

Zara's Easter Pattern Workshop

Learning objective: To explore the use of symmetry, geometric shapes, and repeating patterns in seasonal art, inspired by the principles of tessellation and cultural decoration.

Zara the zebra has been observing patterns in nature and traditional craft. For this activity, you are tasked with designing a series of decorative Easter eggs. Use the principles of symmetry and geometric repetition to create intricate designs. Read the questions below to guide your artistic choices, then use the drawing prompt to apply your knowledge.

Word bank: Symmetry · Tessellation · Geometric · Primary colours · Complementary · Intricate · Radial balance · Pattern

1. Explain why using symmetry makes a design appear more balanced and formal when decorating a curved surface like an egg. (2 marks)

2. Compare and contrast the use of geometric shapes versus organic, flowing lines in your pattern work. Which feels more 'spring-like' and why? (2 marks)

3. If you were to create a pattern that 'tessellates' across the surface of the egg, what would happen if you changed the shape of the repeating unit? Justify your prediction. (2 marks)

4. Justify your choice of colour palette for an Easter-themed design. How do warm colours influence the mood of the viewer compared to cool colours? (2 marks)

5. Zara wants to sell her decorated eggs for £2.50 each. If she creates 8 eggs, calculate the total potential income. Show your working out. (2 marks)

6. What might happen to the visual complexity of your design if you increased the number of lines of symmetry from two to four? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a large egg shape in the centre of your page. Decorate it using a radial pattern that starts from the middle and repeats outwards. Ensure your design uses at least three different geometric shapes and demonstrates perfect bilateral symmetry.



Extension challenge: Design a 'pattern family' by creating three different eggs that look like they belong together. They must share a specific colour scheme and one common geometric motif, but each must have a unique layout. Write a short artist's statement explaining the theme that connects your collection.