

ART

LAMIC

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ISLAMIC ART 18 NOVEMBER LEARNING ACTIVITIES WORKSHEET AGE GROUP: 10 YEARS & ABOVE

THE WORLD HAS PRIZED ISLAMIC ART FOR CENTURIES. ITS BEAUTY, COMPLEXITY AND HARMONY IS REMARKABLE. PATTERNS FROM PREVIOUS CIVILIZATIONS INSPIRED ISLAMIC WORLD ARTISTS. LIKE OTHER KINDS OF ART, ISLAMIC PATTERNS ARE IMAGINATIVE AND CREATIVE. THESE PATTERNS REFLECT ISLAMIC IDEAS SUCH AS UNITY, LOGIC AND ORDER.ISLAMIC DESIGNS PATTERNS REQUIRES BASIC MATH SKILLS, SINCE THE DIFFERENT PATTERNS INCLUDED THE CREATION, REPETITION AND INTERLACING OF GEOMETRIC SHAPES SUCH AS THE SQUARES, CIRCLES AND LINES. THE ENDLESS REPETITIONS OF THE PATTERNS MIRRORS THE BASIS OF ISLAM: GOD IS INFINITE.



#### SELECTED WORKS FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE BAHRAIN NATIONAL MUSEUM



#### GLAZED POTTERY BOWL 9TH CENTURY CE BARBAR TEMPLE

DIMENSIONS: H: 8.4 CM DIAM: 29.3 CM THIS GLAZED BOWL, OFTEN REFERRED TO AS A TULIP BOWL, DATES BACK TO THE 9TH CENTURY. THE VEGETAL GLAZE DECORATION INDICATES THAT IT IS LIKELY AN IMPORT. THIS CERAMIC GLAZED BOWL WAS FOUND IN THE SACRED WELL AT BARBAR TEMPLE.

GOLD DINAR 10TH CENTURY CE BILAD AL-QADEEM

DIMENSIONS: DIAM: MAX: 2 CM THIS GOLD DINAR WAS MINTED IN MANSURIYYA NEAR KAIROUAN WITHIN PRESENT-DAY TUNISIA BACK IN 939. IT WAS FOUND IN A MIXED RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX BY AL-KHAMIS MOSQUE. THE COIN ITSELF MENTIONS THE NAME OF THE FATIMID CALIPH NAZAR AL-AZIZ.



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**ISLAMIC** 

**GLAZED POTTERY BOWL** THIS GLAZED BOWL, OFTEN REFERRED TO AS A **10TH CENTURY CE** TULIP BOWL, DATES BACK TO THE 10TH CENTURY. **MUHARRAO RECOVERED IN MUHARRAQ, THE RED AND BLACK DECORATION IS A TRADITIONAL PRAYER. THIS DIMENSIONS:** BOWL WAS MOST LIKELY AN IMPORT FROM IRAN H: 8.15 CM (NISHAPUR) OR UZBEKISTAN (SAMARKAND). DIAM: 23.3 CM **GLAZED POTTERY BOWL** THIS LARGE GLAZED BOWL WAS FOUND AT **15TH/16TH CENTURY CE** THE OAL'AT AL-BAHRAIN MAIN FORT SITE. ITS **OAL'AT AL-BAHRAIN GEOMETRIC DECORATION IS VERY SPECIFIC TO** BAHRAIN. THE BOWL IS A CHEAP IMITATION OF THE **DIMENSIONS: REFINED CHINESE VESSELS USED IN THE ISLAMIC** H. 12.5 CM NEAR-EAST. DIAM: 24.2 CM MIHARAB SLAB THIS LIMESTONE SLAB WAS FOUND IN THE 1980IES **12TH CENTURY CE DURING RESTORATION WORKS AT AL-KHAMIS AL-KHAMIS MOSQUE** MOSOUE. IT IS THE UPPER PART OF A MIHARAB THAT WAS ONCE FIXED ON THE WESTERN WALL OF DIMENSIONS: THE PRAYER ROOM. H: 72.8 CM W: 64.8 CM TH: 9.5 CM



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### **ACTIVITY 1**

THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE BAHRAIN NATIONAL MUSEUM INCLUDES ELEMENTS OF ISLAMIC ART.

