Art: *Fading Cloth* by El Anatsui

*Wrapper (adire eleko)* by an unidentified Yoruba artist

These two works of art show how artists create patterns in a variety of ways. The artists who made them used different art-making processes, including stitching, drawing, and dyeing. Create your own block print using recycled or found materials. Gather materials such as those listed below to get started.

**Block printmaking**

**Suggested materials**
Cardboard, paper, fabric, recycled materials and found objects, glue, scissors, paint, brushes, markers, crayons, and pencil. Optional: yarn, string, and hole punch.

**Instructions for block printmaking**
Arrange the recycled or found materials on a piece of cardboard that will become your printing block. When you are satisfied with the arrangement, glue them in place. Apply paint to the surface of the materials or dip the block gently in the paint. Press the block firmly for a few seconds on paper or fabric and then lift it off.

**Don’t have paint?**
No worries—you can use markers, crayons, or pencils and create patterns by drawing and coloring.

You can choose to make small postcard-size prints or pattern drawings, or you can stitch together many prints to form a larger artwork.

**To make a larger collaborative artwork**
A family or community group could decide to have each member make their own print or drawing. Punch holes in each print or drawing and stitch them together using string or yarn. Tie and knot the strings to complete your collaborative artwork.