

# Zara's Guide to the Magic of Watercolours

Dive into the flow and let your creativity grow!

- Watercolour paint is translucent, meaning light can pass through the layers. Always start with your lightest colours first to keep your painting bright.
- A 'wash' is a technique where you use lots of water and a little paint to cover a large area of your paper evenly.
- The 'wet-on-wet' technique involves painting onto paper that is already damp, which allows colours to bleed and blend softly into one another.
- To change the intensity of your colour, adjust the water-to-paint ratio; more water makes the pigment appear paler and more transparent.
- Brushes for watercolour are often softer than those used for acrylics, allowing them to hold more water and paint for smooth, flowing strokes.

*Did you know? Did you know? Watercolour paints are made by mixing finely ground pigments with a binder, usually gum arabic. Because the paint is translucent, artists work from the lightest colours to the darkest, letting the white of the paper shine through to create highlights!*

**Key vocabulary:** Pigment · Wash · Transparency · Wet-on-wet · Blending · Consistency