

Symmetry and Asymmetry in Nature

Activity 5. Translations

There are other transformations that can send an object onto itself. A repeating pattern, for example a strip in wall-paper, a strip in a carpet, or in a webbing can remain invariant under a translation.

- There are seven types of strip patterns, each one a type of symmetry. The simplest pattern is an asymmetrical figure that repeats itself indefinitely.



- Another pattern is glide reflection, where a figure and its glided reflection are repeated, like the footprints on the seashore.



- Some patterns have an inner mirror symmetry, a transversal axis, like the following example:



- Others have a longitudinal axis, like this one:

