

## PEACE TILES PATTERN BOOK

Tips for success in using a variety of materials to produce vibrant collages!

THE GLOBAL PEACE TILES PROJECT

National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation (USA), 2006



Boston International School (USA), 2007



Boston International School (USA), 2007



Goucher College (USA), 2007

## ANATOMY OF A PEACE TILE

One of the beautiful things about working on wood panel is that you can do almost anything to it - paint it, collage it, wrap it, glue on it, nail into it -- even cut, carve and drill it!

When creating your Peace Tile, identify some of the materials you have available around you - paper, organic materials (leaves and sticks for example) - and think about ways they might attach to your tile.

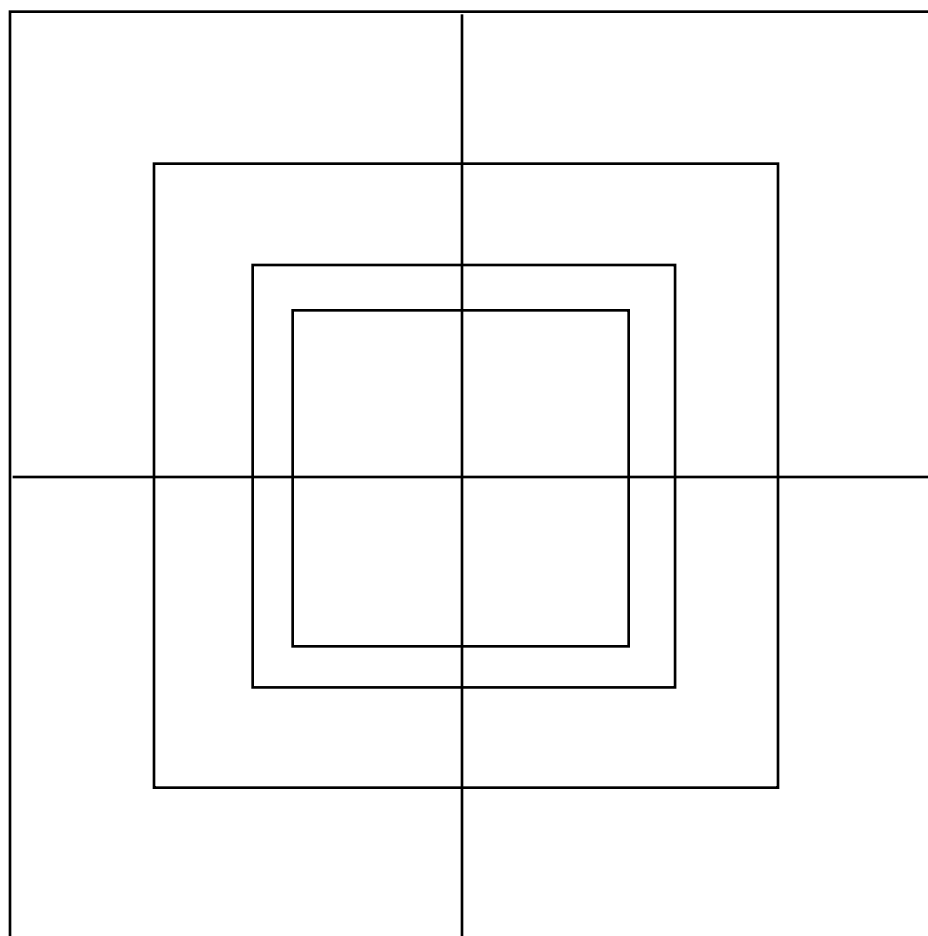
In the tile to the right - made by a youth in Rajasthan, India - the artist has chosen to:

- ★ Use newspaper to create a background
- ★ Apply paint to create a concentric border effect
- ★ Inset a central image
- ★ Use ribbon and cloth to add “framing devices”
- ★ Wrap the entire tile with thread

While taken individually, each element might not strike you as very exciting - but when they are combined with care they produce a lovely composition to powerful effect!



Gram Bharati Samiti (India), 2005





## WHAT'S IN A TILE?

ITS UP TO YOU!

Almost any item you find can be used to good effect - composition and story - when combined with other objects on your tile. Get creative - explore your environment and seek out details - bottle caps, wire, stamps - just about anything you can find can be used to tell a story!



