

# INFORMATION FOR PRIMARY TEACHERS

## The Master Mosaic Maker's apprentice

### Related documents

This document should be used after:

- What is archaeology.pptx
- Excavations at Olynthus.pptx
- Building houses at Olynthus.pptx
- Mosaics at Olynthus.pptx
- Making mosaics at Olynthus

### Subject

Building on what was learnt about mosaics in *Mosaics at Olynthus* and *Making mosaics at Olynthus*, this document provides a scenario in which the students become apprentices to the Master Mosaic Maker. In order to impress the Master, the students must complete one of five mosaics based on the written instructions provided. At the end of the document, the use of processions in Greek art is discussed.

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### Activities

The focus of this document is an activity in which the students follow written instructions to build a black and white image. Together, all five images produce a simple procession mosaic. Full instructions are given with each image. Once they have solved the puzzles on paper, the students can make the mosaic with Lego. They are also asked to design their own mosaic in colour, and to make it using Lego pieces. This activity would be more challenging if students were asked to use the price list provided in the document *Making mosaics at Olynthus*.

### National Curriculum

This document relates to Art & Design Key Stage 2 as follows:

- "creativity, experimentation and an increasing awareness of different kinds of art, craft and design"; "improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials"

And Design & Technology Key Stage 2 as follows:

- "select from and use a wider range of materials and components, including construction materials... according to their functional properties and aesthetic qualities"

And Mathematics Key Stage L2 as follows:

- year 3: "draw 2-D shapes"

GRAND DESIGNS  
IN ANCIENT GREECE



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Arts & Humanities  
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# The Master Mosaic Maker's apprentice

## Scenario

Markos, the Master Mosaic Maker, has agreed to take you on as his apprentice. Before you start working with him, he wants to check that you are smart enough to follow his written instructions. He has given you a section from a procession mosaic that he is going to install in a few days time in a rich house at Olynthus. The mosaic has a white background, and the figures are in black. Your task is to mark where the black tiles should go. If you do this correctly, Markos will let you work on the real thing! You have to be smart and work hard to become a Master Mosaic Maker, but you dream one day that you will get the chance. Working on this procession mosaic as an apprentice is the first step...



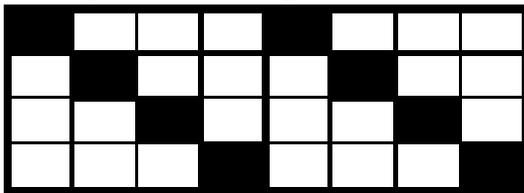
## What is an apprentice?

A person who is learning a trade from a skilled employer (a boss like Markos), having agreed to work for a certain period at low wages.

## Instructions

Markos has given you a 16x16 square grid, in which to mark where the black tiles will go. For each row of the grid, his instructions indicate the number of tiles (squares) that should be marked as black or left in white on the grid. White is indicated with a "W" and black with a "B". The number indicates how many tiles you should mark. Start from the top left corner and work your way through the instructions, indicating the black tiles by colouring in the squares. There is an example below to help you get used to the written instructions Markos will give you. Good luck, new mosaic apprentice!

### Example of filled in grid



```
B1 W3 B1 W3
W1 B1 W3 B1 W2
W2 B1 W3 B1 W1
W3 B1 W3 B1
```



This is a real mosaic from a house at Olynthus. Some of it is damaged, but most of it has survived the 2,400 years since it was first made! It is much more complicated than the mosaic you will make – after all, you are still only an apprentice!







