

## Core Skills Analysis

### History

- Maeve learned about the Underground Railroad, understanding it as a secret network that helped enslaved people escape to freedom.
- She explored historical communication methods through quilt patterns, recognizing how symbols conveyed hidden messages.
- Maeve gained insight into the importance of courage and hope in historical contexts of oppression and resistance.
- She connected visual symbols to historical events, fostering early critical thinking about history and symbolism.

### Art

- Maeve engaged in creating or interpreting quilt pattern designs, developing fine motor skills through pattern recognition.
- She explored geometric shapes and repeated motifs in the patterns, enhancing visual-spatial reasoning.
- Maeve learned how art can serve functional and communicative purposes beyond aesthetics.
- She experienced cultural storytelling through textile art, linking creativity with historical significance.

### Tips

To deepen Maeve's understanding, consider combining storytelling with hands-on craft by encouraging her to design her own 'freedom quilt' pattern that tells a story or message meaningful to her. Visit a local museum or virtual exhibit about the Underground Railroad to provide contextual background and emotional connection. Incorporate simple map activities tracing routes of escape to link visual geography with history. Lastly, exploring the cultural significance of quilts in family histories or other cultures can invite broader appreciation and empathy.

### Book Recommendations

- [Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt](#) by Debbie Allen: A story about a young girl who learns how quilt patterns were used to guide slaves to freedom.
- [Follow the Drinking Gourd](#) by Jeanette Winter: A picture book that illustrates how enslaved people used the stars and coded songs to escape via the Underground Railroad.
- [The Patchwork Path: A Quilt Map to Freedom](#) by Rachel Hugenberg: This book combines a fictional story and real history to show how quilts were used as maps for Underground Railroad routes.

### Learning Standards

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.3: With prompting and support, describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.7: With prompting and support, describe the relationship between illustrations and the story in which they appear.
- CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.K.G.A.3: Identify shapes as two-dimensional or three-dimensional.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.5: Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.

### **Try This Next**

- Create a simple template for Maeve to design her own quilt pattern that tells a story or provides a secret message.
- Draw and label a map tracing some known Underground Railroad routes, discussing why those routes were used.
- Craft a storytelling session where Maeve tells a story inspired by the symbols she learned from the quilt patterns.

### **Growth Beyond Academics**

Maeve's engagement with this activity likely nurtured empathy by placing her in the shoes of those seeking freedom, while her creative involvement with patterns helped build confidence in expressing complex ideas visually. The activity supports curiosity about history and sensitivity toward social justice themes, fostering a sense of resilience and hope.