### A GRAIN BAG AS BACKGROUND

This fibrous plastic weave provides both a kinetic border, textured background, and high contrast for foreground elements.

- Woven plastic grain bag



### METAL BITS AND WIRE

Create a strong sense of contrast in many ways - light/dark, hard, soft, sharp/not sharp, rough smooth, front/back.

- Barbed wire
- Rusted metal plates

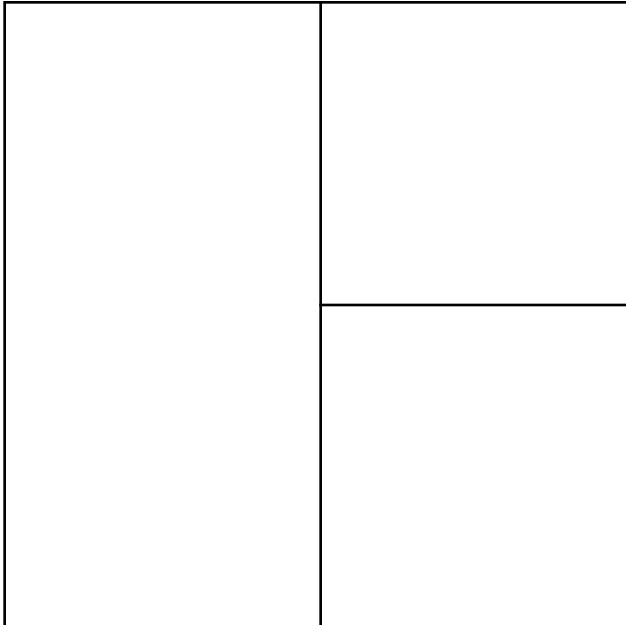


### PAPER SCRAPS

Word and images found in a magazine are used to communicate a clear message, and heighten the tension in the image by contrasting with elements like barbed wire.

- Magazine cut outs

# MORE WAYS TO THINK ABOUT TILE DESIGN

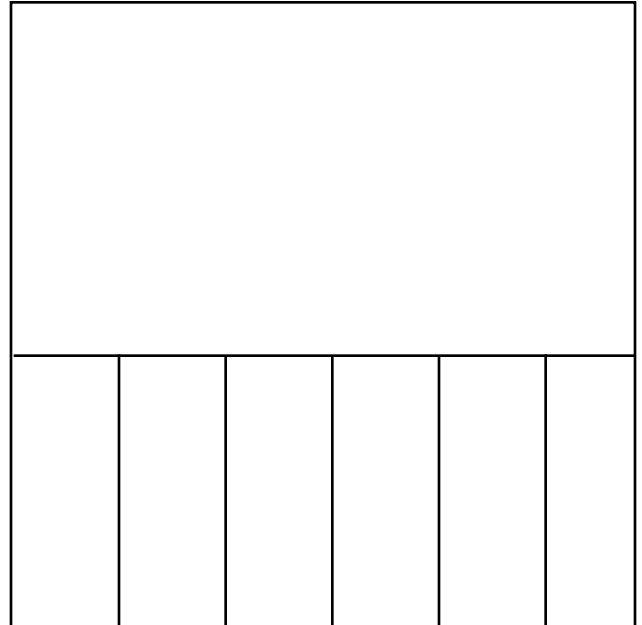


### SIMPLE THIRDS

A strong vertical half of tile is complemented by two squares, creating an asymmetric balance with pleasing harmony.

