

Zara's Landscape Artist Study

Learning objective: To observe, describe, and analyse landscape features using artistic vocabulary to prepare for a landscape painting.

Zara the zebra loves finding patterns and shapes in the world around her. Use this fact-file to plan your own landscape artwork. Choose a real or imagined place, look closely at the details, and use the word bank to help describe what you see before you begin your painting.

Word bank: foreground · background · horizon line · texture · vibrant · symmetrical · perspective · shading · composition · natural · man-made

1. Setting the Scene: Describe the location you have chosen. Is it a forest, a beach, a city, or somewhere else? What is the main feature of the landscape? (2 marks)

2. Foreground Details: What is the closest object to the viewer? Describe its texture and the colours you will use to make it stand out. (2 marks)

3. Background and Horizon: Where does the sky meet the ground? What objects are furthest away and how will you make them look smaller or lighter? (2 marks)

4. Artistic Choices: Which patterns or shapes can you see in this landscape? Explain how you will use lines to guide the viewer's eye across the page. (2 marks)

5. Emotional Response: What mood do you want your painting to create? (e.g., peaceful, busy, mysterious). How will your choice of colours help show this mood? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Try to sketch a 'thumbnail' version of your landscape in the corner of your sketchbook, focusing only on where the light source is coming from.