



## Activity 4

### How Does Seminole Patchwork Tell a Story?

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**TIME** 10—15 minutes

**OBJECTIVE** Students identify patchwork as a significant cultural expression of the Seminole people.

- MATERIALS**
- Teacher background material - *Patchwork: An Eye Dazzling Art* by Dorothy Downs
  - 2 Posters: Patchwork Designs and Seminole Women Working on Dolls and Baskets
  - Patchwork Seminole and Miccosukee Art and Activities* by Dorothy Downs
  - Seminole doll
  - Patchwork strips
  - Modern Seminole photographs—PowerPoint on flash drive
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#### INSTRUCTIONS

Begin this discussion by sharing the patchwork samples (**poster, doll and samples**). Allow students to pass around the cloth samples. Discuss with students the history of patchwork so that they understand the evolution of the craft from hand-sewn patches to sewing machine creations with patchwork and rickrack.

Use the **poster** to explain about “look-like” names. Use *Patchwork* by Dorothy Downs, page 23, to explain the “look-alike” names associated with the Patchwork Designs poster.

Using the fabric samples, ask the students what they think the designs look like. There are no specific “look-like” names associated with most of the fabric samples. It is up to the children to suggest names.

Close this activity by showing the **photos** of Seminoles taken between 1990 and today. Engage students in a conversation about patchwork clothing as a cultural statement that continues today.