**Try** Rotating the tile 90 degrees

**Or** Creating rectangles on the right

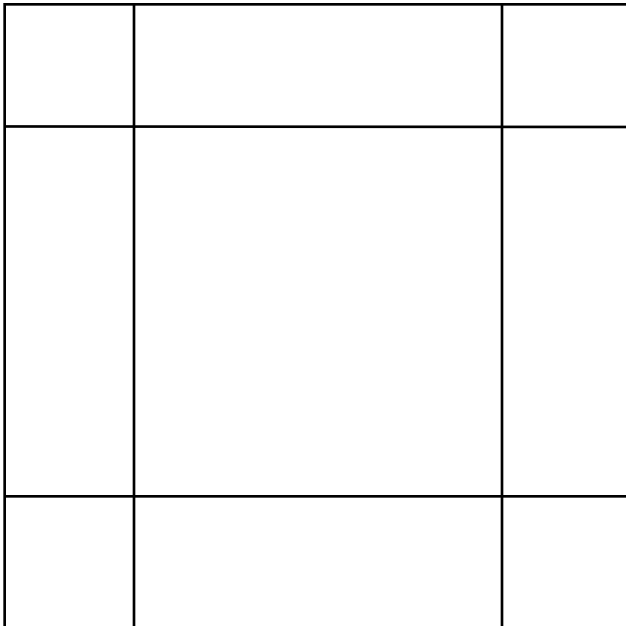


### RHYTHMIC STRIPES

A peaceful, horizontal upper half of the tile is contrasted by an evenly punctuated lower half. The lower “bars” point upward toward the content.

**Try** Rotating the tile 180 degrees

**Or** Adjusting widths of the vertical “bars”

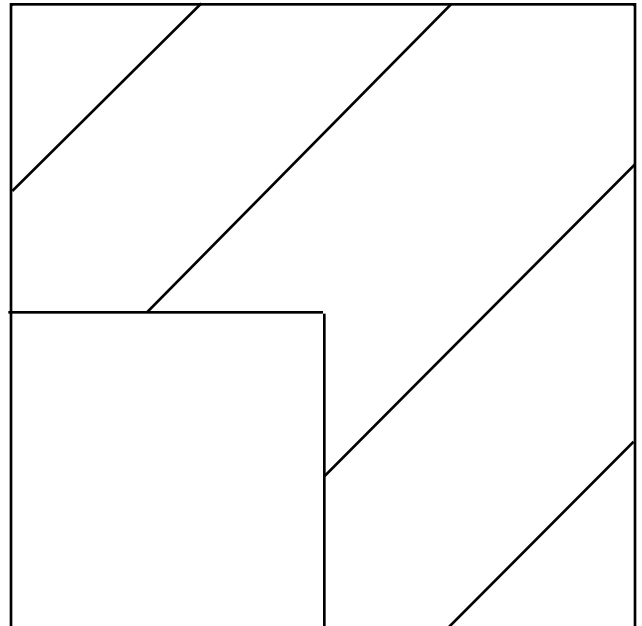


### STRONG CORNERS

Good use of corners keeps the eye moving over the tile and creates a simple “framing device” for your central content.

**Try** Emphasizing opposite sides

**Or** Find more corners to play with



### ENERGETIC DIAGONALS

Diagonal lines create an energetic sense of direction - of “up” and “down” and “in” and “out.” They also communicate movement and “point” to things.

**Try** Rotating the tile 90 degrees

**Or** Changing the position of the square

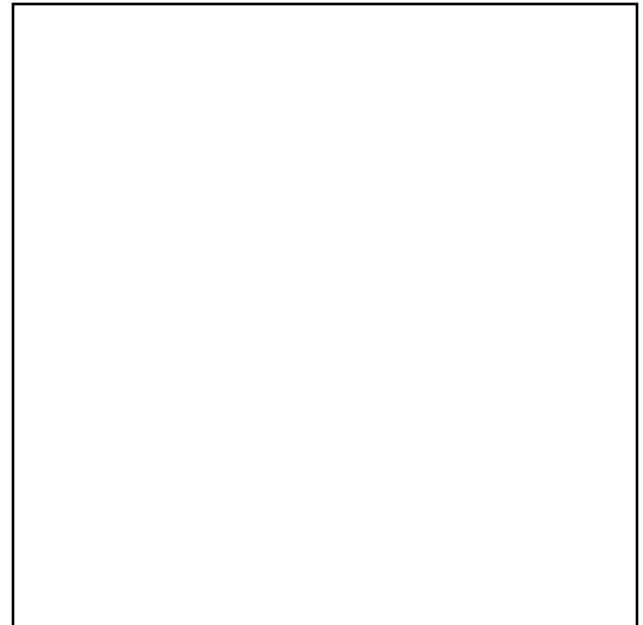
# ACTIVITIES



Peace Tiles Summer Workshop (USA), 2007

## EXERCISE 1

On the blank tile to the right, draw the basic design you see in the tile above.  
**Look for** Patterns that create rhythm  
**And** How “direction” is communicated