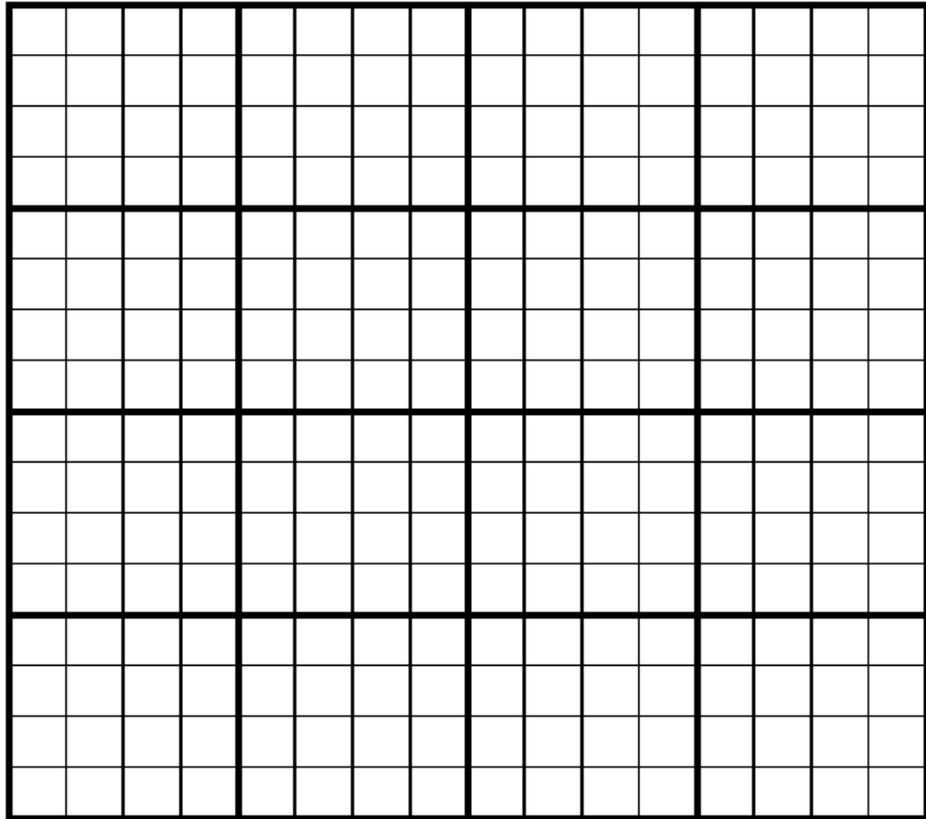




# The Master Mosaic Maker's apprentice

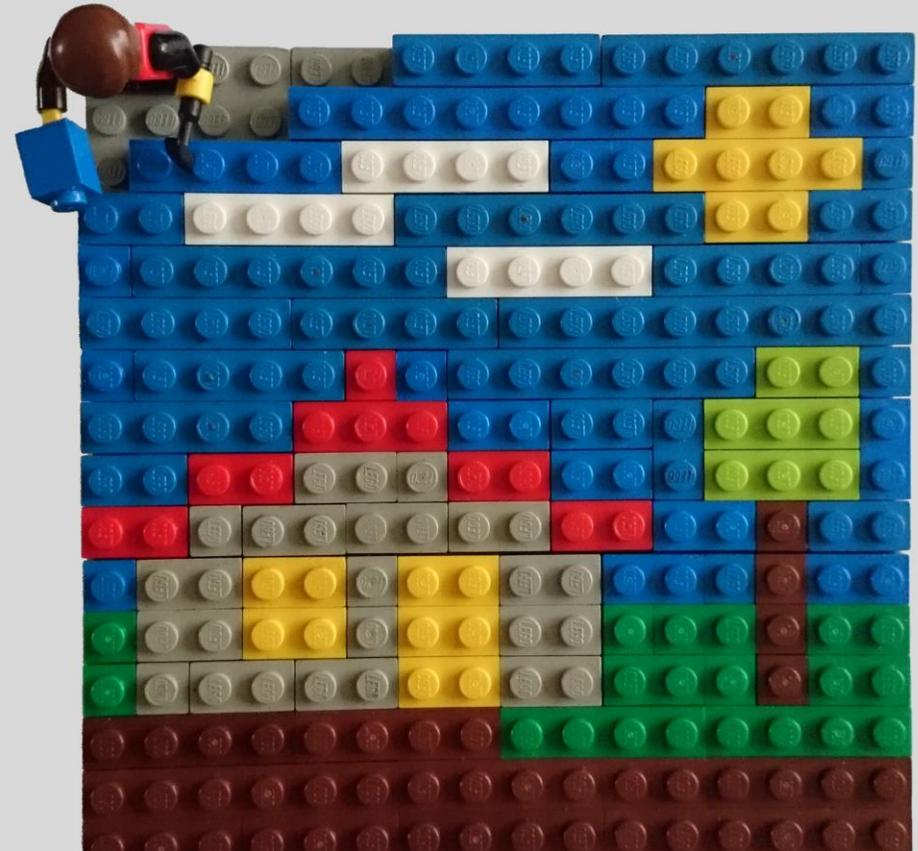
## Next steps: making the mosaic using Lego

The base plates in the Story Starter Lego sets are 16x16 studs. Using bricks of any colour (there are not enough black bricks!), recreate your section of the mosaic. For the white tiles, use white bricks, or leave those spaces blank to create a three dimensional mosaic! Line up your section with the other four designs, to see the full procession. This is your chance to impress Markos the Master Mosaic Maker, so be sure to copy your design as carefully as possible!

