Look Closer: Hands-on Activity

Design Your Very Own Flowering Tile

Look closely!

A single lotus blooms in this tile, with leaves and tendrils swirling all around it. Look at the shape of the tile itself – is it not like a flower? Imagine – if you put many of these tiles together, they would make up a beautiful lotus bouquet.

Did you know?
Lotus plants, like water lilies, grow in ponds and slow-moving rivers. They prefer warm climates.

Hands-on Activity

Why not design your very own flowering tile!

Materials:
Paper or cardboard, ruler, scissors, pencil, colouring pencils or crayons.

Draw a ten-centimeter square, or a six-sided hexagon, on a piece of paper or cardboard. Cut your shape with a scissor. Now you have a tile!

Decorate your tile by drawing a growing plant that has multiple leaves, buds, or flowers. Colour your design, using your colouring pencil or crayons. If you make multiples of your tile (four of the square or six of the hexagon), you can try them in different arrangements to make a beautiful repeating pattern.

Why not take a photo of your creation and share it with us by emailing learn@agakhanmuseum.org

Image: Tile, Egypt or Syria, 15th century, fritware, underglaze-painted, 19.4 x 17 cm, AKM581