

Zara's Festive Pattern Design

Learning objective: To understand how to use symmetry, geometric shapes, and repeating patterns to create a balanced festive design inspired by winter motifs.

Zara the zebra loves finding patterns in nature! She is helping the forest animals decorate for the winter solstice. Use the grid provided in your sketchbook to create a symmetrical festive pattern. You must use at least three different geometric shapes (like triangles, circles, or hexagons) and ensure your design is reflective, meaning the left side is a mirror image of the right side.

Word bank: Symmetry · Geometric · Reflection · Pattern · Winter solstice · Motif · Composition

1. Define 'symmetry' in your own words and explain why it is important when creating a balanced Christmas-themed decoration. (2 marks)

2. List three geometric shapes you could use to create a 'snowflake' motif. How can you use repetition to make the snowflake look more complex? (2 marks)

3. Zara is selling her handmade gift tags for 45p each. If a customer buys 6 tags, what is the total cost in pounds (£)? Show your calculation. (2 marks)

4. Why do artists often use a limited colour palette (e.g., only cool blues and silvers) when designing winter art? (2 marks)

5. Look at your design. If you were to rotate your pattern 90 degrees, would it still look the same? Explain why or why not. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a large snowflake in the centre of your page. Fill the branches of the snowflake with repeating geometric patterns, ensuring that every mark you make on the left side is mirrored exactly on the right side.



Extension challenge: Challenge: Create a secondary, contrasting pattern border around your main design using a different shape. Calculate the cost of creating 20 of these designs if each piece of card costs 12p and the glitter glue costs £2.50 for the whole batch.