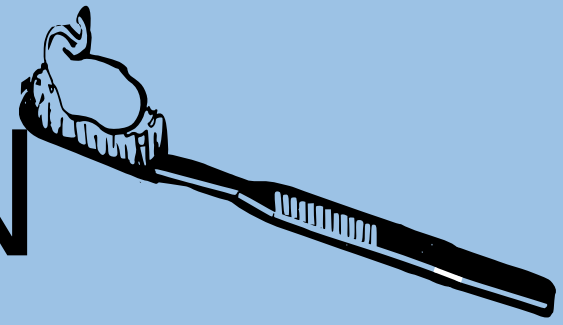# KIDCODER: LET'S BRUSH OUR TEETH!
PATTERN RECOGNITION

5MIN

15MIN

STAGE 1

AIM OF ACTIVITY

Have you ever done something over and over again in order to complete a task? This probably means there was a pattern! For example, in the sequence below can you guess what the pattern is:
2, 4, 6, 8, 10...

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- An A3 size piece of paper or a whiteboard.

WHAT YOU'LL GET OUT OF IT

- Understand what it means to use pattern recognition
- Learn how to use pattern recognition when brushing our teeth!

PATTERN RECOGNITION

Pattern recognition is a cornerstone of computational thinking. By looking for similar things in problems, we are using pattern recognition. In our daily lives, this is usually when we do something with a repeated action, like walking upstairs. Knowing when we'll repeat these actions can save us time in the long run, including when we brush our teeth!
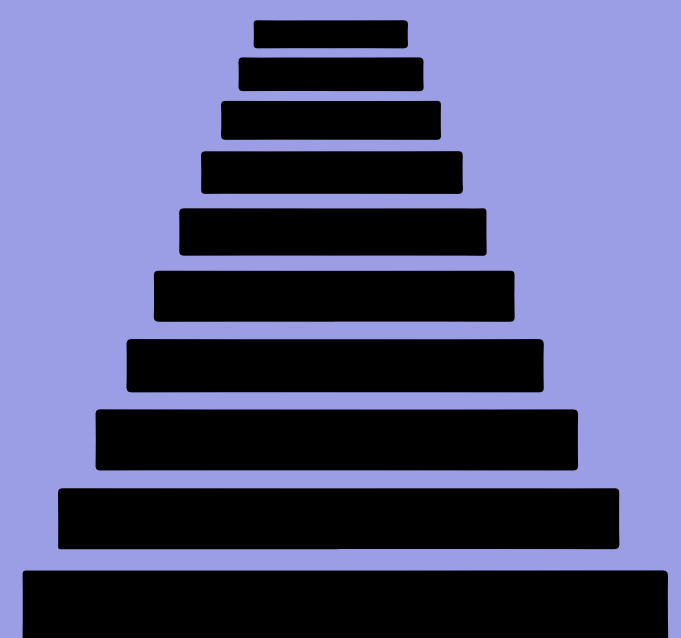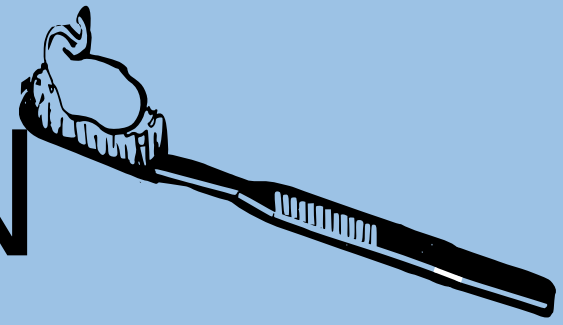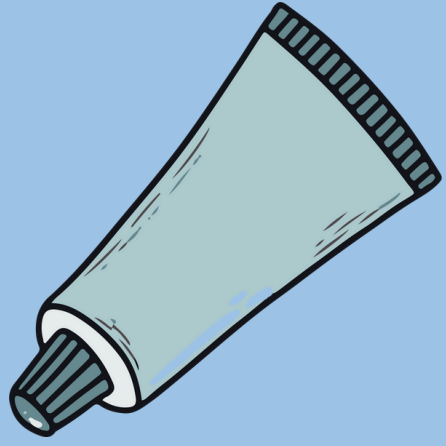
KIDCODER: LET'S BRUSH OUR TEETH!
PATTERN RECOGNITION

WHAT TO DO

(1)

To recognise the patterns in brushing our teeth, we will think about the things we do more than once!
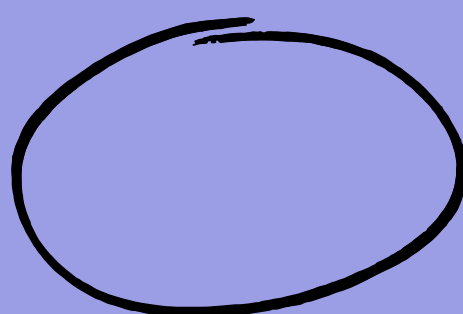
(2)

As a big group, write down as many action words as possible that we do when we brush our teeth – spit, rinse, squeeze are some examples. You can use a whiteboard or big piece of paper!

(3)

Now try and circle all the action words that are repeated when brushing our teeth!

(4)

Do you notice anything in particular about these words? Are they done entirely at a certain step? Do we complete them and come back to them later?

USING IN THE CLASSROOM

In pairs, go through the steps for brushing your teeth, writing each one down. When you get to a step that you have already written down, draw an arrow to that step, then continue. How many arrows do you end up with?

TAKE IT FURTHER

Using each of the actions that you just came up with, can you think of how it would affect brushing your teeth if you couldn't repeat them? Discuss this in your group!