

Zara's Colour Theory Explorer

Learning objective: To understand and apply the principles of colour theory, including primary, secondary, and complementary colours.

Welcome to Zara the Zebra's art studio! Use this fact-file to demonstrate your knowledge of how colours interact. Read each section carefully and provide your own definitions and examples to complete the guide.

Word bank: Primary · Secondary · Complementary · Hue · Shade · Tint · Contrast · Spectrum

1. The Primary Colours: Identify the three primary colours and explain why they are called 'primary'. (2 marks)

2. Creating Secondary Colours: Choose two primary colours and explain which secondary colour they create when mixed together. (2 marks)

3. Complementary Pairs: Define what 'complementary colours' are and provide one example of a complementary pair found on the colour wheel. (2 marks)

4. Tints and Shades: Explain the difference between adding white to a colour (a tint) and adding black to a colour (a shade). (3 marks)

5. Artistic Application: Describe how an artist might use 'contrast' to make a specific part of a painting stand out to the viewer. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: On a separate piece of paper, create your own colour wheel using only primary paints (red, yellow, and blue) to mix your secondary and tertiary colours. Label each section.