LOOK CLOSELY AT THE ENDLESS GEOMETRIC PATTERNS ENGRAVED ON THE WALLS OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM FOYER. WHAT CAN YOU SEE?

TRACE AND COLOR THE PATTERNS. FEEL FREE TO ADD YOUR OWN PATTERNS TO MAKE YOUR OWN DESIGN!





## **ACTIVITY 2**

MANY ISLAMIC DESIGNS ARE MADE OF REPEATED AND OVERLAPPING SQUARES AND CIRCLES. DESIGNED ON GRIDS, THEY FORM THE COMPLEX PATTERNS OF ISLAMIC ART. USING A COMPASS, PENCIL AND RULER, DRAW THE SEVEN OVERLAPPING CIRCLES.

> USING A STRAIGHTEDGE, DRAW A HORIZONTAL LINE NEAR THE CENTER OF THE PAPER.



3

4

ADD FOUR MORE CIRCLES USING THE NEW POINTS OF INTERSECTION AS COMPASS POINTS. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL CIRCLES HAVE THE SAME RADIUS.



MAKE A CIRCLE WITH THE COMPASS POINT PLACED NEAR THE CENTER OF THE LINE. USING THE INTERSECTION POINTS AS NEW COMPASS POINTS, DRAW A CIRCLE ON EITHER SIDE OF THE FIRST CIRCLE.



REPEAT THIS EXERCISE TO PRODUCE THIS GEOMETRICAL SHAPE. YOU CAN THEN COLOR OR PAINT THEM IN!



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ISLAMIC ART ··



VEGETAL MOTIFS PERMEATES ISLAMIC DESIGNS. THEY INCLUDES THE REPETITION OF A MOTIF, SYMMETRICAL AND FREEHAND DESIGNS.





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### ACTIVITY 3



- 1. RECREATE THIS DECORATIVE DESIGN USING A PENCIL, TRACING PAPER AND SKETCH PAPER.
- 2. FOLD THE TRACING PAPER IN HALF TO MAKE TWO EQUAL RECTANGLES.
- 3. USE A PENCIL TO DRAW A DIAGONAL LINE AS IN THE PICTURE.
- 4. DRAW THE PLANT'S LEAVES AND STEMS WITH AN OBLIQUE LINE.
- 5. PRINT THE DRAWING ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE SO THAT IT IS A COMPLETE DRAWING OF THE DECORATION.
- 6. PRINT THE DECORATION ON A WHITE SHEET OF PAPER BY PRESSING THE TRACING PAPER UNTO IT. TRACE THE DECORATION USING A PENCIL.
- 7. COLOR IN THE DECORATION USING ANY COLOR YOU LIKE.

AND LIKE THIS, YOU'VE CREATED A DISTINCTIVE ISLAMIC PATTERN!



# FOLLOW

**ACTIVITY 4** 

**9** EASY STEPS TO MAKE YOUR OWN EIGHT-POINTED STAR.

**ISLAMIC ART** 

USE A COMPASS TO DRAW 9 CIRCLES OF THE SAME SIZE.

> **2** CAREFULLY CUT OUT THE CIRCLE.

**3** FOLD THE CIRCLE IN HALF.

4 FOLD A OVER TO **DRAW A PERPENDICULAR B. FOLD B UP TO** LINE FROM LINE C-E TO D, CREATING NEW POINT D. POINT E. FOLD E DOWN ALONG LINE D-G. D 5 8 D **DRAW A** KEEP A SHARP POINT AT D. C UNFOLD. PERPENDICULAR **CUT ALONG FOLD LINES** LINE FROM LINE C-D E-F AND D-G ONLY TO THE TO POINT E. INTERSECTION. D 6 9 FOLD D DOWN **OPEN TO FIND YOUR EIGHT** ALONG LINE E-F, **POINTED STAR!** 

**KEEPING A SHARP** 

POINT AT E.

UNFOLD.

**ISLAMIC ART** ....