



CRAFT IN AMERICA

GEE'S BEND & THE ORIOLE MILL: TIME & TEXTILES EDUCATION GUIDE

Worksheet #2: A Collection of Squares: Making a Textile

Answer the questions below. Plan and sketch your ideas on graph paper.

1. Do you like to work on your own or with others?
2. Which textile art do you think you'd like to work in: quilting, weaving, sewing, or knitting?
3. What would you like your work to become (a work to hang on a wall, a blanket, a hat, or something else)?
4. Will you decide to work in one large square or in little squares that add up to a larger whole?
5. As you make these decisions, think about how you like to work: do you like slow handwork, or work that proceeds quickly?
6. Do you prefer the bold, bright, and contrasting colors of the Gee's Bend quilts, or the neutral color combinations of The Oriole Mill textiles, or the monochromatic, textured look of Lucy Mingo's *Snake Quilt* that is all white with stitched lines? Or do you prefer a color scheme of your own?
7. Do you prefer the random quality of the design in some of the Gee's Bend quilts, or the all-over repeating of patterns in some of The Oriole Mill's designs?

If you are knitting, you may choose to make squares all of one color but in different stitch patterns. This creates a variety of textures. If you work with others, make a plan for who will do what, and how you will join the pieces together. Use graph paper to plot out your design.

Finally, estimate how long your work will take. When you are finished, check your estimate to see how close you were.