

Zara's Literary Pattern Workshop

Learning objective: To explore how artists use patterns, texture, and colour to represent characters and themes from stories.

Zara the zebra has been reading stories from around the world! She believes every book has its own unique 'visual rhythm'. Choose a book character or a favourite scene from a story you have read. Complete the questions below to plan your own artwork, then use the drawing prompt to create a patterned illustration inspired by the 'Art Nouveau' style, focusing on flowing lines and repeated shapes.

Word bank: Symmetry · Texture · Pattern · Contrast · Composition · Illustration · Vibrant · Intricate

1. Identify one object from your chosen story. How could you use 'texture' to make this object look realistic in your drawing? (2 marks)

2. Zara loves 'Symmetry'. How could you arrange your characters or objects on the page to create a balanced composition? (2 marks)

3. Choose two colours that provide a high 'Contrast'. Explain why these colours would help make your main character stand out. (2 marks)

4. What kind of 'Pattern' would you use to fill the background of your picture? Describe the shapes you would repeat. (2 marks)

5. If you were selling your finished artwork at a school fair to raise money for new library books, and you wanted to sell 10 prints at £4.50 each, how much total money would you raise? (2 marks)

Draw: Using a pencil and your choice of colouring materials, create an A4 illustration of a scene from a book. Incorporate at least three different repeating patterns in the background. Use flowing, curved lines inspired by nature, and ensure your focal character is clearly defined using vibrant colours.



Extension challenge: Research the artist William Morris. How did he use nature to create his famous wallpaper patterns? Write a short paragraph explaining how you can adapt his style to illustrate a scene from a fantasy story.