

A close-up photograph of a monarch butterfly with vibrant orange wings and black veins, perched on a cluster of small red and yellow flowers. The butterfly's body is black with white spots. The background is dark and out of focus, highlighting the butterfly and the flowers. The text "Finding Patterns and Repetition" is overlaid in white, bold font, with the opening and closing quotation marks positioned at the start and end of the phrase respectively.

**” Finding Patterns and Repetition”**

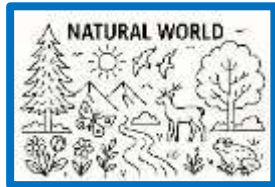
# Monthly Challenge - July 2026

## ” Finding Patterns and Repetition”

*repeated shapes, lines, colours, and rhythms in the world around us.*



is the world of anything shaped, built, influenced, or lived in by people. It's the category where *human presence* is either visible or strongly implied, even if no person appears in the frame.



Monochrome refers to images or visuals composed of varying tones of a single colour, typically shades of black, white, and gray, without any other colours present. It emphasizes light, contrast, and form rather than colour, often creating a mood or texture-driven effect.



is a photographic technique that tightly frames a small subject or detail, making it appear large and prominent in the image. It reveals textures, patterns, and features that are often overlooked at normal viewing distances.



refers to everything created by nature without human involvement. includes living things like animals and plants, natural landscapes such as forests and rivers, weather phenomena like storms and rainbows, and natural textures like bark or rock formations.

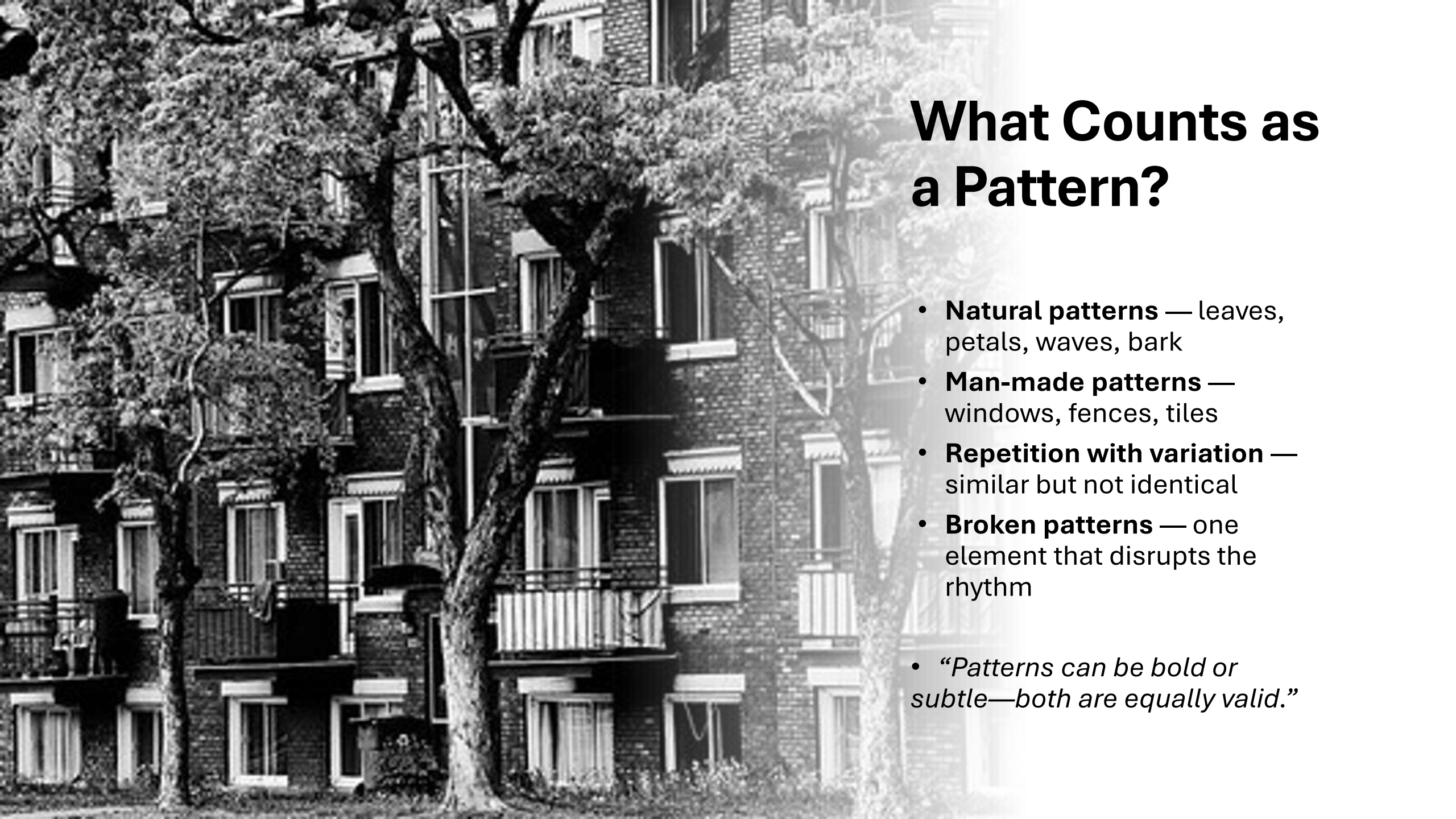
One photo each from the categories above - Four images in all.

