

Zara's Autumnal Pattern Studio

Learning objective: To explore the use of colour, texture, and pattern in seasonal art inspired by autumn and harvest traditions.

Zara the zebra has been observing the changing colours of the leaves and the textures found in an autumn garden. Follow the steps below to design your own seasonal masterpiece. Use the word bank to help describe your artistic choices. Finally, answer the thinking questions to justify your creative decisions.

Word bank: warm palette · cool tones · symmetrical · asymmetrical · texture · contrasting · geometric · organic shapes

1. Zara is using a 'warm palette' for her pumpkin design. Explain why these colours (reds, oranges, yellows) are effective for this time of year. (2 marks)

2. Compare and contrast a natural autumn leaf with a geometric pattern. What makes them look different to the human eye? (2 marks)

3. If you were to create a 'spooky' scene using only cool tones like deep blues and purples, how would the mood of your artwork change compared to using warm colours? (2 marks)

4. Justify your choice: Why might an artist choose to use 'asymmetrical' shapes instead of 'symmetrical' ones when drawing a gnarled, old tree? (2 marks)

5. What might happen to the visual impact of your artwork if you added a texture, such as crinkled tissue paper, to the background? (2 marks)

6. Max bought three small decorative gourds for £1.50 each and a pack of metallic paint for £2.40. Calculate the total cost of his art supplies. (2 marks)

Draw: In the space below, design a 'Harvest Festival' mask. Use at least two 'organic shapes' (like leaves or vines) and one 'geometric pattern' (like triangles or stripes) on the border. Label your drawing with the colours you have chosen.



Extension challenge: Research the work of an artist who uses mixed media. Create a second, more complex piece of art that incorporates at least three different physical textures (e.g., fabric scraps, dried leaves, or sand) and explain how these textures change the 'feeling' of the artwork.