

Tessellations

1. The Dutch artist M.C. Escher is known for his drawings of odd geometry. One of his drawings called *Sky and Water* uses tessellations and colour to “morph” fish into birds.

- a) Use the Internet or the library to find the drawing titled *Sky and Water*.
- b) Make your own tessellation using 2 different shapes. You might use square dot paper or isometric dot paper. Your tessellation does not need to be as detailed as Mr. Escher’s shapes.
- c) Choose the colours for your drawing carefully. Colour your tessellation to “morph” 1 of your shapes into the other one.

For pictures of some of Escher’s works, including *Sky and Water*, follow the Web Links on the same page where you found this file on the *MathLinks 8 Adapted* Online Learning Centre.

2. You can use geometry software to create a tessellation using a complicated shape. Turn on the grid to help you.
- Plot points around a simple shape, such as a rectangle.
 - Then, drag the points to different places on the grid. If necessary, change your new shape to ensure that your tessellation will work.
 - Colour your tessellation using an interesting pattern.

For ideas on creating shapes that will tessellate the plane, follow the Web Links on the same page where you found this file on the *MathLinks 8 Adapted* Online Learning Centre.

