

Zara's Pattern Safari

Learning objective: To explore and create repeating patterns inspired by the natural world, using Zara the zebra's artistic eye.

Follow the steps below to create your own pattern-filled scene. Look at the shapes and lines in your surroundings and use them to fill the empty spaces in your drawing.

Draw: Create a 'Pattern Safari' drawing. Start by drawing a large, central object from nature (like a butterfly, a sunflower, or a shell). Fill the object with a repeating pattern using bold lines and shapes. In the background, use a different type of pattern—like a grid or wavy lines—to create contrast. Use a variety of marks (dots, zig-zags, dashes, and swirls) to make the patterns interesting to look at.



Label words: Symmetry · Repeating · Geometric · Organic · Motif · Tessellation

Steps:

1. Step 1: Draw a large, simple shape in the centre of your page to represent a giant leaf. Add a 'repeating' pattern of lines inside the leaf.
2. Step 2: Around the leaf, draw three 'geometric' shapes (like triangles or squares) that fit together perfectly without any gaps. This is called tessellation.
3. Step 3: Add a border around the edge of your paper using a 'motif'—this is a small design that you repeat

over and over again.

4. Step 4: Label your drawing. Find one example of a line that shows 'symmetry' and draw an arrow pointing to it.

5. Step 5: Zara wants to buy new art supplies. If a set of patterned pencils costs £4.50 and a sketchbook costs £3.25, how much would you spend in total?