

Zara's Cubist Portrait Challenge

Learning objective: To understand and apply the principles of Cubism by creating a portrait that shows multiple perspectives of a face simultaneously.

Follow Zara the Zebra's guide to creating a Cubist-inspired self-portrait. Use geometric shapes to break down your features and show them from different angles at the same time.

Draw: Draw a portrait of a friend or yourself in the style of Cubism. Start by sketching a large oval or square head shape. Divide the face into jagged geometric sections. Draw one eye as a circle (front view) and the other as a curved triangle (side view). Draw the nose as a series of rectangles. Use bold, contrasting colours for each section to make the shapes stand out.



Label words: Geometric · Perspective · Abstract · Fragmented · Profile · Frontal

Steps:

1. Explain why a Cubist artist might paint one eye looking forward and one eye looking sideways on the same face.
2. List three geometric shapes you can use to build your portrait.
3. Label your drawing to show which parts are 'profile' (side view) and which are 'frontal' (front view).
4. Why do you think Cubist artists chose to use bold, bright colours in many of their works?

5. Look at your finished drawing. If you were to add £10 worth of art supplies to improve it (such as professional charcoal or pastels), how could these materials change the texture of your shapes?