

Abstract Art Explorers with Zara the Zebra

Learning objective: To understand the core principles of abstract art and apply them by interpreting shapes, colours, and textures.

Zara the Zebra sees the world in patterns and abstract shapes! Abstract art doesn't try to look like a realistic photograph. Instead, it uses colour, line, and form to express feelings or ideas. Look at the list of 'Abstract Concepts' below. Match these concepts to the creative task by describing how you would use them to draw a 'Musical Morning'.

Word bank: Geometric Shapes · Primary Colours · Texture · Asymmetrical · Organic Shapes · Contrast

1. How would you use 'Geometric Shapes' to represent the rhythm of a fast-paced drum beat in your artwork? (2 marks)

2. If your 'Musical Morning' feels calm and gentle, would you choose 'Primary Colours' or softer, blended tones? Explain why. (2 marks)

3. Explain the difference between an 'Organic Shape' and a 'Geometric Shape' when drawing a melody. (2 marks)

4. Why do you think an artist might choose an 'Asymmetrical' layout instead of putting everything in the centre of the page? (2 marks)

5. Describe how you could use 'Texture' (such as thick paint or scratching lines) to show a loud, crashing sound. (2 marks)

Draw: In the space provided, create an abstract piece of art titled 'The Sound of a Forest'. Do not draw trees or animals. Use only lines, shapes, and colours to show the feeling of the wind rustling through leaves and the crunch of twigs underfoot.



Extension challenge: Find an object in your classroom. Instead of drawing it realistically, create an abstract version of it using only three shapes and two colours. Write a one-sentence title for your piece that hints at what the object might be.