Read Wiggle aloud. Tell the children they are going to get to make a wiggly snake just like in the book.
2. First tell the children that their snakes will have a pattern. Ask for a child's definition of a pattern. Then tell them that a pattern is something that repeats.
3. Show the children one of the pattern strips.
4. Put a coordinating piece of pasta on each circle then ask the children to help you fill in the rest of the empty circles.
5. Take a pipe cleaner and show the children how to thread the pasta onto it, making a snake.
6. Fold over the end of the pipe cleaner to make a head.
7. Hand out one pipe cleaner and one pattern strip to each child.
8. Have the adult volunteer help you assist each child in finishing their pattern.
9. Have the adult volunteer help you assist each child in threading the pasta and making their snakes.
10. Let the children trade pattern strips to make more snakes.
11. When everyone has at least one snake, come together as a group to share the snakes and the patterns.
12. Give yourselves a round of applause!

### Extensions:

Put the pattern strips into your math center.

Use what you've learned about patterns to make the Pattern Kabobs for snack.