

Mastering Perspective with Zara the Zebra

Learning objective: To understand and apply the principles of perspective to create the illusion of depth on a 2D surface.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of perspective. Read the term or question on the front, try to answer it, then flip to check the definition provided after the vertical bar.

What is the Horizon Line?

An imaginary horizontal line across the page where the sky meets the ground.

What is a Vanishing Point?

The spot on the horizon line where parallel lines appear to meet and disappear.

Define 'Foreground'.

The part of a picture that appears closest to the viewer.

Define 'Background'.

The part of a picture that appears furthest away from the viewer.

How does 'Scale' affect perspective?

Drawing objects smaller as they get further away makes them look more distant.

What is 'Overlap' in art?

Placing one object in front of another to show depth and distance.

Why do artists use linear perspective?

To create the illusion of 3D space and depth on a flat 2D surface.

What are 'Orthogonal lines'?

Diagonal lines that connect points on an object to the vanishing point.

Zara the Zebra is drawing a road. If the road gets narrower as it moves up the page, what technique is she using?

Linear perspective.

True or False: Objects in the background should be drawn with more detail than objects in the foreground.

False. Objects in the foreground usually have more detail.

If you are standing on a beach, where would you draw the vanishing point?

On the horizon line, where the sea meets the sky.

What happens to the colour of objects as they move into the far background?

They often appear paler, cooler, or less bright (atmospheric perspective).