**Please submit your photos using the << Link >> by Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August.**



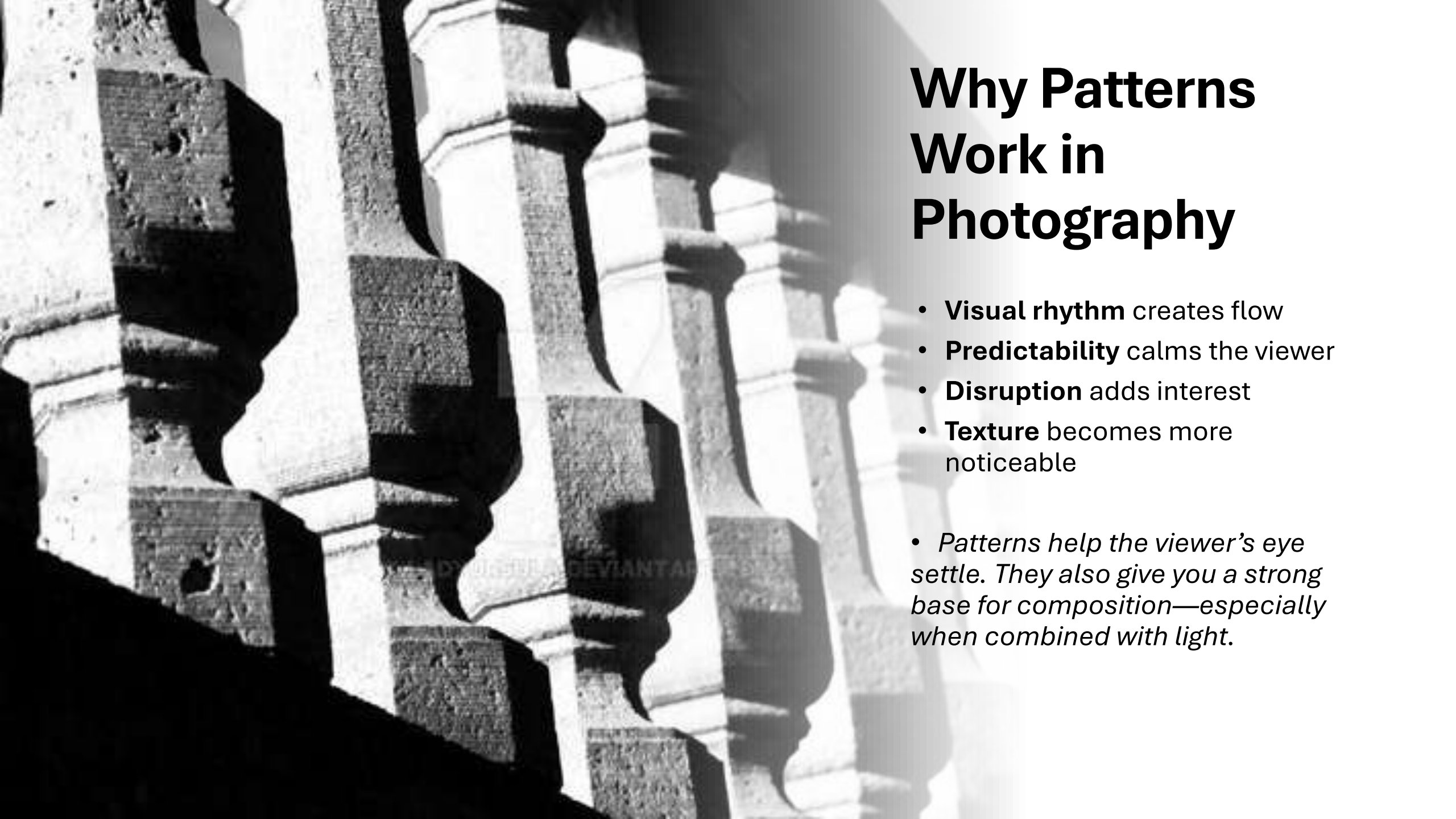
# Patterns & Repetition

- *“This month we explore repeated shapes, lines, colours, and rhythms in the world around us.”*



# What Counts as a Pattern?

- **Natural patterns** — leaves, petals, waves, bark
- **Man-made patterns** — windows, fences, tiles
- **Repetition with variation** — similar but not identical
- **Broken patterns** — one element that disrupts the rhythm
- *“Patterns can be bold or subtle—both are equally valid.”*



# Why Patterns Work in Photography

- **Visual rhythm** creates flow
  - **Predictability** calms the viewer
  - **Disruption** adds interest
  - **Texture** becomes more noticeable
- 
- *Patterns help the viewer's eye settle. They also give you a strong base for composition—especially when combined with light.*



# How to Capture Patterns (Simple Guide)

- **Fill the frame** — remove distractions
- **Use strong angles** — above, below, diagonal
- **Play with light** — side-light for texture, back-light for translucency
- *“Patterns become stronger when you simplify the scene.”*



## Where to Find Patterns (Everyday Sources)

- **Kitchen items** — cutlery, mugs, spice jars
- **Gardens** — leaves, seed heads, shadows
- **Town centres** — paving, railings, windows
- **Nature walks** — bark, grasses, ripples
- You don't need to travel far to find patterns. patterns are everywhere.

A high-angle photograph of a person walking on a cobblestone path. The person is wearing a brown coat and dark pants, and is holding a large black umbrella. The path is made of dark grey cobblestones, and there are several concentric circular patterns made of lighter-colored stones. The person is walking through one of these patterns, and their shadow is cast on the path. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white, suggesting a rainy day.

# Broken Patterns (The Storyteller's Tool)

- **One odd element** draws the eye
  - **Contrast** adds tension
  - **Movement** can break repetition
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- This is often the most creative category. A single red cup among white ones, a missing tile, a lone bird—these tell stories.



# Using Repetition to Lead the Eye

- Lines that guide
  - Depth through repetition
  - Foreground to background
- 
- Patterns can act like stepping stones. Use them to guide the viewer through the frame.



# Creating Abstract Patterns

- **Close-ups**
  - **Reflections**
  - **Shadows**
  - **ICM** (Intentional Camera Movement)
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- Abstract patterns are great for members who enjoy experimentation. No right or wrong way—just play.



