

Zara's Cubist Portrait Challenge

Learning objective: To explore the Cubist style of Pablo Picasso by creating a portrait using geometric shapes and fragmented perspectives.

Zara the zebra loves how Picasso broke objects into shapes and showed different viewpoints at the same time. Follow the steps below to create your own Cubist-inspired self-portrait.

Draw: Create a portrait of yourself in the style of Cubism. Use a ruler to create sharp, geometric lines across the face. Ensure the features (eyes, nose, mouth) are placed in different perspectives (some from the side, some from the front). Use bright, contrasting colours for each section of the face to make the shapes stand out.



Label words: Geometric · Profile · Frontal · Fragmented · Abstract · Perspective

Steps:

1. Step 1: On your page, draw a large oval for the head. Divide the face in half with a vertical line. On one side, draw a profile eye (looking sideways). On the other side, draw a frontal eye (looking straight ahead).
2. Step 2: Instead of a normal nose, draw a long, sharp triangle or a rectangle. How does changing the shape of the nose change the look of the face?
3. Step 3: Add a mouth that is tilted or split into two different shapes. Why do you think Picasso chose to paint mouths this way?

4. Step 4: Label your drawing using at least three words from the word bank to explain your design choices.
5. Step 5: Use bold, bright colours to fill in your shapes. If you had to sell this portrait in an art gallery, what price would you set in pounds (£) and why?