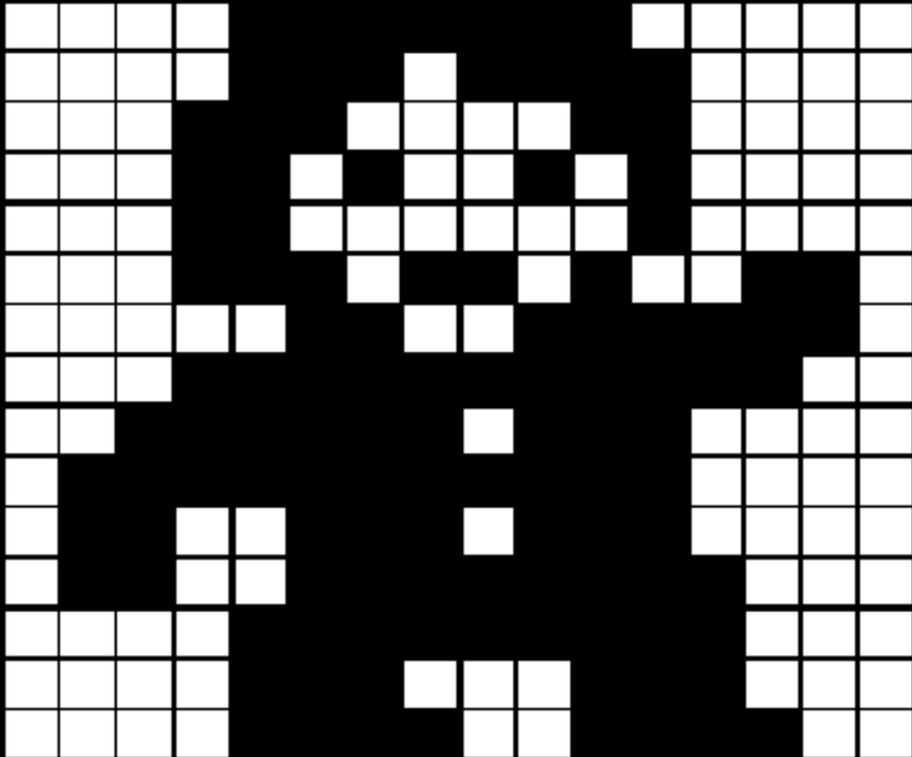


## Next steps: designing your own mosaic

Now you know how to make mosaics, why not design your own? You could practice drawing the mosaic on the empty 16x16 grid below (make sure you use a pencil so you can change your mind or correct mistakes), or you could use a Lego base plate to build a real mosaic. When you were practicing with the mosaic Markos provided, the image on the mosaic was in black. Now you should feel free to use whatever colours you like, to make a colourful pattern or picture!



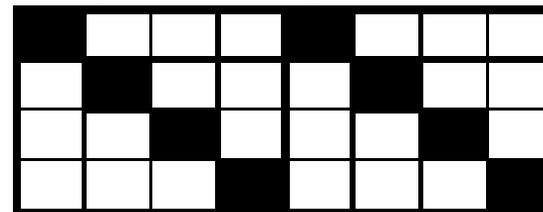
# SOLUTION: procession mosaic 1: boy

	W4 B7 W5
	W4 B3 W1 B4 W4
	W3 B3 W4 B2 W4
	W3 B2 W1 B1 W2 B1 W1 B1 W4
	W3 B2 W6 B1 W4
	W3 B3 W1 B2 W1 B1 W2 B2 W1
	W5 B2 W2 B6 W1
	W3 B11 W2
	W2 B6 W1 B3 W4
	W1 B11 W4
	W1 B2 W2 B3 W1 B3 W4
	W1 B2 W2 B8 W3
	W4 B9 W3
	W4 B3 W3 B3 W3
	W4 B4 W2 B4 W2
	B16

## Instructions

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## Example of filled in grid