# The Four Categories (What to Look For)

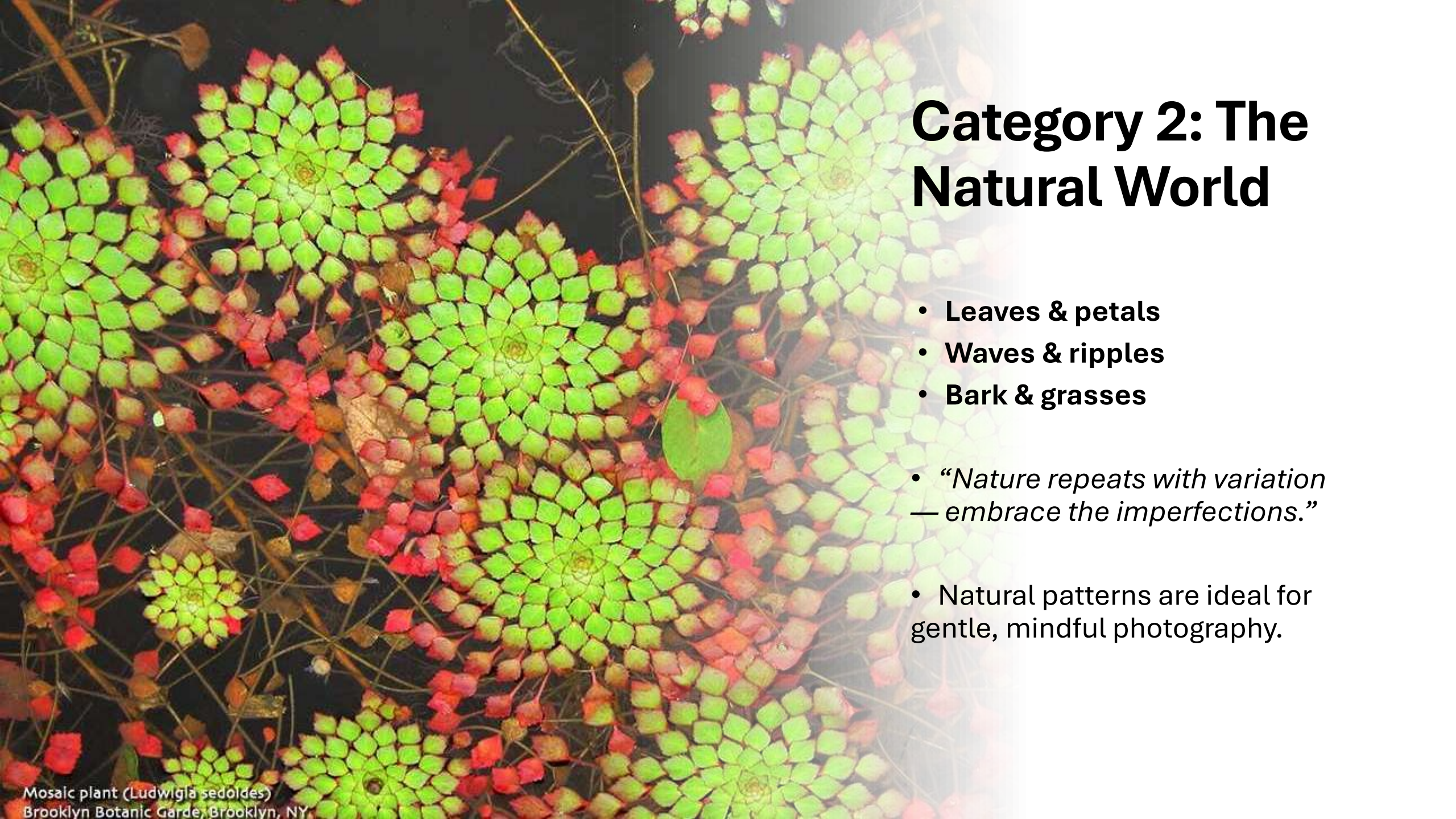
- **Human world** — shops, streets, markets
- **Natural world** — gardens, woods, beaches
- **Household items** — cutlery, mugs, fabrics
- **Light and shadow** — railings, blinds, trees



A photograph of a beach scene featuring rows of blue lounge chairs and thatched umbrellas. The chairs are arranged in neat, parallel rows on a sandy beach, creating a strong sense of rhythm and order. The umbrellas, made of dried palm fronds, are also arranged in rows, providing shade for the chairs. The background shows a clear sky and some distant trees, suggesting a tropical or coastal setting. The overall composition emphasizes patterns and repetition in a human-made environment.

