

Zara's Colour Theory Masterclass

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

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of the colour wheel to help Zara the Zebra complete her artistic patterns.

Zara the Zebra is painting a mural of the savannah. She uses the colour wheel to ensure her colours look balanced and vibrant. She knows that mixing two primary colours creates a secondary colour, and that colours opposite each other on the wheel create high-contrast, bold effects.

Word bank: Primary · Secondary · Complementary · Hue · Warm · Cool · Tint · Shade

1. Identify the three primary colours. If you mix red and yellow together, which secondary colour do you create? (2 marks)

2. What do we call colours that sit directly opposite each other on the colour wheel, such as blue and orange? (1 mark)

3. Zara wants to paint a sunset. Should she use 'warm' or 'cool' colours to achieve this effect? List two examples of colours she might use. (2 marks)

4. Explain the difference between a 'tint' and a 'shade' when mixing paint. (2 marks)

5. If a shop sells a set of paints for £8.50 and you buy two sets, how much change would you receive from a £20 note? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a simple geometric pattern (like a series of triangles or circles). Colour one half of your pattern using only warm colours and the other half using only cool colours. Ensure you include at least one pair of complementary colours side-by-side.



Extension challenge: Research what happens when you mix all three primary colours together. Write a sentence explaining the result and why Zara might use black or white paint to adjust the intensity of her work.