

Zara's Colour Theory Masterclass

Learning objective: To understand the colour wheel, including primary, secondary, and tertiary colours, and how to create tints and shades.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of colour theory. Zara the Zebra wants to see if you can master the patterns of the colour wheel!

What are the three primary colours?

Red, yellow, and blue. These are the base colours that cannot be created by mixing others.

How do you create a secondary colour?

By mixing two primary colours together in equal amounts.

Name the three secondary colours.

Green, orange, and purple (or violet).

What is a 'tint' in painting?

A colour mixed with white to make it lighter and less intense.

What is a 'shade' in painting?

A colour mixed with black to make it darker.

What are complementary colours?

Colours that sit directly opposite each other on the colour wheel, such as blue and orange.

Give an example of a 'warm' colour group.

Reds, oranges, and yellows, which remind us of sunshine and fire.

Give an example of a 'cool' colour group.

Blues, greens, and purples, which remind us of water and nature.

How is a tertiary colour created?

By mixing a primary colour with a neighbouring secondary colour.

Define the term 'hue'.

Another word for a pure colour on the colour wheel.

Explain why artists use the colour wheel.

To help them choose colour schemes that look harmonious or create a specific mood.

What happens if you mix all three primary colours together?

You create a dark, muddy, neutral brown or grey tone.