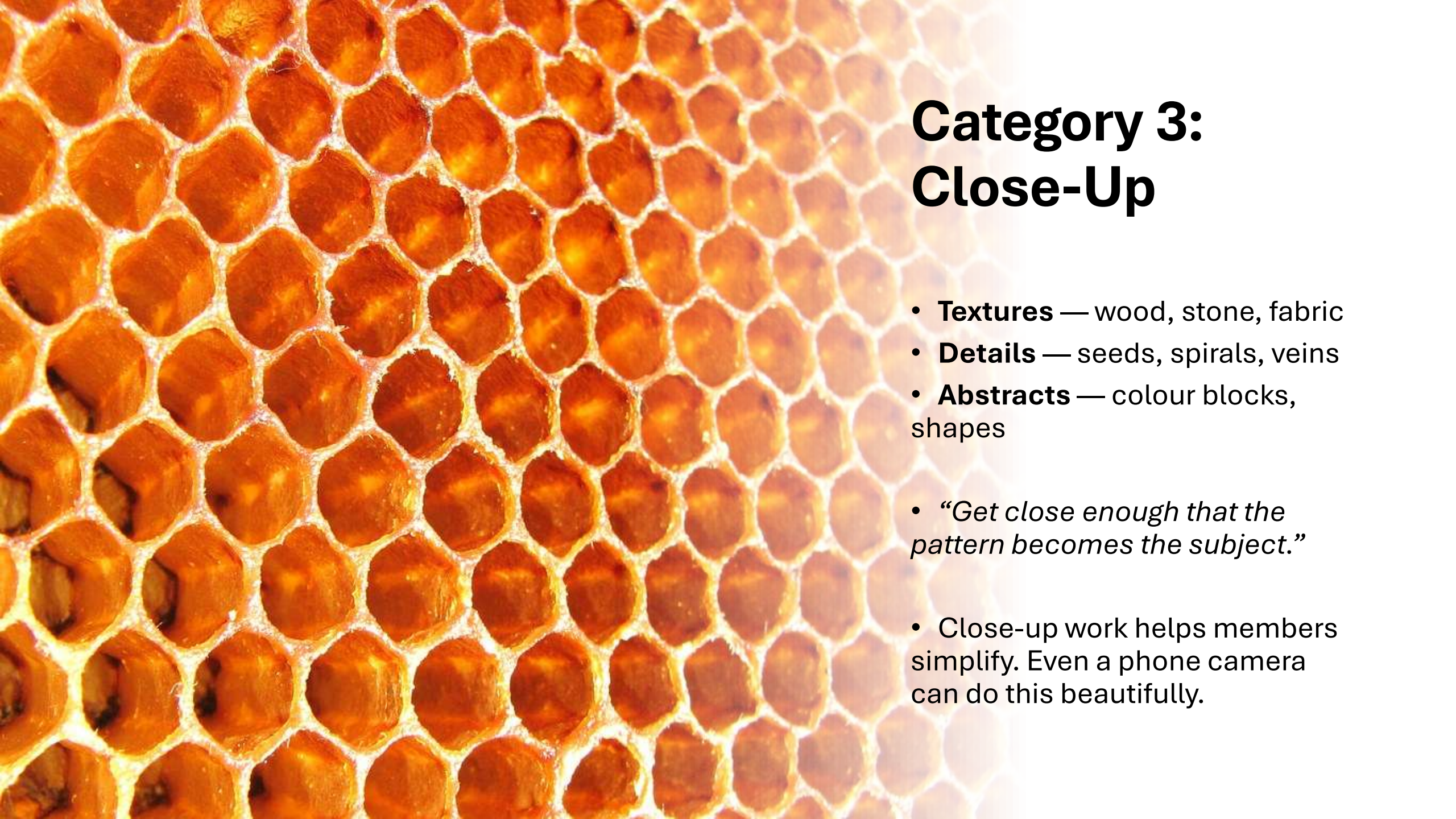
# Category 1: The Human World

- **Architecture** — windows, balconies, paving
- **Objects** — tools, books, textiles
- **Crowds** — repeated shapes, colours, gestures
- *“Look for order, rhythm, or repetition created by people.”*
- Explore towns and villages with fresh eyes — patterns often hide in plain sight.



## Category 2: The Natural World

- Leaves & petals
- Waves & ripples
- Bark & grasses
- “*Nature repeats with variation — embrace the imperfections.*”
- Natural patterns are ideal for gentle, mindful photography.



## Category 3: Close-Up

- **Textures** — wood, stone, fabric
  - **Details** — seeds, spirals, veins
  - **Abstracts** — colour blocks, shapes
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- *“Get close enough that the pattern becomes the subject.”*
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- Close-up work helps members simplify. Even a phone camera can do this beautifully.



## Category 4: Monochrome

- High-contrast patterns
  - Shadow-based patterns
  - Graphic shapes
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- “*Mono emphasises shape, rhythm, and structure.*”
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- Removing colour helps the group focus on form. Patterns often become stronger in black & white.

## Your July Challenges

### **” Finding Patterns & Repetition”**

*repeated shapes, lines, colours,  
and rhythms in the world around  
us.*

- 1. Find a human-world pattern**  
— architecture, objects
- 2. Capture a natural-world pattern —**  
leaves, waves
- 3. Create a close-up pattern**  
— textures, details
- 4. Shoot a mono pattern**  
— shadows, shapes