## QUESTIONS

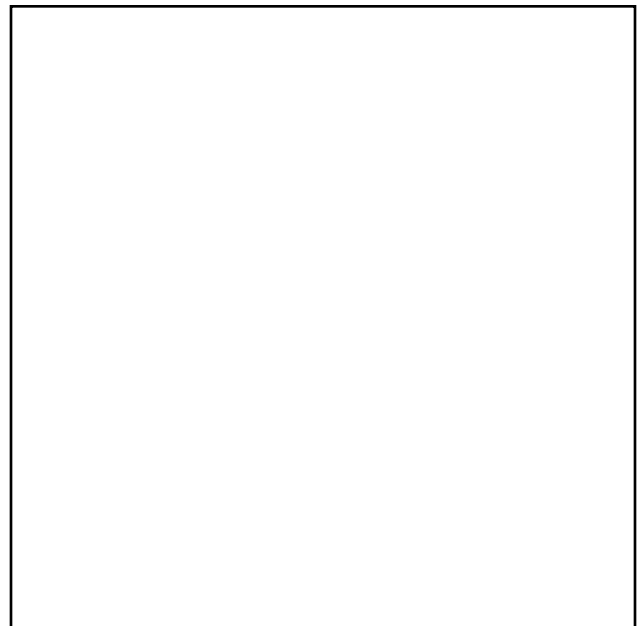
1. How are scratches used on the tile?
2. How would you describe any pattern(s) that you see?
3. How do the tiny images relate to the overall shape of the tile?



Peace Tiles Summer Workshop (USA), 2007

## QUESTIONS

- Study the tile above. Then discuss:
1. Can you distinguish “foreground” from the “background”?
  2. How about “organic” shapes from “geometric shapes”?
  3. What does the tile make you think of?



## EXERCISE 2

On the blank tile above, draw only the “geometric” elements in the tile. Fill in the remaining space with your own “organic” designs.

## Peace Tiles Partners



[www.peacetiles.net](http://www.peacetiles.net)

ARTS FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK  
Global

COMMUNITY OF SANT EGIDIO  
Kenya

GIRL CHILD ART FOUNDATION  
Nigeria

HANDS ON OGEECHEE  
Georgia, USA

HOPE KENYA  
Kenya

LIFE IN AFRICA FOUNDATION  
Uganda and USA

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Canada

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Kenya

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Uganda and USA

VISUAL VOICES  
USA

## About the Global Peace Tiles Project

Peace Tiles are intimate collages on wood panel that tell a story. When combined with others, Peace Tiles produce vibrant murals that express the *visual voice*\* of young people around ideas, issues, and experiences they care about.



The Peace Tiles process is a wonderful resource for educators that integrates well into a range of learning goals across

curriculum standards, including:

- Visual Arts.** Composition, technique, and narrative are key elements of a Peace Tile.
- Service Learning.** Students can apply their creativity to problem-solving locally and globally.
- Team Building.** Intergroup communication and cooperation are at the heart of the Peace Tiles process.
- Social Studies.** Raise awareness and facilitate connections across geography and culture.
- Global Issues.** Learn about issues experienced locally and their global dimensions.

The Peace Tiles Project provides a basic structure to integrate the visual arts into a range of learning settings. The Peace Tiles project also offers access to:

- **An international network.** Access to a growing community of educators and artists looking to connect.
- **Instructional guides.** Workshop design and issue-based discussion materials.
- **Videos.** Lively clips about Peace Tiles projects around the world.
- **Peace Tiles kits.** Individual and group kits that include colored wood tiles, collage materials, and instructions.
- **Training.** Introduction for artists and educators to the Peace Tiles process and collage techniques.
- **Workshops.** Artists and educators trained in the Peace Tiles process are available to assist in the design and facilitation of workshops.

Use Peace Tiles to help young people to understand global issues, engage their communities, and make connections around the world.

\* Used with permission from [www.visualvoices.org](http://www.visualvoices.org)

## Need More Help?

### Visit Peace Tiles Online

At [peacetiles.net](http://peacetiles.net) you can connect with other artists and educators who have used the Peace Tiles process and join discussion groups on a range of topics.



### Hire an Arts & Education Consultant



Peace Tiles can put you in touch with artist-educators in the United States, Canada, and around the world who can help you design outstanding "arts for development" experiences around a range of topics.

### Invite an Arts & Development Speaker

Arts professionals in Peace Tiles' international network have a wealth of experience to share around using the arts to advance education, service and entrepreneurship.



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