Appendix 5.4

Optional Preparatory Activity : Non-Numeric Growing Pattern

Group students in pairs. Distribute cubes to each team and explain to them that they will construct a non-numeric growing pattern. Ask them to :

- 1. build a structure with three cubes of the same colour (different possibilities);
- 2. build the same structure next to the first one and add two cubes to it;
- 3. extend the pattern by building two more structures.

Remind students that in order to create a non-numeric growing pattern, cubes added to the pattern core should always be arranged according to an order and a regularity.

Examples



Appendix 5.4 (Continued)

If some students build the structures without respecting the pattern core, the order or regularity, ask them questions such as:

- "What is different between each structure?"
- "What is the same between this structure and the previous one? and the first structure? »
- "Where did you add the two cubes? Have you always placed them the same way?"
- "Can you describe the regularity accurately?"

Finally, invite a few students to present their patterns and describe their regularity. To emphasize the fact that even if the patterns presented are not identical, each corresponds to the numeric sequence 3, 5, 7... Also emphasize that there is a pattern core that can be identified in each pattern and that, from one pattern to the other, the amount of cubes added is the same and so is their layout.