

Zara's Autumnal Colour Palette

Learning objective: To explore the use of warm and cool colours in art by identifying and categorising autumnal natural features.

Zara the zebra loves to paint the changing seasons. She has gathered a collection of autumn items. Look at the word bank and sort them into two columns: 'Warm Colours' (those that remind you of autumn leaves and sunshine) and 'Cool Colours' (those that remind you of chilly autumn mornings and shadows). Then, complete the drawing task to show off your own autumnal colour scheme.

Word bank: Golden yellow leaves · Crisp morning frost · Deep crimson berries · Clear blue sky · Burnt orange pumpkin · Silver grey mist · Rust-coloured twigs · Dark purple shadows

1. Sort the items from the word bank into a table with two columns: 'Warm Colours' and 'Cool Colours'. Explain why you think the 'Warm' colours represent autumn. (4 marks)

2. If Zara wants to create a painting of an autumn forest, which colours should she mix to create a 'bronze' shade for the leaves? (2 marks)

3. Look at a pile of fallen leaves. Describe two different shapes you can see. How would you use a pencil to show the texture of the veins? (2 marks)

4. If a large pumpkin costs £2.50 at the local market, how much change would you get from a £5.00 note? (2 marks)

5. Why do you think artists choose to use 'warm' colours when they want to make an autumn picture feel cosy? (2 marks)

Draw: In the space below, draw an autumn tree. Use 'warm' colours for the leaves and 'cool' colours for the background sky or ground to create a strong contrast.



Extension challenge: Find three different types of fallen leaves in your garden or a park. Use a crayon to create a 'leaf rubbing' by placing the leaf under a piece of paper and shading over the top. Label your rubbings with the colours you see.