

Zara's Pattern Explorer Diary

Learning objective: To identify, describe, and create repeating patterns inspired by the natural world.

Follow Zara the zebra on an observational art walk. Your task is to look for patterns in the environment around you—such as the stripes on a leaf, the weave of a basket, or the tiles on a floor—and document your findings in this diary.

Word bank: symmetrical · repeating · geometric · organic · tessellation · texture · sequence · vibrant

1. Pattern Observation: Describe a pattern you have found in nature or at home. What shapes or colors repeat? (2 marks)

2. The Sequence: If your pattern continues, what would come next? Describe the next three items in your sequence. (2 marks)

3. Design Challenge: Imagine you are designing a new fabric pattern for Zara. How would you arrange your shapes to make it look balanced? (3 marks)

4. Mathematical Connection: If one repeating 'unit' of your pattern costs £2.50 to print on a square of paper, how much would it cost to print 4 identical squares? (2 marks)

5. Artistic Reflection: Why do you think patterns are used in art and design? How do they make a piece of work feel more interesting? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Create a 'tessellating' pattern on a separate sheet of paper using only triangles or hexagons. Ensure that no gaps are left between the shapes.