B1 W3 B1 W3  
W1 B1 W3 B1 W2  
W2 B1 W3 B1 W1  
W3 B1 W3 B1

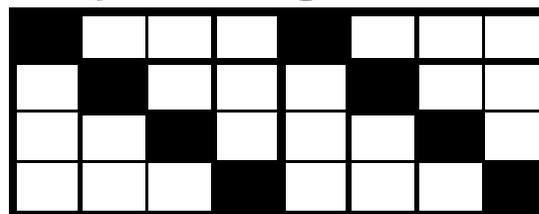
# SOLUTION: procession mosaic 2: griffin chick

	W2 B4 W10
	W1 B6 W3 B4 W2
	W1 B1 W2 B4 W1 B2 W2 B2 W1
	W1 B3 W2 B4 W1 B2 W1 B1 W1
	W1 B1 W5 B3 W1 B1 W2 B2
	W1 B5 W2 B1 W4 B3
	W2 B2 W6 B4 W2
	W3 B5 W2 B1 W5
	W1 B3 W6 B1 W5
	W1 B1 W7 B2 W5
	W1 B2 W5 B2 W6
	W2 B3 W2 B2 W7
	W4 B4 W8
	W5 B1 W1 B1 W8
	W4 B5 W7
	B16

## Instructions

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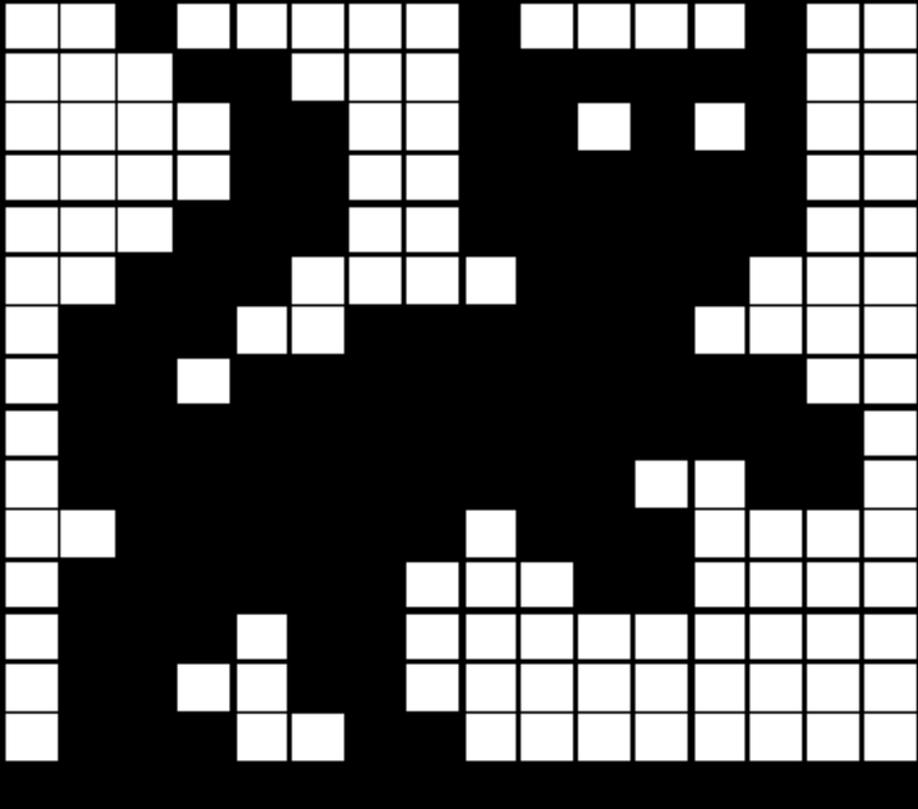
## Example of filled in grid



B1 W3 B1 W3  
W1 B1 W3 B1 W2  
W2 B1 W3 B1 W1  
W3 B1 W3 B1



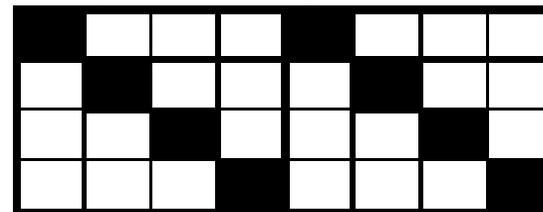
# SOLUTION: procession mosaic 4: cat

	W2 B1 W5 B1 W4 B1 W2
	W3 B2 W3 B6 W2
	W4 B2 W2 B2 W1 B1 W1 B1 W2
	W4 B2 W2 B6 W2
	W3 B3 W2 B6 W2
	W2 B3 W4 B4 W3
	W1 B3 W2 B6 W4
	W1 B2 W1 B10 W2
	W1 B14 W1
	W1 B10 W2 B2 W1
	W2 B6 W1 B3 W4
	W1 B6 W3 B2 W4
	W1 B3 W1 B2 W9
	W1 B2 W2 B2 W9
	W1 B3 W2 B2 W8
	B16

