

Mastering Perspective with Zara the Zebra

Learning objective: To understand and apply the concept of linear perspective by using a vanishing point and horizon line to create the illusion of depth.

Follow Zara the Zebra's guide to drawing a 3D street scene. Use a pencil, a ruler, and your imagination to make your drawing look like it is popping off the page!

Draw: Create a 'Road to the Horizon' scene. Start by drawing a horizon line and a central vanishing point. Use a ruler to draw two lines from the bottom of the page to the vanishing point to form a road. Add buildings or trees on the sides, ensuring that objects in the foreground are large and objects near the vanishing point are tiny to show perspective.



Label words: Vanishing point · Horizon line · Foreground · Background · Orthogonal lines · Depth

Steps:

1. Step 1: Use your ruler to draw a faint horizontal line across the middle of your page. Label this the 'Horizon Line'.
2. Step 2: Place a small dot in the exact centre of your horizon line. Label this the 'Vanishing Point'. Why do you think we call it this?
3. Step 3: Draw two diagonal lines starting from the bottom corners of your page and meeting at your vanishing point. These create the edges of your road.

4. Step 4: Draw a tall building in the foreground and a much smaller building closer to the vanishing point. Explain why the second building looks smaller.
5. Step 5: Add a row of trees along the side of the road. Ensure the trees get smaller as they get closer to the vanishing point.