

Zara's Watercolour Wonders

Learning objective: To explore watercolour techniques including colour mixing, washes, and the effect of water control.

Follow the steps to create a landscape inspired by the natural patterns Zara the zebra loves. Use your watercolours to experiment with light and dark tones by varying the amount of water you mix with your paint.

Draw: Create a landscape scene featuring a rolling hill horizon. Use a 'flat wash' technique for the sky. Incorporate 'dabbing' to create texture for trees or bushes. Experiment with 'bleeding' by dropping a second colour into a wet patch of paint to watch the pigments swirl together. Ensure your composition follows the rule of thirds.



Label words: Wash · Pigment · Opacity · Gradient · Bleed · Tone · Texture

Steps:

1. Step 1: Explain why you should clean your brush in the water pot before changing from a dark blue to a light yellow paint.
2. Step 2: Describe the difference in appearance between a 'wet-on-wet' wash and a 'wet-on-dry' stroke.
3. Step 3: Justify your choice of colour palette for your landscape. Why do these colours work well together?
4. Step 4: Label your drawing to identify where you have used a 'wash' and where you have used 'concentrated pigment'.

5. Step 5: Compare and contrast how the paper looks when it is very wet versus when it is almost dry.
6. Step 6: What might happen to your painting if you touch two wet colours together on the paper?