## Instructions

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## Example of filled in grid



B1 W3 B1 W3  
W1 B1 W3 B1 W2  
W2 B1 W3 B1 W1  
W3 B1 W3 B1

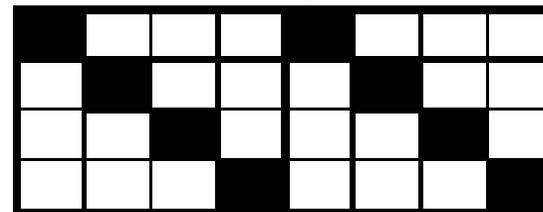
# SOLUTION: procession mosaic 5: girl

	W4 B8 W4
	W3 B4 W1 B5 W1 B1 W1
	W1 B1 W1 B3 W4 B4 W2
	W2 B3 W1 B1 W2 B1 W1 B2 W1 B1 W1
	W1 B1 W1 B2 W6 B1 W4
	W3 B3 W1 B2 W1 B1 W2 B2 W1
	W5 B2 W2 B4 W1 B1 W1
	W3 B7 W3 B1 W2
	W2 B2 W2 B7 W3
	W1 B2 W1 B4 W1 B3 W4
	W1 B1 W1 B9 W4
	W1 B3 W1 B3 W1 B4 W3
	W4 B9 W3
	W4 B1 W1 B1 W3 B1 W1 B1 W3
	W4 B4 W2 B4 W2
	B16

## Instructions

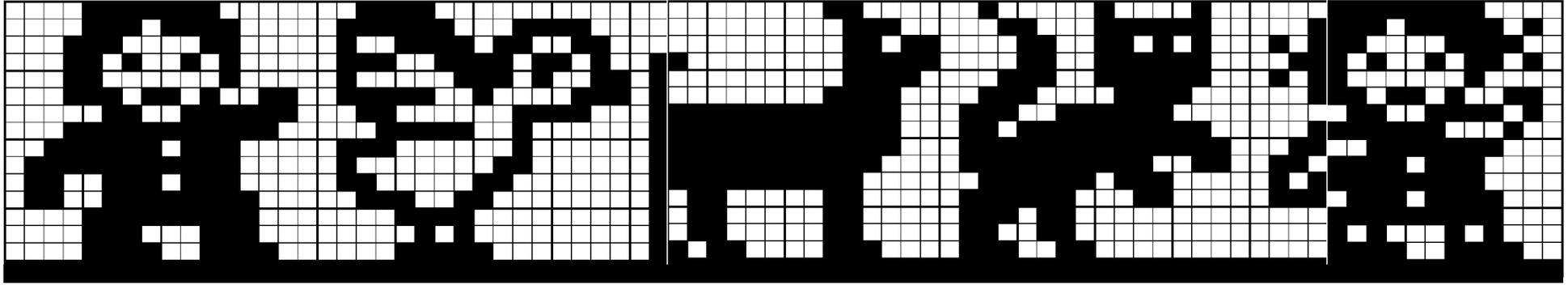
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## Example of filled in grid



B1 W3 B1 W3  
W1 B1 W3 B1 W2  
W2 B1 W3 B1 W1  
W3 B1 W3 B1

# SOLUTION: the full procession



## Processions

The procession was a common theme in Greek art, and was used to depict humans on foot, on horseback or in chariots, gods, mythical creatures, and sometimes more mundane animals (although cats and dogs, not so much!). The procession could include soldiers preparing to fight, mourners attending a funeral, or people following a sacred route to a shrine or other special place. Processions were depicted on pottery, frescoes, sculpted friezes, and mosaics.

Perhaps the most famous procession in Greek art is the sculptured frieze around the Parthenon (also known as the Elgin Marbles), which was built in 447-432 BCE. It depicts a variety of people from different walks of life and social classes, as they approach the temple during the annual Panathenaic festival, in which the people of Attica commemorated the goddess Athena.

