

Zara's Pattern Playground

Learning objective: To explore, create, and refine complex patterns by observing symmetry, tessellation, and repetition in nature and design.

Follow Zara the Zebra's guide to pattern-making. Use your sketchbook to experiment with different shapes and lines before completing your final masterpiece in the space provided.

Draw: Create an intricate pattern design that fills a square frame. You may choose to create a 'tessellated' design using repeating geometric shapes (like hexagons or triangles) or a 'radial' design that starts from a central point and expands outwards. Use bold lines to define your motifs and consider how you can use light and dark shades to create depth. Your drawing should demonstrate your understanding of precision and repetition.



Label words: Symmetry · Tessellation · Geometric · Motif · Repetition · Radial · Asymmetrical · Intricate

Steps:

1. Explain why a tessellation requires shapes that fit together perfectly without leaving empty spaces. Give an example of a shape that might tessellate.
2. Compare and contrast a radial pattern with a linear pattern. How does the 'flow' of the design change?
3. Justify your choice of colour palette for your design. Why do these specific colours work well together?
4. What might happen if you introduced an asymmetrical element into a perfectly symmetrical pattern?

Describe the visual effect.

5. Label your drawing using at least three words from the word bank to explain your artistic choices.

6. Step 1: Sketch a central motif. Step 2: Use repetition to create a pattern that grows outwards. Step 3: Add detail to your shapes.